

## **PPQ Promising Practices Award Submission Form Nomination: Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Program Clinics**

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The emerald ash borer (EAB) is an invasive species of wood-boring beetles, native to China and eastern Asia that targets ash trees in North America. It was first detected in July of 2002 in southeastern Michigan and has since been found in Ohio, Indiana, Maryland, Illinois and most recently in Pennsylvania. More than 177,934 square miles are currently quarantined due to the presence of the beetle. Everyday human activity facilitates the long distance spread of EAB, expanding the extent and range of the infestation in North America. The movement of ash tree products has been found to advance the spread of EAB. EAB is responsible for the death and decline of more than 25 million ash trees in the United States.

### EAB Clinics Description

The 2-day Clinics are designed to provide practical understanding of all aspects of the EAB Program, together with field demonstrations and hands-on training. In the classroom, participants learn (1) history & evolution of the EAB program (2) biology of EAB (3) survey detection methods (4) regulatory procedures & initiatives and (5) communication tools & outreach activities. The field experience includes a tour of infested areas focusing on signs & symptoms of EAB, urban impact & devastation, and disposal/marshalling yards. Field demonstrations in destructive sampling/tree peeling techniques, setting detection trees and EAB life-stage identification and retrieval are followed by hands-on exercises for understanding and proficiency. The nature and organization of the Clinics create program experts, garner program support and ignite program actions.

### Project Goals

The EAB Clinics were designed to (1) create an interactive opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the Cooperative EAB Program (2) provide participants with a new skill set for practical application and replication within their own state/own agency (3) establish new networking channels & identify new resources for

collaboration and coordination (4) support the critical mission of detection, control and eradication of EAB.

EAB Clinic Overview 2006-2007

The first EAB Clinic was held in July of 2006. Twenty-six individuals attended, representing 12 States and the Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council and Ho-Chuck Nation. Participants’ feedback credited the quality and value of the Clinic and resulted in the scheduling of a second EAB Clinic in less than 60 days. Through positive word-of-mouth, the second clinic quickly reached its capacity. The September 2006 Clinic achieved the same accolades and quality distinction as the first—participants’ echoed the benefits as ‘sound advice and practical applications’.

In 2007, the EAB Clinics format has been repeated twice; in June at the Brighton Michigan location and in July in 3 cities in Colorado; Denver, Fort Collins and Colorado Springs. A third Clinic, scheduled for September 19-20, is almost at capacity—4 slots remain.

EAB Clinic Accomplishments

In 2 years the Brighton EAB staff has conducted 7 EAB Clinics resulting in the following accomplishments:

- 170 individuals have been educated and trained in EAB Program policies and procedures to facilitate the detection, control and eradication of the emerald ash borer
- 27 States have sent one or more representatives to the Clinic
- 7 Tribes have sent one or more representatives to the Clinic
- EAB has been elevated to a pest risk of national significance
- EAB Programs/activities have been initiated in multiple States

<u>Clinic Date</u>	<u># of Attendees</u>	<u>States Represented</u>	<u>Tribal Representatives</u>
July 25-26 2006	26	12 IA, IL, KY, WV WY, TN, PA, NY WI, MN, ND, SD	1 Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council Ho-Chunk Nation
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Sept. 19-20, 2006	21	11 MT, NC, MD, NE CO, VT, NH, VA OH, CA, OR, WI	0

<u>Clinic Date</u>	<u># of Attendees</u>	<u>States Represented</u>	<u>Tribal Representatives</u>
June 19-20, 2007	19	7 NH, NY, VT, MA ME, MO, WV	2 St. Regis Mohawk Tribe
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*July 17-19, 2007 (Colorado)	83	2 CO, AZ	0
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Sept. 19-20, 2007 (scheduled)	21	7 MN, NE, VA, MI MO, ME, ND	5 Red Lake Band of the Chippewa, Leech Lake Band of the Ojibewe, Mille Lacs Band of the Chipewa and the Passamaquoddy Tribe

\* The EAB Clinics in Colorado did not include the full compliment of speakers but all subject areas were included; each location received approximately 8 hours of training.

Submitted by:

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