

## Options For Local EAB Detection Efforts March 2012



Federal funding cuts for EAB detection in 2012 will reduce the level of trapping and surveying by state agencies. As an alternative, communities may choose to undertake their own EAB detection efforts in order to support specific EAB management activities.

### Current status of EAB in Wisconsin

As of March 2012, EAB-infested trees have been found at four locations (in and around Kenosha, Oak Creek, Victory and West Bend/Newburg). Adult beetles have been trapped in Green Bay and near La Crosse, but infested trees have not been found. Twelve counties are currently under quarantine (see map at right).

### Status of federal and state detection efforts

The map below shows the tentative 2012 EAB trapping plan. There will be very few traps in urban areas, and none of the traps in northern Wisconsin will be located in communities.

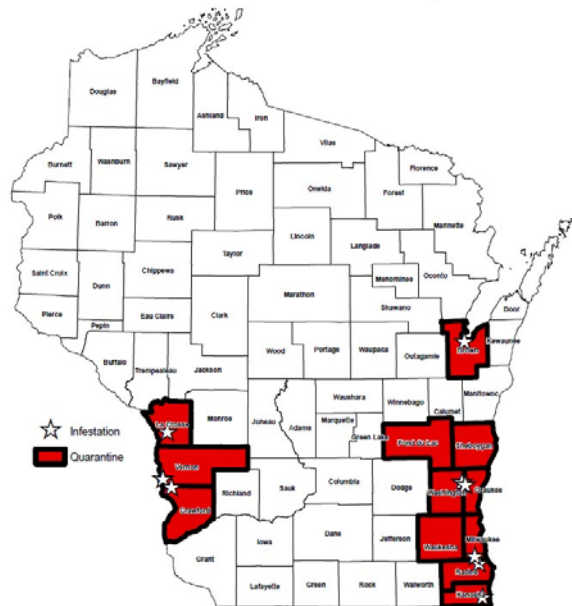
### Should your community do detection work?

There is no simple answer. The decision whether or not to do detection surveying should be based on local circumstances. Distance from known infestations, forest management level, community interest and community resources vary. It is also important to realize that there are several detection methods, varying in effectiveness, cost and staff requirements.

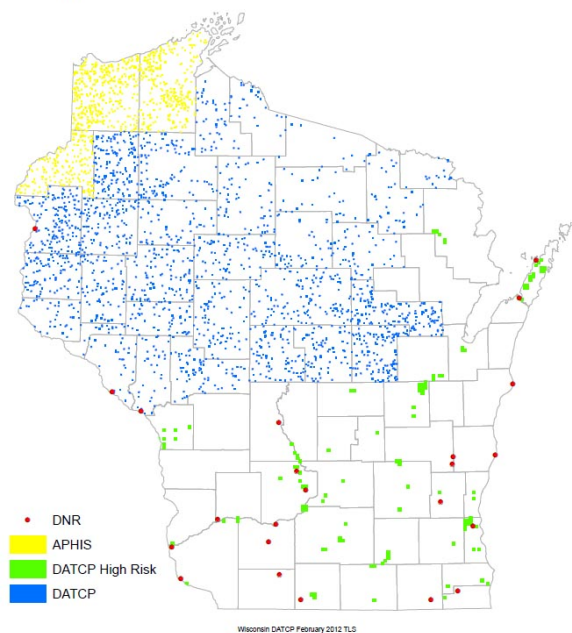
Detection surveys are not worthwhile if within 10-15 miles of a known EAB infestation (where infested trees have been found). In this situation, you likely already have EAB and are likely to find infested trees in the near future. Instead of surveying, begin ash treatment or removal according to your EAB management plan.

If your community is more than 10-15 miles from a known infestation, detection surveying can be an important part of – though not a substitute for – forest management. If early EAB detection is important to implementing your community's management plan, then detection surveys are encouraged. If public awareness of EAB is important to the community, then trapping can be a very visible public education tool. Community groups (volunteers, master gardeners, etc.) can be encouraged to undertake detection surveying if municipal resources are limited.

Wisconsin EAB Quarantines & Locations  
August 2011



2012 Wisconsin Emerald Ash Borer Trapping Plan



Wisconsin DATCP February 2012 TLG

If early detection is not important or if detection would not change your management strategy, then consider using available resources to proceed with implementing your management plan. Preparing a management plan should be a high priority for communities that have not already done so.

Even though EAB has only been found in a few Wisconsin locations, a general recommendation from well-infested states is to assume EAB is present and start implementing your management plan, especially if you're near a known EAB detection. One state noted that communities that removed and examined declining ash trees found EAB earlier than those that didn't.

Even if your community decides not to do formal detection surveys, it is important to continue looking for the signs and symptoms of EAB during routine tree care work and interactions with community residents.

### **Benefits of surveying**

- Detecting EAB as early as possible will give more treatment and removal options for municipal and privately-owned trees. Removal costs are typically lower if done while the trees are still alive.
- Survey results can be used to time ash treatments and removals.
- Traps are highly visible and help to maintain community awareness of EAB.
- Homeowners and neighboring communities will also benefit if your community finds EAB, especially if no one else is looking.

### **Limitations of surveying**

- A trap and lures will cost \$30-70, plus shipping charges and staff time. Plan on an estimated 40 hours total time to purchase, set up, monitor and take down 6-8 traps in pre-determined locations.
- Examining collected beetles to identify EAB suspects will take additional time.
- Limited funding and staff time may mean that other work is not done.
- EAB may be present even though EAB is not detected.
- Detection without follow-up management is time and money wasted.

### **State resources available to communities**






- Technical advice for implementing survey efforts (trap vendors, survey methodology, etc.).
- Limited site visits by state agency staff.
- Suspicious insects can be reported to the EAB hotline (1-800-462-2803) or website ([www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov)).
- DATCP will examine properly submitted EAB suspects, but not all insects that you collect.
- Educational materials.
- Quarantines and compliance agreements.

Contact your local DNR Urban Forestry or Forest Health specialist if you have questions about EAB detection and management. For a staff directory, visit: <http://www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry/>.

If you need assistance with this guidance or have technical questions, contact:  
Bill McNee ([bill.mcnee@wisconsin.gov](mailto:bill.mcnee@wisconsin.gov)) or Mark Guthmiller ([mark.guthmiller@wisconsin.gov](mailto:mark.guthmiller@wisconsin.gov)).

More information on EAB status and quarantines is available at: [www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov).

## What are the community-based detection options?

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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Branch Peeling</b></p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Visual Survey</b></p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Detection Trees</b></p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Panel Traps</b></p>   | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Funnel Traps</b></p>   |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Canadian survey method cuts and peels two 2-4” mid-crown branches per tree to look for larvae and galleries</li> <li>○ Has been shown to detect early-stage infestations</li> <li>○ Can be done as part of routine tree work</li> <li>○ No special equipment needed (although a draw knife is useful)</li> <li>○ Labor intensive</li> <li>○ Little public awareness of EAB due to surveying</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Look for declining trees or heavy woodpecker damage</li> <li>○ Hard to detect early-stage infestations</li> <li>○ Can be done as part of routine tree work</li> <li>○ No special equipment required</li> <li>○ Little public awareness of EAB due to surveying</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Girdle living ash trees to attract EAB</li> <li>○ Is a destructive survey requiring tree removal</li> <li>○ Very labor intensive to cut and peel the tree to look for EAB larvae</li> <li>○ Can be a safety hazard, so locations must be chosen carefully</li> <li>○ Very visible to the public and helps maintain EAB awareness</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sticky surfaces trap flying adults</li> <li>○ Available in purple and green</li> <li>○ Traps last for one field season</li> <li>○ Expense includes traps and lures</li> <li>○ A trap catch does not indicate the location of infested trees, and will require follow up work</li> <li>○ Very visible to the public and helps maintain EAB awareness</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Collect adult beetles in a cup at the bottom of the trap</li> <li>○ Available in purple and green</li> <li>○ Can be used for multiple field seasons</li> <li>○ Expense includes traps and lures</li> <li>○ A trap catch does not indicate the location of infested trees, and will require follow up work</li> <li>○ Very visible to the public and helps maintain EAB awareness</li> </ul> |