

Decision guide for managing ash trees



Start here: inventory your ash trees

- How many ash trees do you have?
- Where are they located?



**Determine if
your ash trees
are worth saving**

- Are they healthy?
- Are they at least 30 inches in circumference (10 inches in diameter) at chest height?
- Do they show no or few signs of emerald ash borer infestation?
- Are they in a good location?
- Are you interested in saving them?

If yes, go to **page 4, Work with a certified arborist**

If no, go to **page 3, Monitor and make a plan**

If you don't know, go to **page 5, Hire a tree care professional**



Monitor and make a plan

- Ash trees will eventually become infested and need to be removed
- Monitor for signs of emerald ash borer and make a plan for removing your trees.
- Consider planting a tree or two to replace any you remove. Plant the right tree for the location, and plant a variety of trees.

Go to [page 5, Hire a tree care professional](#)

Next steps to saving ash trees



**Work with a
certified arborist
to treat your trees**

- Hire a certified arborist to do a trunk injection of emamectin benzoate (commercial name Tree-age)
- Treat trees every two years in late spring
- Cost is typically \$200 to \$300 per tree, depending on the tree's size

Go to **page 5, Hire a tree care professional**

Hire a tree care professional

- Hire an ISA-certified arborist. Arborists can help you assess, treat, remove, and replant trees. Find arborists near you at treesaregood.org.
- Get at least two estimates.
- Ask for references and insurance.
- Tip: Work with your neighbors to seek discounts for managing your trees all at once.

Measuring your trees

Measure the distance around the trunk at about 4.5 feet off the ground, or about chest height.

This gives you the circumference.

To get diameter, divide the circumference by 3.



Identifying ash trees

Look for the following characteristics to determine if your tree is an ash tree:



Branches grow directly opposite from one another



Compound leaves, or multiple leaves on one stalk



Diamond-shaped pattern on bark



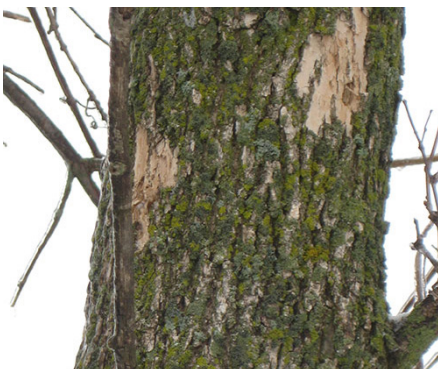
Oar-shaped seeds that typically hang in clusters

Signs of emerald ash borer infestation

The following signs may indicate that an ash tree is infested with emerald ash borer.



Leaves on the top or on one part of the tree start dying.



Increased woodpecker activity with sections of the bark stripped away.



Larvae feeding on the tree's tissue leave a serpentine pattern underneath the bark.



Sprouts growing from the roots or base of the tree indicating that it is stressed.



Adult beetles leaving the tree create D-shaped exit holes.

Hennepin County is an equal opportunity provider.

Funding provided by the Inflation Reduction Act and USDA Forest Service.

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