

**The Village of Greenhills**  
**Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan**  
As approved by Village Council on April 15, 2006  
(Amended plan currently being considered by Council)

**PURPOSE:** The purpose and intent of this Management Plan are to guide Greenhills in the mitigation of the infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). The Village is choosing to take this proactive step so resources (both private and public) can be utilized efficiently and effectively. The Village believes these steps are necessary to insure that the quality of life created by our significant and beautiful tree canopy is not destroyed by the EAB.

**APPLICATION FOR THIS PLAN:** This plan applies to all public properties where ash trees are currently growing, as well as on private properties where such trees may negatively impact public properties.

**ADMINISTRATION OF THIS PLAN:** The Municipal Manager's Office, The Village's Forester, and the Greenhills Service Department are responsible for the implementation of this Plan.

**DEFINITIONS:**

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) – the diameter (inches) of a trunk cross section measured at 4½' above the ground.

Compliance Agreement – Official Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA) and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) approval for moving regulated items outside of a quarantine zone.

Quarantine Zone – ODA-designated area restricting the movement of regulated items.

Regulated Items – All ash wood and all non-coniferous firewood.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**1. Ash Removal**

The Village has conducted an inventory of all ash trees growing on its rights-of-way, in parks, and on other municipal properties. The location, size, and condition of each ash tree was determined and recorded. An estimated budget and timeframe will be generated from the inventory data.

The Village will systematically remove all of its ash trees, with detection sampling to occur as deemed necessary by the Village Forester. Tree removal will be prioritized; with high risk trees being removed first, followed by those that are no longer assets to the community (dead, dying, diseased, or miss-sited). Utility contractors will be encouraged to remove all ash within their easements as part of their normal line clearance activities. An ash tree inventory spreadsheet or database will be created, updated, and used to prioritize and record the removal, treatment, or status of each tree.

**2. Protective Pesticide Treatment**

Municipal Protection of Public Ash Trees: Based on a Village-wide inventory of public ash trees and current municipal finances, the Village will determine which, if any, ash trees will be chemically treated. Because research in this field is currently evolving, the Village will monitor all treatments for their effectiveness and future use.

Private Protection of Public Ash Trees (trees within the public rights-of-way): Protective pesticide treatments may be applied at the residents' discretion and expense, with prior municipal approval. Treated trees must be removed if the municipality determines the treatments have failed and the EAB has infested the tree. Before contracting with an approved licensed pesticide applicator for treatment, the resident should refer to Ohio State University Extension factsheet, "Insecticide Options for Protecting Ash Trees from Emerald Ash Borer and Their Effectiveness."

### **3. Wood Utilization and Disposal Example**

The Village will develop a plan to use the wood generated during the removal program. The plan must comply with the Ohio Department of Agriculture's regulations for handling regulated materials. Wood that cannot be used for lumber, turning, firewood, or mulch will be disposed of according to ODA specifications.

### **4. Education**

A training session for in-house staff, tree care contractors, and residents will be held to discuss the pending infestation, and to provide ash and EAB identification tips.

### **5. Communications**

The mayor, Village council, and department heads will receive periodic briefings from the Municipal Manager's Office. The Village will provide information for residents and businesses on how to locate and employ qualified tree care contractors this information will be posted on the Village's website, and hard copies will be available at all public facilities and forums.

The Village will create and maintain an EAB Informational Page on the Village's website, <http://www.greenhillsohio.org>

### **6. Monitoring**

Strategically located non-asset ash trees will be annually selected and prepared as detection trees. These trees will be set up before May 1<sup>st</sup> and removed for examination in Sept./Oct. If an EAB infestation is discovered, a thorough survey of the surrounding area will be made and acted upon. All ash wood from pruning or removals shall be inspected for EAB by looking for D-shaped exit holes and removing the bark to find larval galleries. All possible sources of artificial EAB importation into the community, such as nearby campgrounds, nurseries, firewood dealers, and firewood piles, will be monitored.

### **7. Canopy Replacement and Care**

As the budget permits, all removed public ash trees will be replaced with non-host species that will enhance the planting site, are appropriate for the planting site, and add to the diversity and general health of the urban forest. Trees will be planted in accordance with the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association/Ohio Division of Forestry Tree Planting Specifications, be between 1 1/4" in caliper, and obtained from ONLA member firms. Plantings will be budget based and prioritized by canopy cover goals as identified by the Village Forester. Those areas needing the most trees to reach their goal will be planted first. No plantings will be made that cannot be adequately maintained. All new plantings will conform to the "10-20-30" tree species diversity rule.

**8. Private Ash Trees**

Dead and dying ash trees, not promptly removed by the property owner, may pose a safety concern to adjacent private and public sites. Whether handled by combative neighbors through the legal system, or a condemnation process by the municipality, there should be a procedure in place to address these trees.

In the spring and fall, for the benefit of Greenhills' residents and businesses, the Village will purchase non-EAB host, large canopy replacement trees. Residents and businesses interested in acquiring trees at a wholesale price may purchase trees through this program. The Village will provide site selection, planting, and maintenance information to each participant in this program.

**9. Contact List**

Wendi Van Buren, Urban Forester, Ohio Division of Forestry, EAB program support  
Alan Bunker, Village Forester  
Joe Boggs, The Ohio State University Extension, public education support

**BUDGET:**

A proposed budget and timeframe for dealing with this issue follows:

	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>	<b>Phase (phases to match removal schedule)</b>
Inventory	Est. needed	Completed summer of 2011	Phase I: Municipal Bldg. and facilities; Parks Phase II: Dead, hazardous street trees over a certain size. Phase III . . .
Ash Removal	Est. needed	Over the next five years	
Replacement	Est. needed	Over the next five years	
<b>TOTAL</b>			