

Procedures for *Colorado Master Gardener* Volunteers Dealing with Emerald Ash Borer Questions

CSU Extension is preparing to increase its educational and outreach efforts around Emerald Ash Borer in Colorado. As part of this increased effort, the *Colorado Master Gardeners* will be an important resource in raising awareness of this extremely significant invasive pest.

The Colorado Department of Agriculture, the USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, and Colorado State University Extension have agreed upon policy that the message provided in all outreach materials and mechanisms is consistent between agencies. This policy applies to all Colorado State University Extension staff members to include Colorado Master Gardener volunteers.

It is the role of Colorado Master Gardeners representing CSU Extension to give clients every available option and allow them to decide what works best for their situation. CMGs are not to express any personal opinions about Emerald Ash Borer or treatment options for EAB under any circumstances as a representative of Colorado State University. If, as a CMG representing CSU Extension, you are unable to maintain an unbiased position, you are required to recuse yourself and direct the client to an Extension staff person or to the Colorado Department of Agriculture's www.eabcolorado.com website for more information.

Colorado Master Gardeners **cannot** diagnose Emerald Ash Borer on client trees. Suspected borer samples are to be directed to Extension staff for forwarding to the approved identifiers at CSU or the Colorado Department of Agriculture. If a suspected infestation is located outside of Boulder County, wood should be left on site. Advise caller to contact one of the below listed people for instructions on how to have the sample diagnosed.

Questions on the quarantine should be directed to the Colorado Department of Agriculture website, www.eabcolorado.com .

When fielding questions from the public about EAB, refer to EAB Resources page at http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/ag_Plants/CBON/1251651848220 to gather your information or to the EAB manual at

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/xv3ak9fk7gs3ej1/EAB%20First%20Responder%20Manual.pdf> (note: this is a Dropbox link for you to download the file. However, it will be available to you as a link on the eabcolorado.com website as well).

Of particular help is Dr. Whitney Cranshaw's Frequently Asked Q & A list, located at:

<http://bspm.agsci.colostate.edu/files/2014/02/Emerald-Ash-Borer-Questions-and-Answers-February-5.pdf>

Clients asking about how to save their tree should be encouraged to contact a certified arborist that is licensed to work in their city, or a nearby city if theirs doesn't keep such a list. What companies to choose is their decision, but you can point them to the list of licensed arborists each city should have on their forestry department website. We cannot recommend any specific companies.

Management options are located at <http://bspm.agsci.colostate.edu/files/2014/02/EAB-control-options-February-11.pdf>.

Sample Protocol in the office

- If samples are brought into Extension office with no prior notification
 - Triage:
 - Look for D-Shaped exit holes, serpentine galleries, larvae in the cambium
 - If signs are present, refer the sample to horticulture staff in office. If staff are not available for several days (vacation, conferences, etc.), photograph and send to:
 - lisa.j.peraino@aphis.usda.gov
 - Michael.I.winks@aphis.usda.gov
 - Laura.Pottorff@state.co.us
 - john.kaltenbach@state.co.us
 - One of them will respond to you with instructions or identification.
 - Store samples, **triple bagged** and in a container, such as big Tupperware.
- If contacted prior to homeowner bringing in a sample request photos of the symptoms on location. To prevent possible spread of EAB, in as many cases as possible we are asking homeowners to not bring samples to us; rather, we'll try and come to them.
- If a suspected infestation is located outside of Boulder County, wood should be left on site. Advise caller to contact one of the above listed people for instructions on how to have the sample diagnosed.