EAB Management Plan for the City of Des Moines

presented by
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www.dmgov.org

Go here for helps on our Forestry webpage, including links to
ISU, IDALS, IA DNR
Public trees and Private trees - plan the same way!

- Inventory
- Assessment
- Treatment
- Removal
- Replacement
- Budget
- Action
Location of 47,000 City Ash Trees

- Park Natural Area Ash: 34,000
- Street Ash: 6,000
- Mowed Area Park Ash: 1,000
- 'Peripheral' Ash in Natural Areas: 6,000

Adjacent to Roads, Trails, Buildings, and Parking Lots
34,000 (estimated) ‘low impact’ park ash trees in natural and riparian areas
Location of 47,000 City Ash Trees

- 'Peripheral' Ash in Natural Areas
  - Adjacent to Roads, Trails, Buildings, and Parking Lots
- Mowed Area Park Ash
- Street Ash
- 13,000 HIGH IMPACT ASH TREES
- Park Natural Area Ash
  - 34,000
1,000 of the estimated 13,000 ‘high impact’ ash trees are in mowed areas of parks
6,000 of the estimated 13,000 ‘high impact’ ash trees are in peripheral areas of naturally forested parks

‘High impact’ trees within falling distance of ROW
6,000 of the estimated 13,000 ‘high impact’ ash trees are street trees
Impact of losing 6000 ash street trees

- An 18 inch white ash provides overall benefits of $235 every year
- 6000 ash trees produce $1.4M in annual benefits

The National Tree Benefit Calculator was conceived and developed by Casey Trees and Davey Tree Expert Co.
NW 1146 ash street trees
NE 1823 ash street trees
SW 1035 ash street trees
SE 1996 ash street trees
There are an estimated 100K-120K ash trees on private property inside DM borders.
How long does it take for an infested ash tree to die?

“Within 2 years of observing symptoms, most of the crown of the tree will be dead. Complete tree death typically occurs within 5 years, but may take as few as 2-3 years.”

www.ncforests.service.gov/forest_health/fh_eabfaq.htm
# Other Cities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th># of ash street trees</th>
<th>TREATMENT</th>
<th>REMOVAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>All 40,000 – remove (will treat only as a strategy to prolong removal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davenport</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>200 for unspecified length of time</td>
<td>2800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>14,000 every 3 years for 9 years then re-assess</td>
<td>Remove/replace 6000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago</td>
<td>85,000</td>
<td>Treat 35,000/yr for 2 years to slow spread. Reassess every 3 years</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milwaukee</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>Treat 28,000 indefinitely</td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When did the Des Moines Response Begin?

- **2007** stopped planting ash; removed ash from Recommended Species List
- **2010** proactive removal of small ash trees
- **2012** Community Forestry Workshop; also a “What’s Bugging Our Trees?” workshop for tree professionals
- **2012** updated Nuisance Ordinance
- **2013** removing large ash with poor structure; inspecting all removed ash for the presence of EAB
City of Des Moines EAB Plan

• Treat 5800 ‘high impact’ street and park ash trees in good health with good structure
  • Treat to preserve environmental benefits
  • Allow time for replacement trees to develop canopy
  • Evaluate preservation vs. removal options
Effectiveness and environmental impact of treatment

- *Emamectin benzoate* (trade name TREE-äge) has been approved for use by the EPA in all states in which EAB is found.
- Treatment is by injection (a closed delivery system).
- It is 99+% effective in killing both adult and larval EAB.
- Shared university research indicates negligible environmental impact from this treatment on ash trees.
• Ash wind pollinated
• Ash flowers early
• Injection method
City of Des Moines EAB Plan (cont’d)

- 7,200 balance of peripheral ‘high impact’ trees will be felled within 3 years

34,000 ‘low impact’ ash in park forests and riparian zones left to die and fall on their own
Public Works Proactive Removal Program

- Suspend non-emergency Forestry operations
- Dedicate 1-2 crews to ash tree removal
Collaborative Parks and Recreation Proactive Removal Program

- Park crews remove trees felled by Forestry
Collaborative Agreement

• Up to 1200 (20%) street ash are under utilities
• MEC will provide maps to city
• MEC will remove tree canopies of ash under utilities while performing circuit pruning, covering the entire city in the next 3 years
• PW Forestry will remove balance of tree structure
• City and MEC will collaborate on an effective public notification program
Other collaborative pursuits

- Other public landowners
  - Airport
  - DM Public Schools
  - DM Water Works
  - Metro Waste Authority
  - Polk County
  - Zoo

- Possibilities
  - Public education
  - Ash tree surveys
  - Disposal alternatives
Tree Contractor Services

• The city will require contract assistance to complete program effectively
• July 2014, expand current program with addition of contractor services
Disposal of Debris

- Temporary
  - city marshalling yards
- Final
  - MWA Compost Center and/or Landfill
REPLANTING PLAN

- $254K average CTRF available funding over next 7 years + MEC ‘Trees Please’ grant $20K annually = $1.9M available for a 7 year planting program
- Plant 6,850 trees with available funds (@ $280 per tree) to replace the 7200 high impact trees lost to EAB

Opportunities for community planting programs led by citizens, and bare root planting
Public Education

- Information at dmgov.org
- Public Service Announcements
- Door hangers to affected residents
- Workshops:
  - Tree Des Moines ‘Tree Doctors Series’
  - IDALS / ISU / DNR/CDM workshop
    April 10, 2014
    - Professional tree workers
    - Evening sessions for residents
EAB Program Funding Elements

• 11 year plan for concurrent tree removal and treatment

• $5.28 million in proposed CIP (FY 15 – FY 20)

• Beyond proposed CIP – additional $4.4 million total
  (through FY 25)

• Funding Sources:
  ✓ GO
  ✓ Stormwater Utility
If you are a resident of Des Moines, and you think you have ash trees, log on to www.dmgov.org. Various links will inform you of your treatment and removal options. Now is the time to make plans, before EAB causes a backlog of service requests for tree companies.