Williamsburg, Ohio
Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan

PURPOSE:

The Village of Williamsburg by implementing the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan is attempting to mitigate the disruption to its urban forest caused by the pending infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

The Village will endeavor to distribute the costs associated with the certain and massive tree death over a manageable period of time. This is an attempt to lessen the social and economic impact that such a loss will have on the quality of life in the community.

ADMINISTRATION:

The Williamsburg Tree Board will be responsible for the implementation of this plan and seeing that the provisions are carried out.

ASH TREE REMOVAL:

The Tree Board will conduct an inventory of all publicly owned property within its jurisdiction. The inventory will state the location, size and condition of all ash trees on Village property. The Tree Board will establish a budget and prioritize the trees for removal as necessary. It is the policy of the Village of Williamsburg, Ohio to remove ash trees as needed from Village property. Should the EAB infest areas in the immediate vicinity of the Village of Williamsburg, the Village of Williamsburg may remove trees over time as a preventative measure to avoid extreme financial impact.

The Tree Board will keep a record of the ash trees removed and the process used for disposal. The Tree Board will assist in recommending suitable replacements for removed ash trees, as well as establishing additional new trees in anticipation of probable future removals.

MONITORING:

The Tree Board will monitor and oversee reports of ash tree infestation and set priorities for removals and will coordinate with the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) on their detection program.

WOOD UTILIZATION AND DISPOSAL:

The Tree Board will comply with the Ohio Department of Agriculture regulations.

ASH TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTY WITHIN THE VILLAGE:

The Williamsburg Village Council encourages all residents who are in charge of property within the Village limits to monitor, and remove when necessary, ash trees in a timely manner. Once infected, the tree will die, which could result in accident and/or injury to individuals, property and passing traffic should the tree fall. Infected trees may take 3 – 5 years to completely die, but wind, snow and ice may hasten the tree in coming down.

The Williamsburg Village Council will provide village property owners with helpful educational information regarding the Emerald Ash Borer problem. Due to the potential for harm caused by infestation of the ash trees within the village, Council will encourage property owners to monitor and remove ash trees as needed. It is highly recommended that a variety of other tree species are considered as replacements as Williamsburg continues to meet or exceeding the goals and objectives of the Tree City USA Program.