

# EAB IS GOING TO GET ME!

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been positively identified in the St. Louis County. The EAB was first detected in Missouri in July 2008 near Lake Wappapello and has since been found in 28 counties and the City of St. Louis.

EAB is an exotic, invasive, wood-boring beetle that infests and kills ash trees in forests and urban areas that was brought into the United States, most likely through wooden pallets from eastern Russia, northern China, or Korea. The adult beetle is dark metallic green with a bullet shaped body that is one-half inch long and one-eighth inch wide. EAB larvae (immature stage) are flat, creamy-white grubs with distinct bell-shaped body segments. Adult beetles are usually seen from mid-May through July on or near ash trees; larvae are found under the bark of ash trees during the remaining months of the year.



EAB adults generally fly less than a half mile to mate and lay eggs on ash trees, making the natural spread of this pest relatively slow. Humans, however, can easily move EAB long distances in a short period of time. EAB can hitchhike under the bark of ash firewood, ash nursery stock, and ash logs and lumber, emerging from these materials to start an infestation in a new area. Once infested, the EAB will kill an ash tree within 3-5 years.

## 2019-2023 ACTION PLAN

The City increased its forestry budget beginning in 2019 in reaction to the unprecedented advance of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). While City staff has begun removing ash trees, keeping up has been difficult, so contractors will be brought in to supplement efforts. The budget increase not only includes funds for removal, but also for treatment of ash trees in Good condition, and for the planting of new trees of other species

The City will focus on removing ash trees that are in Poor or Fair condition, while treating ash trees that are in Good condition. Once an ash tree is in Poor or Fair condition, treatment is not effective.

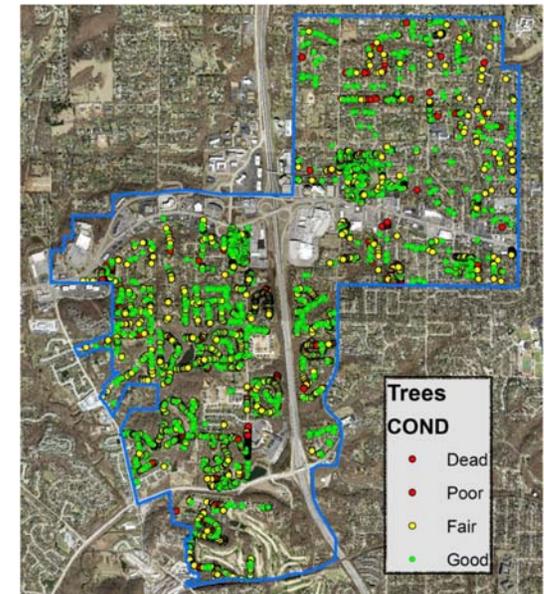
Based upon the budget available and prices established by bid, the 2019 work will include treatment of all ash trees in Good condition and removal of all ash trees in Poor condition, as well as planting of replacement trees. Since treatment only needs to occur every two years, the full funding to go toward removal and replacement in 2020. The ash trees in Good condition will again be treated in 2021, with the remaining funds used for removal/replacement of trees in Poor or Fair condition. All funds will go toward removal/replacement again in 2022. After 2023, only ash trees in Good condition should remain, and our process will be reevaluated.

### Reporting a Problem

- Call Public Works at (314) 835-6130 (M-F 8am-4:30pm)
- Call Public Safety Dispatch at the non-emergency number (314) 835-6200 outside of regular business hours
- In an emergency, dial 911



## Forestry Plan



**City of Des Peres, Missouri  
Public Works Department  
12325 Manchester Road  
Des Peres, MO, 63131  
(314) 835-6130**

[www.desperesmo.org/forestry](http://www.desperesmo.org/forestry)



## Tree Inventory

In 2018, The City of Des Peres utilized a TRIM\* grant from the MO Dept. of Conservation to conduct an inventory of all its public trees, whether located in parks or in the public right-of-way (ROW). That inventory now resides within the City's GIS system, and is updated as trees are removed or planted. The Tree Inventory serves as the basis for the Forestry Plan, which was adopted by the Board of Aldermen in April 2019, and can be found at [www.desperesmo.org/forestry](http://www.desperesmo.org/forestry).

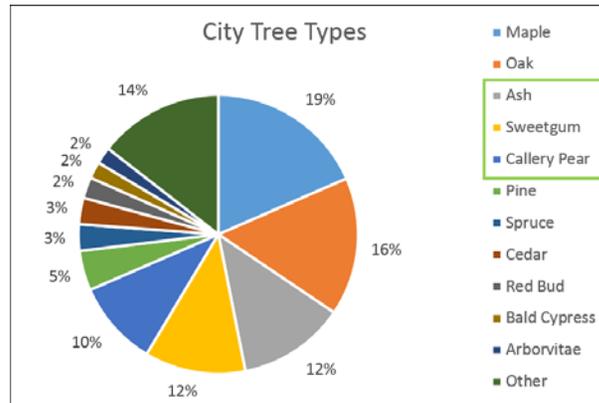
\*Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance

## Undesirable Species

Unfortunately, one-third of our urban forest is made up of undesirable or questionable species. While the Sweetgum is desirable for its color and shade in some settings, its "gumball" fruit and shallow roots create hazards for pedestrians. Ash was a venerable species for many years, but is now endangered due to the Emerald Ash Borer. The Bradford/Callery Pear was developed as a sterile, fast-growing, flowering tree, but it has fallen out of favor due to brittleness and cross-pollination with other types of pear, creating hybrids with thorns. It is now classified as an invasive species.

## Scope of Responsibility

The City is responsible only for trees on City-owned property and in the ROW. The Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for trees located on City property (parks, Lodge, Public Safety Building and Streets Garage) and the Public Works Department is responsible for trees in the ROW. Mutual aid occurs between the two in regards to equipment and manpower. The City has no responsibility for trees on private property, unless they pose an immediate safety risk to public property or ROW. The City will remove branches that have fallen on the ROW, but disposal of private trees is the responsibility of the property owner through a private contractor or the City's waste hauler, in conjunction with the yard waste guidelines.



Level of Service	1	2	3	4	5
Fallen frees/limbs removed from ROW		✓	✓	✓	✓
Dead/dying frees removed from ROW			✓	✓	✓
Clearance maintained over ROW			✓	✓	✓
Undesirable species removed				✓	✓
New trees planted when old removed				✓	✓
City trees deadwooded					✓
City trees pruned for appearance/health					✓
All city trees inspected annually					✓
Additional trees planted at new locations					✓

## FAQ'S

### If there's no sidewalk, how do I know which trees are in the ROW versus private property?

Generally, most of residential streets are 26' wide, centered within a 40' ROW, so the ROW line is about 7' behind the curb. However, there are quite a few exceptions, so it's best to check with Public Works.

### I don't like the uneven appearance of my street tree, why don't they come back and fix it?

See Level of Service table above. At this time, our focus is on maintaining clearance, which starts at Service Level 3. Trimming for appearance is part of Service Level 5, and the City does not have those resources at this time.

### Can I hire a tree company to trim my street tree?

Yes, but they need to pull a ROW permit, so we can ensure they are using proper traffic control and safely performing the work.

### Can I hire a tree company to remove a street tree or remove it myself?

Street trees are public property, so removing them is damaging public property. Submit a request to Public Works explaining why you want the tree removed, and city staff will inspect the tree to determine if it should be removed.

### Can I plant my own tree in the ROW?

The City is responsible for the trees in the ROW, so we want to make sure only the appropriate types of trees are planted, and in appropriate places. If you request a tree from the list of desirable species, we will attempt to honor that request, but there are no guarantees.

### Will the City take away trees and branches from my property?

Branches can be bundled and removed by the waste hauler as yard waste under the City's contract and covered in §11-17 of the City Code. For more details and requirements, review the solid waste management guide at [www.desperesmo.org/trash](http://www.desperesmo.org/trash).

### My sprinkler system (or dog fence) was damaged during tree removal. How do I get it fixed?

By ordinance (§14-364(b)(7)), any improvements made in the ROW are done at the owner's risk, and the city is not responsible. This includes not only sprinklers and dog fences, but also landscaping and hardscapes. City staff will do their best to prevent damage, but it is sometimes unavoidable.

### Why are there paint marks all over the ground?

Utility locates are required before stump grinding, to reduce the risk of damaging utilities. For more on this, visit [www.mo1call.com](http://www.mo1call.com)

White	PROPOSED EXCAVATION
Fluorescent Pink	TEMPORARY SURVEY MARKINGS
Red	ELECTRIC POWER LINES, CABLES, CONDUIT AND LIGHTING CABLES
Yellow	GAS, OIL, STEAM, PETROLEUM OR GASEOUS MATERIALS
Orange	COMMUNICATION, ALARM OR SIGNAL LINES, CABLES OR CONDUIT
Blue	POTABLE WATER
Purple	RECLAIMED WATER, IRRIGATION AND SLURRY LINES
Green	SEWERS AND DRAIN LINES