

ARKANSAS  
AGRICULTURE  
DEPARTMENT



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### **Arkansas State Plant Board Expands Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine**

**LITTLE ROCK, ARK.** – Following confirmation of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Randolph County and the confirmation of EAB in additional counties within the original 2014 South Arkansas EAB quarantine area, the Arkansas State Plant Board (ASPB) has added eight counties to the EAB quarantine. Six Northeast Arkansas counties including: Clay, Fulton, Greene, Lawrence, Sharp, and Randolph will establish a Northeast Arkansas quarantine area. Two counties, Pulaski and Perry, have been added to the original 2014 South Arkansas quarantine area expanding this area to include 27 counties.

Twelve Arkansas counties have confirmed sites of EAB (Bradley, Calhoun, Clark, Cleveland, Columbia, Dallas, Hot Spring, Nevada, Ouachita, Randolph, Saline, and Union). The other 21 counties under quarantine are considered buffer/at risk areas. The spread of EAB to Northeast Arkansas was discovered by traps placed throughout Arkansas to carefully monitor movement of the pest.

“Tracking the movement of Emerald Ash Borer helps us to understand how to best slow its spread. We are working with forest health and pest experts, Arkansas timber industry leaders, and Arkansas residents to create the best possible solutions for dealing with this beetle,” said Scott Bray, Director of Plant Industry, ASPB.

Quarantined items continue to include firewood of all hardwood species, and the following ash items: nursery stock; green lumber with bark attached; other material living, dead, cut or fallen including logs, pulpwood, stumps, roots, branches, mulch and composted/un-composted chips (1 inch or greater). Firewood is the only quarantined item that relates to all hardwood; all other quarantined items are relative to ash, only. Quarantined items can move freely within the quarantined area. The restrictions only apply to the movement of items listed within the quarantined counties to areas outside of them.

The EAB is a small beetle (1/2 inch in size) that originated in Asia. The first EAB discovery took place in Michigan, over a decade ago. EAB infestation usually kills the ash host within 2-5 years of infestation.

What should homeowners do? With EAB sighting/symptomatic tree, contact the ASPB at 501-225-1598 or email [eab@aspb.ar.gov](mailto:eab@aspb.ar.gov). Homeowners should remember that EAB primarily attacks ash trees; Arkansas is home to five species of ash trees: Carolina, Green, Blue, White, and Pumpkin Ash. EAB has also been known to attack fringe trees. Find resources for EAB identification and details at the ASPB, Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service and Arkansas Forestry Commission sites, via the following links:

- Ash Quarantine and Regulations:  
<http://plantboard.arkansas.gov/PlantIndustry/Documents/EAB%20Emergency%20Quarantine.pdf>

- EAB Identification, Symptoms, Treatment, and Photos:  
<http://www.uaex.edu/publications/pdf/fsa-7066.pdf>
- EAB Discussion/Presentation:  
<http://www.uaex.edu/interactive-lessons/EAB-Lesson/story.html>
- Ash Tree Identification:  
<http://forestry.arkansas.gov/SiteCollectionDocuments/Ash%20Tree%20Identification%20-%20Green,%20White,%20Carolina,%20Blue,%20and%20Pumpkin.pdf>

For further quarantine details, contact the ASPB at 501-225-1598 or email [eab@aspb.ar.gov](mailto:eab@aspb.ar.gov).

*The mission of the Arkansas State Plant Board is to protect and serve the citizens of Arkansas and the agricultural and business communities by providing information and unbiased enforcement of laws and regulations thus ensuring quality products and services.*