

Wayne State College Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan

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Approved by _____

Date _____

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The purpose of the Wayne State College Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan is to provide a written document outlining Wayne State College's objective and the approaches it will use to meet the anticipated impact of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) on its Community Forestry Resource. The plan will offer a blueprint that Administration and Facility Services can follow with a high degree of confidence, rationality, and order. By implementing and communicating this management plan, Wayne State College will be acting in a reasonable and responsible fashion to this crisis.

Objectives

- Determine those activities that must be performed to address the threat of Emerald Ash Borer to our community forest resource.
- Mitigate the disruption to our community forest while meeting the needs of the College.
- Enable Wayne State College to distribute the cost associated with ash death over a manageable time period.
- Allow for the proper selection and establishment of replacement trees.
- Identification of high value ash trees and have plans in place to protect them.
- Identify equipment needs and staff education.

Scope

The Wayne State College Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan applies to all public property managed by Wayne State College in Wayne, Nebraska for the Nebraska State College Board of Trustees.

Administration

The Facility Services Grounds Department Manager, through the President, the Vice President of Administration and Finance, and the Facility Services Director, will be responsible for implementing this plan and seeing that its provisions are carried out. The Facility Services Department will manage all contracted work.

Inventory and Monitoring

Wayne State College Grounds personal will conduct an inventory of all ash trees on the Wayne State College campus. The inventory will determine the number of ash trees, their size, condition, location, and the value of the tree in the community forest. An ash tree inventory spread sheet will be created, updated and used to prioritize and record the removal, treatment, and status of each ash tree.

Wayne State College Grounds personal will be monitoring ash trees for signs of EAB infestation. Ash wood from pruning, removals and storm windfalls will be inspected for EAB by looking for D-shaped exit holes and by removing bark to find larval galleries. If EAB is confirmed within 15 miles of Wayne, then it will be likely that EAB is present at Wayne State College. Monitoring will continue and ash treatment and removals will begin according to the EAB Management Plan.

Identification of High Value Ash Trees and Protection Plan

Wayne State College will use the Ash Tree Inventory to determine the value of individual ash trees on the Campus. Those trees that are determined to be of high value to Wayne State College may be

considered for chemical protection. The President of Wayne State College will approve all trees to be protected. Preventative chemical treatment will begin when EAB is within 15 miles of Wayne State College.

Ash Removal and Wood Disposal

Wayne State College may start preemptive removal of uninfested ash trees before EAB has been confirmed on site. Wayne State College will use the Ash Tree Inventory to determine if ash trees should be removed. Trees that are declining, have storm damage, are improperly sited, or the cost of treatment will exceed their landscape value may be removed. Ash tree removal will be prioritized with hazard trees and those in poor condition to be removed first. The President of Wayne State College will approve all removals.

Wayne State College will use local wood disposal sites while they are available. If local sites become unavailable, Wayne State College may need to develop a disposal site. Contractors will be responsible for disposal of wood as part of their contract. Wayne State College may cooperate with other local, regional, or state agencies in ash wood utilization projects, if they become available.

Canopy Replacement and Care

Replacement trees will be selected from non-host species. Replacement trees should enhance the planting site, be appropriate for the site, and add to the diversity and general health of the forest resource at Wayne State College. Replacement trees will be spread over time and location to add diversity in age and distribution. New and existing trees will be maintained to increase their health, vigor, and structural strength to minimize additional tree loss.

Communications and Public Education

Initial detection of EAB at Wayne State College will be reported to the Nebraska Forest Service and to the President of Wayne State College and will remain confidential until Forest Service personnel verify the infestation. After verification, all communications will be coordinated through the College Relations Office. The College Relations Office will inform the Campus and the local community of removal and treatment plans.

Staff Training and Equipment Needs

The Wayne State College Grounds Personnel will be trained in ash tree identification, EAB surveying techniques, ash tree removal, safe equipment operation and replacement tree planting. An equipment inventory will be conducted and equipment requests will be forwarded to the Director of Facility Services and the Vice President of Administration and Finance.

Budgets

Budgets will be developed by the Wayne State College Grounds Manager using the Ash Tree Inventory and the Equipment Inventory as a guide to implement the EAB Management Plan. Special budget requests may be sought for contractor removals, chemical treatments, and specialized equipment.