

# TREE MANAGEMENT PLAN

New Paltz, New York

June 2018

Prepared for:  
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# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Village of New Paltz and the Town of New Paltz’s vision to promote and preserve the urban forest and improve the management of public trees was a fundamental inspiration for this project. This vision will ensure canopy continuity, which will reduce stormwater runoff and improve aesthetic value, air quality, and public health.

New Paltz is thankful for the urban forestry grant funding they received from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. Provided through the Environmental Protection Fund this grant is designed to encourage communities to create and support long-term and sustained urban and community forestry programs throughout New York.

The Village and Town also recognizes assistance provided by David Gilmour, AICP and the Village of New Paltz Shade Tree Commission.



*Notice of Disclaimer:* Inventory data provided by Davey Resource Group, Inc. “DRG” are based on visual recording at the time of inspection. Visual records do not include individual testing or analysis, nor do they include aerial or subterranean inspection. DRG is not responsible for the discovery or identification of hidden or otherwise non-observable hazards. Records may not remain accurate after inspection due to the variable deterioration of inventoried material. DRG provides no warranty with respect to the fitness of the urban forest for any use or purpose whatsoever. Clients may choose to accept or disregard DRG’s recommendations or to seek additional advice. Important: know and understand that visual inspection is confined to the designated subject tree(s) and that the inspections for this project are performed in the interest of facts of the tree(s) without prejudice to or for any other service or any interested party.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This plan was developed for the Village and Town of New Paltz by DRG with a focus on addressing short-term and long-term maintenance needs for inventoried public trees. DRG completed a tree inventory to gain an understanding of the needs of the existing urban forest and to project a recommended maintenance schedule for tree care. Analysis of inventory data and vision for the urban forest were utilized to develop this *Tree Management Plan*. Also included in this plan are economic, environmental, and ecological benefits provided by the trees in New Paltz.

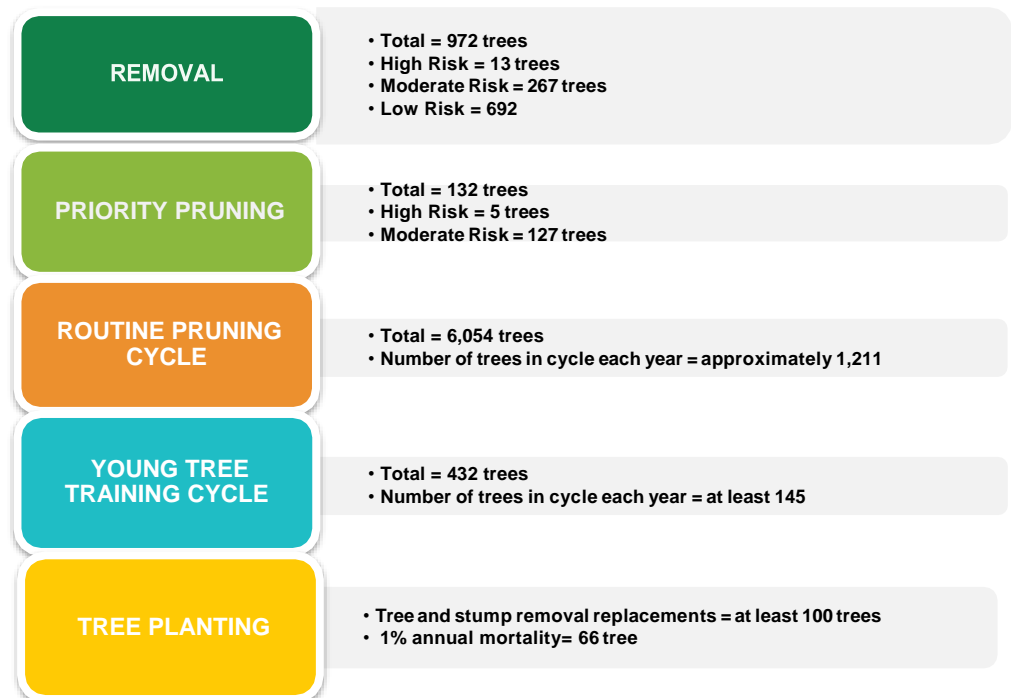
## State of the Existing Urban Forest

The April 2018 inventory included trees, stumps, and planting sites along public street rights-of-way (ROW) and trees and stumps in specified parks and public facilities. A total of 8,696 sites were recorded during the inventory: 7,590 trees, 537 stumps, and 596 planting sites. Analysis of the tree inventory data found the following:

- *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple) comprises a large percentage of the public trees (12%) and threatens biodiversity.
- The genus *Acer* (maple) was found in abundance (31%), which is a concern for biodiversity.
- The diameter size class distribution of the inventoried tree population trends towards the ideal, with a greater number of young trees than established, maturing, or mature trees.
- The overall condition of the inventoried tree population is rated Fair.
- Approximately 21% of the inventoried trees had dead or dying parts present and recorded as primary defect.
- Overhead utilities occur among 31% of the sites collected.
- Asian long-horned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) and gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) pose the biggest threats to the health of the inventoried population.
- Trees provide approximately \$872,049 in the following annual benefits:
  - *Aesthetic and other*: valued at \$350,491 per year.
  - *Air quality*: 12,533 pounds of pollutants removed valued at \$64,731 per year.
  - *Carbon dioxide*: 1,649,809 pounds CO<sub>2</sub> avoided and 1,191,682 pounds CO<sub>2</sub> sequestered valued at \$8,224 per year.
  - *Energy*: 548 megawatt-hours (MWh) saved and 204,062 therms saved, valued at \$364,059 per year.
  - *Stormwater*: 10,568,026 gallons valued at \$84,544 per year.

## Tree Maintenance and Planting Needs

Trees provide many environmental and economic benefits that justify the time and money invested in planting and maintenance. Recommended maintenance needs include: Tree Removal (11%); Stump Removal (6%); Pruning (71%); Young Tree Train (5%); and Plant Tree (7%). Maintenance should be prioritized by addressing trees with the highest risk first. The inventory noted 18 High Risk trees (less than 1%) and 394 Moderate Risk trees (5%); these trees should be removed or pruned immediately to promote public safety. Low Risk trees should be addressed after all elevated risk tree maintenance has been completed. Trees should be planted to mitigate removals and create canopy.



New Paltz's urban forest will benefit greatly from a three-year young tree training cycle and a five-year routine pruning cycle. Proactive pruning cycles improve the overall health of the tree population and may eventually reduce program costs. In most cases, pruning cycles will correct defects in trees before they worsen, which will avoid costly problems. Based on inventory data, at least 145 young trees should be structurally pruned each year during the young tree training cycle, and approximately 1,210 trees should be cleaned each year during the routine pruning cycle. The young tree training cycle begins in Year 1 and the routine pruning cycle begins in Year 3, after all High and Moderate Risk trees have been pruned.

Planting trees is necessary to maintain and increase canopy cover, and to replace trees that have been removed or lost to natural mortality (expected to be 1–3% per year) or other threats (for example, construction, invasive pests, or impacts from weather events such as drought, flooding, ice, snow, storms, and wind). DRG recommends planting at least 166 trees of a variety of species each year to offset these losses, maintain canopy, and maximize benefits.

Tree planting should focus on replacing tree canopy recommended for removal and establishing new canopy in areas that promote economic growth, such as business districts, recreational areas, trails, parking lots, areas near buildings with insufficient shade, and areas where there are gaps in the existing canopy. Various tree species should be planted; however, the planting of *Acer* (maple) should be limited until the species distribution normalizes.

## Urban Forest Program Needs

Adequate funding will be needed to implement an effective urban forest management program that will provide short-term and long-term public benefits, ensure that priority maintenance is performed expediently, and establish proactive maintenance cycles. The estimated total cost for the first year of this seven-year program is \$246,095. This total will decrease to approximately \$216,407 per year by Year 7 of the program. High-priority removal and pruning is costly; most of this work is scheduled during the first two years of the program, the budget is higher for those years. After high-priority work has been completed, the urban forestry program will mostly involve proactive maintenance, which is generally less costly. Budgets for later years are thus projected to be lower.

Over the long term, supporting proactive management of trees through funding will reduce municipal tree care management costs and potentially minimize the costs to build, manage, and support certain municipal infrastructure. Keeping the inventory up-to-date using *TreeKeeper*® or similar software is crucial for making informed management decisions and projecting accurate maintenance budgets.

New Paltz has many opportunities to improve its urban forest. Planned tree planting and a systematic approach to tree maintenance will help ensure a cost-effective, proactive program. Investing in this tree management program will promote public safety, improve tree care efficiency, and increase the economic and environmental benefits the community receives from its trees.



**Photograph 1. The Village and Town of New Paltz recognizes that its urban forest is critical to ecosystem health and economic growth. Planning and action are central to promoting and sustaining a healthy urban forest.**

## FY 2019

\$246,095

- 13 High Risk Removals
- 267 Moderate Risk Removals
- 280 Stump Removals
- 5 High Risk Prunes
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-Up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

## FY 2020

\$246,476

- 252 Low Risk Removals
- 252 Stump Removals
- 127 Moderate Risk Prunes
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

## FY 2021

\$246,899

- 168 Low Risk Removals
- 168 Stump Removals
- RP Cycle: 1,210 Trees
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

## FY 2022

\$244,277

- 272 Low Risk Removals
- 272 Stump Removals
- RP Cycle 1,210 Trees
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

## FY 2023

\$239,348

- 247 Stump Removals
- RP Cycle: 1,210 Trees
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

## FY2024

\$227,728

- 290 Stump Removals
- RP Cycle: 1,210 Trees
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

## FY2025

\$216,407

- RP Cycle: 1,210 Trees
- YTT Cycle: 145 Trees
- 100 Trees Recommended for Replanting and Follow-up Care
- Newly Found Priority Tree Work (Removal, Pruning, Planting): Costs TBD

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# INTRODUCTION

The Village of New Paltz and the Town of New Paltz are home to more than 14,000 full-time residents who enjoy the beauty and benefits of their urban forest. The village and town forestry programs manage and maintain trees on public property, including trees, stumps, and planting sites in specified parks, public facilities, and along the street rights-of-way (ROW).

The Village and Town of New Paltz conducted an inventory of public trees in 2018. New Paltz has a tree ordinance, a shade tree commission, maintains a budget of more than \$2 per capita for tree-related expenses, celebrates Arbor Day, and has been a Tree City USA community for 27 years.

## Approach to Tree Management

The best approach to managing an urban forest is to develop an organized, proactive program using tools (such as a tree inventory, tree management plan, and tree inventory management software) to set goals and measure progress. These tools can be utilized to establish tree care priorities, build strategic planting plans, draft cost-effective budgets based on projected needs, and ultimately minimize the need for costly, reactive solutions to crises or urgent hazards.

In March and April 2018, New Paltz worked with DRG to inventory trees and develop a management plan. This plan considers the diversity, distribution, and general condition of the inventoried trees, but also provides a prioritized system for managing public trees. The following tasks were completed:

- Inventory of trees, stumps, and planting sites along the street ROW and within specified public areas.
- Analysis of tree inventory data.
- Development of a plan that prioritizes the recommended tree maintenance.

This plan is divided into four sections:

- *Section 1: Tree Inventory Analysis* summarizes the tree inventory data and presents trends, results, and observations.
- *Section 2: Benefits of the Urban Forest* summarizes the economic, environmental, and social benefits that trees provide to the community. This section presents statistics of an i-Tree Streets benefits analysis conducted for New Paltz.
- *Section 3: Tree Management Program* utilizes the inventory data to develop a prioritized maintenance schedule and projected budget for the recommended tree maintenance over a seven-year period.
- *Section 4: Emerald Ash Borer Strategy* describes the destructive nature of this invasive pest, discusses ways to mitigate its effects, and suggests an approach to managing the village and town's ash tree population.

# SECTION 1: TREE INVENTORY ANALYSIS

In March and April 2018, DRG arborists, certified by the International Society of Arboriculture, assessed and inventoried trees, stumps, and planting sites along the street ROW and trees and stumps in specified parks and public facilities. A total of 8,696 sites were collected during the inventory: 7,590 trees, 537 stumps, and 569 planting sites. Within the village, 4,400 sites (3,881 trees, 203 stumps, and 316 vacant sites) were inventoried and within the town, 4,296 sites (3,709 trees, 334 stumps, and 253 vacant sites) were inventoried. Table 1 provides a detailed breakdown of the number and type of sites inventoried.

New Paltz's public street rights-of-way areas were selected by the town and village, and the Shade Tree Commission for the inventory.

Inventoried public areas include: Hasbrouck Park, Moriello Pool & Park, Peace Park, Sojourner Truth Park, New Paltz Village Hall, New Paltz Gardens for Nutrition, and the baseball fields in Clearwater Park. Hazard trees were also collected along specified trails.

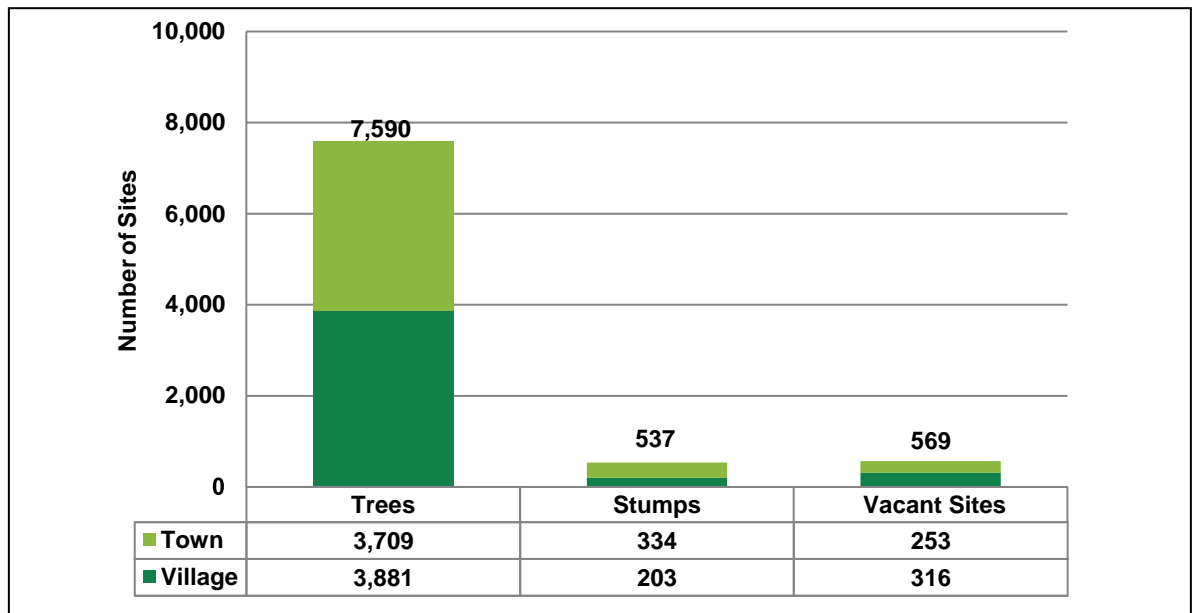


Figure 1. Sites collected during the 2018 inventory.

## Assessment of Tree Inventory Data

Data analysis and professional judgment are used to make generalizations about the state of the inventoried tree population. Recognizing trends in the data can help guide short-term and long-term management planning. See Appendix A for more information on data collection and site location methods. In this plan, the following criteria and indicators of the inventoried tree population were assessed:

- *Species Diversity*, the variety of species in a specific population, affects the population's ability to withstand threats from invasive pests and diseases. Species diversity also impacts tree maintenance needs and costs, tree planting goals, and canopy continuity.
- *Diameter Size Class Distribution*, the statistical distribution of a given tree population's trunk-size class, is used to indicate the relative age of a tree population. The diameter size class distribution affects the valuation of tree-related benefits as well as the projection of maintenance needs and costs, planting goals, and canopy continuity.
- *Condition*, the general health of a tree population, indicates how well trees are performing given their site-specific conditions. General health affects both short-term and long-term maintenance needs and costs as well as canopy continuity.
- *Stocking Level* is the proportion of existing street trees compared to the total number of potential street trees (number of inventoried trees plus the number of potential planting spaces); stocking level can help determine tree planting needs and budgets.
- *Other Observations* include inventory data analysis that provides insight into past maintenance practices and growing conditions; such observations may affect future management decisions.



**Photograph 2.** Davey's ISA Certified Arborists inventoried trees along street ROW and in community parks to collect information about trees that could be used to assess the state of the urban forest.



## Species Diversity

Species diversity affects maintenance costs, planting goals, canopy continuity, and the forestry program's ability to respond to threats from invasive pests or diseases. Low species diversity (large number of trees of the same species) can lead to severe losses in the event of species-specific epidemics such as the devastating results of Dutch elm disease (*Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*) throughout New England and the Midwest. Due to the spread of Dutch elm disease in the 1930s, combined with the disease's prevalence today, massive numbers of *Ulmus americana* (American elm), a popular street tree in Midwestern cities and towns, have perished (Karnosky 1979). Several Midwestern communities were stripped of most of their mature shade trees, creating a drastic void in canopy cover. Many of these communities have replanted to replace the lost elm trees. Ash and maple trees were popular replacements for American elm in the wake of Dutch elm disease. Unfortunately, some of the replacement species for American elm trees are now overabundant, which is a biodiversity concern. EAB and Asian longhorned beetle (ALB, *Anoplophora glabripennis*) are non-native insect pests that attack some of the most prevalent urban shade trees and certain agricultural trees throughout the country.

The composition of a tree population should follow the 10-20-30 Rule for species diversity: a single species should represent no more than 10% of the urban forest, a single genus no more than 20%, and a single family no more than 30%.

## Findings

Analysis of New Paltz's tree inventory data indicated 58 genera and 122 species are represented.

Figure 2 uses the 10% Rule to compare the percentages of the most common species identified during the inventory. *Acer plananoides* (Norway maple) exceeds the recommended 10% maximum for a single species in a population, comprising 12% of the inventoried tree population. *Acer saccharum* (sugar maple) meets the 10% threshold. Individually, both within the village and town populations species distribution is the same, Norway maple exceeds the recommended 10% and sugar maple meets the 10% threshold.

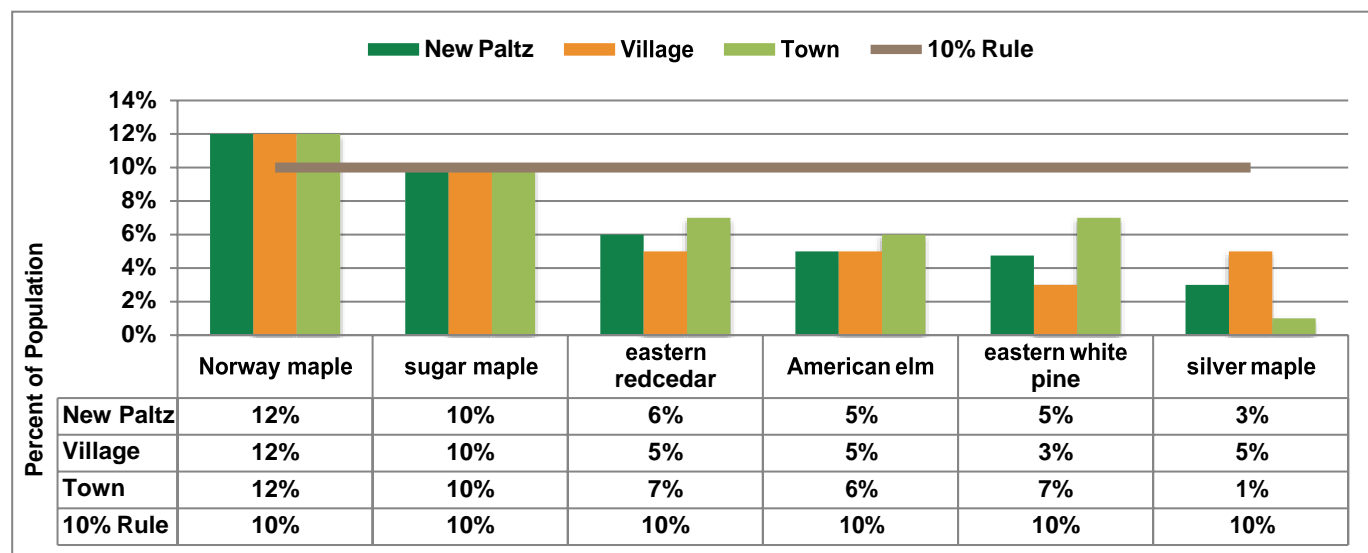


Figure 2. Six most abundant species of the inventoried population compared to the 10% Rule.

Figure 3 uses the 20% Rule to compare the percentages of the most common genera identified during the inventory. *Acer* (maple) far exceeds the recommended 20% maximum for a single genus in a population, comprising 31% of the inventoried tree population. Individually, both within the village and town populations genera distribution trends similarly, maple exceeds the recommended 20% threshold.

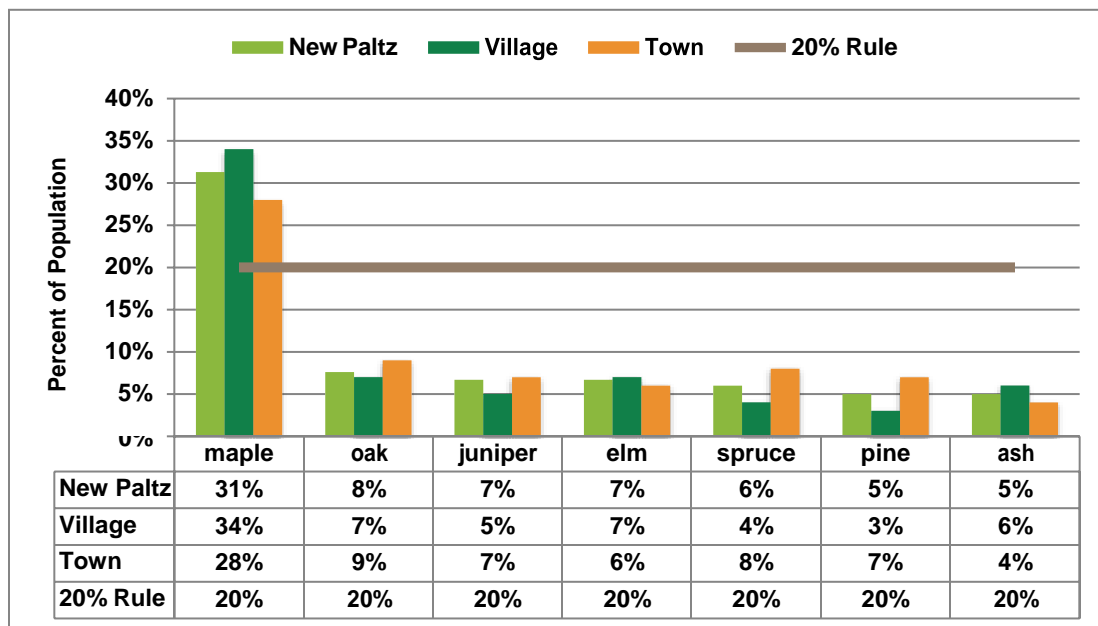


Figure 3. Seven most abundant genera of the inventoried population compared to the 20% Rule.

## Discussion/Recommendations

Norway maple dominates the streets and parks of both village and town populations. This is a biodiversity concern because its abundance in the landscape makes it a limiting species. Continued diversity of tree species is an important objective that will ensure New Paltz's urban forest is sustainable and resilient to future invasive pest infestations.

Considering the large quantity of maple in the village and town's population, along with its susceptibility to pests, the planting of maple should be limited to minimize the potential for loss in the event that Asian longhorned beetle threaten New Paltz's urban tree population. See Appendix B for a recommended tree species list for planting.

## Diameter Size Class Distribution

Analyzing the diameter size class distribution provides an estimate of the relative age of a tree population and offers insight into maintenance practices and needs.

The inventoried trees were categorized into the following diameter size classes: young trees (0–8 inches DBH), established (9–17 inches DBH), maturing (18–24 inches DBH), and mature trees (greater than 24 inches DBH). These categories were chosen so that the population could be analyzed according to Richards' ideal distribution (1983). Richards proposed an ideal diameter size class distribution for street trees based on observations of well-adapted trees in Syracuse, New York. Richards' ideal distribution suggests that the largest fraction of trees (approximately 40% of the population) should be young (less than 8 inches DBH), while a smaller fraction (approximately 10%) should be in the large-diameter size class (greater than 24 inches DBH). A tree population with an ideal distribution would have an abundance of newly planted and young trees, and lower numbers of established, maturing, and mature trees.

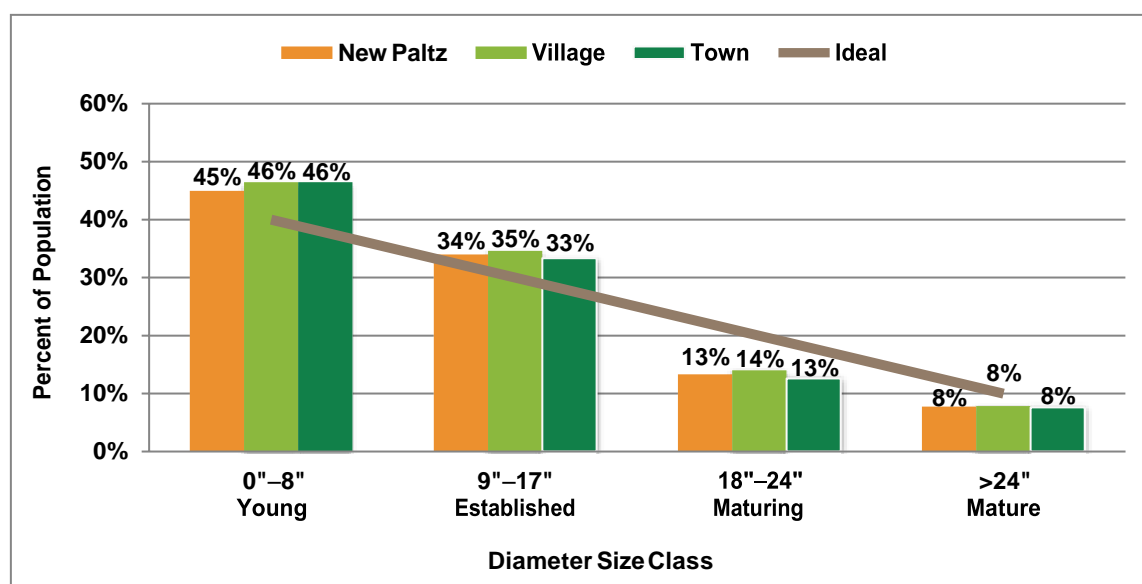


Figure 4. Comparison of diameter size class distribution for inventoried trees to the ideal distribution.

## Findings

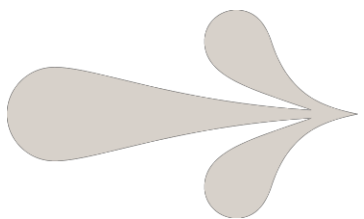
Figure 4 compares New Paltz's diameter size class distribution of the inventoried tree population to the ideal proposed by Richards (1983). New Paltz's distribution trends towards the ideal; young trees exceed the ideal by over 5%, established trees exceed the ideal by 4%, while maturing and mature diameter size classes fall short of the ideal, 7% and 2%, respectively. Individually, both within the village and town populations size distribution trend similarly.

## Discussion/Recommendations

Even though it may appear that New Paltz may have too many young trees, this is not the case. Actually, New Paltz has too few maturing, and mature trees, which indicates that the distribution is skewed. One of New Paltz's objectives is to have an uneven-aged distribution of trees at the street, park, village and town, and communitywide levels. DRG recommends that New Paltz support a strong planting and maintenance program to ensure that young, healthy trees are in place



to fill in gaps in tree canopy and replace older declining trees. New Paltz must promote tree preservation and proactive tree care to ensure the long-term survival of older trees. Additionally, tree planting and tree care will allow the distribution to normalize over time. See Appendix C for planting suggestions and information on species selection.



*Planting trees is necessary to increase canopy cover and replace trees lost to natural mortality (expected to be 1%–3% per year) and other threats (for example, invasive pests or impacts from weather events such as storms, wind, ice, snow, flooding, and drought). Planning for the replacement of existing trees and identifying the best places to create new canopy is critical.*

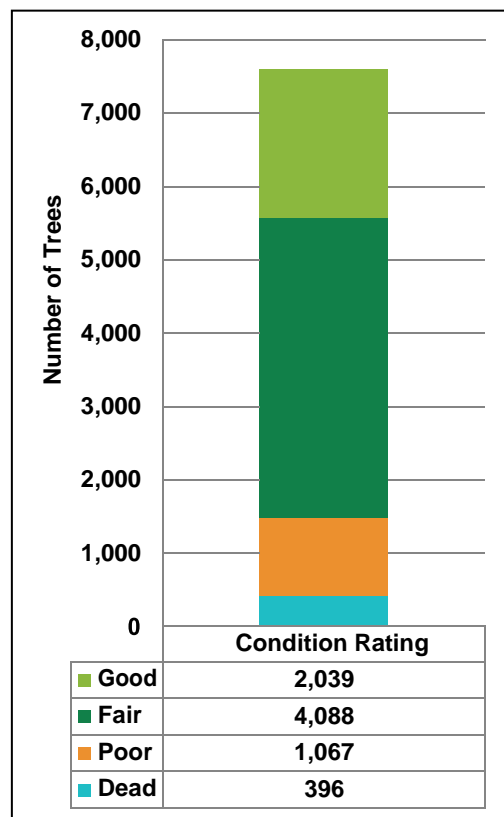
## Condition

DRG assessed the condition of individual trees based on methods defined by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). Several factors were considered for each tree, including: root characteristics, branch structure, trunk, canopy, foliage condition, and the presence of pests. The condition of each inventoried tree was rated Good, Fair, Poor, or Dead.

In this plan, the general health of the inventoried tree population was characterized by the most prevalent condition assigned during the inventory.

Comparing the condition of the inventoried tree population with relative tree age (or size class distribution) can provide insight into the stability of the population. Since tree species have different lifespans and mature at different diameters, heights, and crown spreads, actual tree age cannot be determined from diameter size class alone. However, general classifications of size can be extrapolated into relative age classes. The following categories are used to describe the relative age of a tree: young (0–8 inches DBH), established (9–17 inches DBH), maturing (18–24 inches DBH), and mature (greater than 24 inches DBH).

Figures 5 and 6 illustrate the general health and distribution of young, established, mature, and maturing trees relative to their condition.



**Figure 5. Conditions of inventoried trees.**

## Findings

Most of the inventoried trees were recorded to be in Fair condition, 54% (Figure 5). Based on these data, the general health of the overall inventoried tree population is rated Fair. Figure 6 illustrates that most of the young, established, maturing, and mature trees were rated to be in Fair condition.

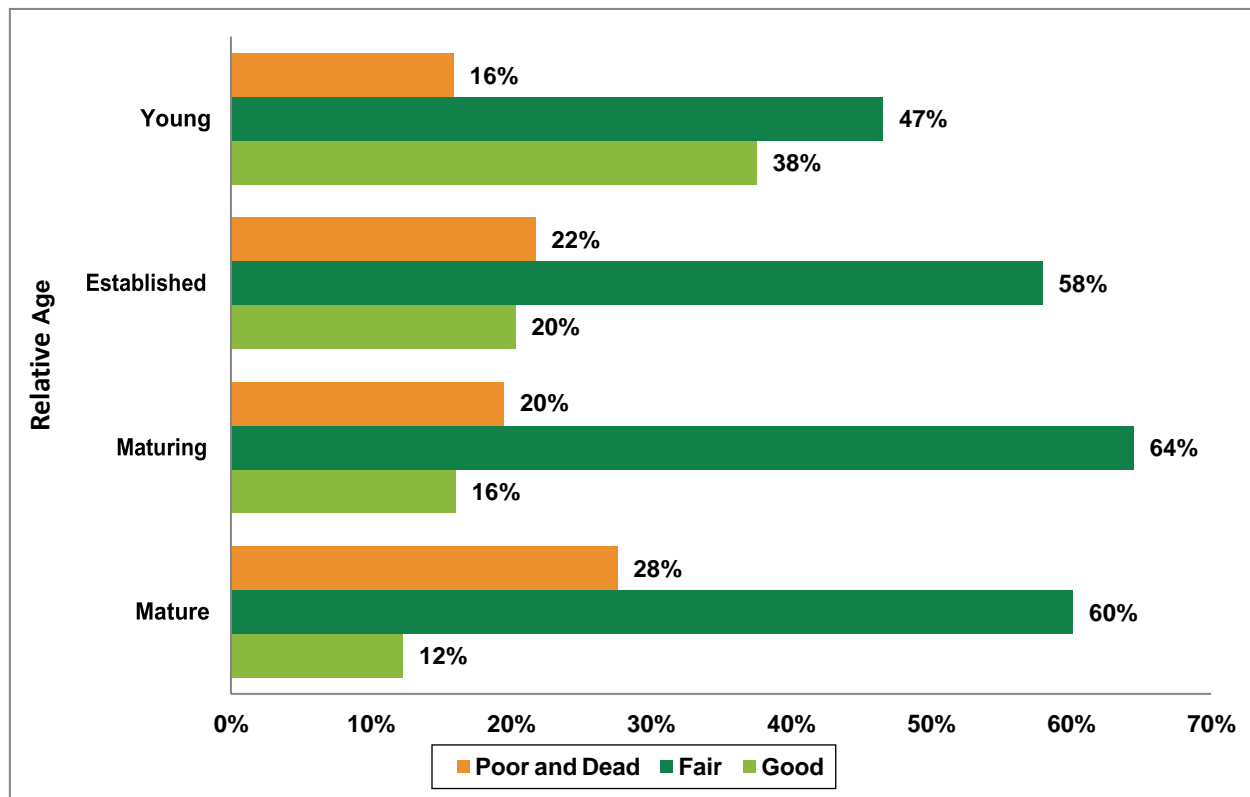


Figure 6. Tree condition by relative age during the 2018 inventory.

## Discussion/Recommendations

Even though the condition of New Paltz's inventoried tree population is typical, data analysis has provided the following insight into maintenance needs:

- Younger trees rated in Fair or Poor condition may benefit from improvements in structure that may improve their health over time. Pruning should follow *ANSI A300 (Part 1)* (ANSI 2008).
- Poor condition ratings among mature trees were generally due to visible signs of decline and stress, including decay, dead limbs, sparse branching, or poor structure. These trees will require corrective pruning, regular inspections, and possible intensive plant health care to improve their vigor.
- Proper tree care practices are needed for the long-term general health of the urban forest. Following guidelines developed by ISA and those recommended by *ANSI A300 (Part 6)* (ANSI 2012) will ensure that tree maintenance practices ultimately improve the health of the urban forest.

## Replacement Value

Replacement value describes the historical investment in trees over time. Replacement value on a species level gives urban forest managers a look into the landscape value of their species populations. Values will reflect species population, stature, and condition.

## Findings

New Paltz's public trees are an important municipal asset valued at \$21,013,872. Over time, this value should increase as trees mature, provided the trees are properly maintained. The average replacement value is approximately \$2,769 per tree. Sugar maple is shown to have the highest replacement value of all inventoried species at \$2,075,033, or 10% of New Paltz's historical investment.

## Discussion/Recommendations

A healthy, well-placed tree will become more valuable over time as it grows from a young tree to a mature tree. DRG recommends that New Paltz focus on tree care practices that will make the most of species diversity, size distribution, and health of the urban forest. Focusing on these things can provide a greater return on investment.

## Stocking Level

Stocking is a traditional forestry term used to measure the density and distribution of trees. For an urban/community forest such as New Paltz's, stocking level is used to estimate the total number of sites along the street ROW that could contain trees. Park trees and public property trees are excluded from this measurement.

Stocking level is the ratio of street ROW spaces occupied by trees to the total street ROW spaces suitable for trees. For example, a street ROW tree inventory of 1,000 total sites with 750 existing trees and 250 planting sites would have a stocking level of 75%.

For an urban area, DRG recommends that the street ROW stocking level be at least 90% so that no more than 10% of the potential planting sites along the street ROW are vacant.

Street ROW stocking levels may be estimated using information about the community, tree inventory data, and common street tree planting practices. Inventory data that contain the number of existing trees and planting sites along the street ROW will increase the accuracy of the projection. However, street ROW stocking levels can be estimated using only the number of trees present and the number of street miles in the community.

To estimate stocking level based on total street ROW miles and the number of existing trees, it is assumed that any given street ROW should have room for 1 tree for every 50 feet along each side of the street. For example, 10 linear miles of street ROW with spaces for trees to grow at 50-foot intervals along each side of the street account for a potential 2,110 trees. If the inventory found that 1,055 trees were present, the stocking level would be 50%.

The potential stocking level for a community with 10 street miles is as follows:

$$5,280 \text{ feet/mile} \div 50 \text{ feet} = 106 \text{ trees/mile}$$

$$106 \text{ trees/mile} \times 2 \text{ sides of the street} = 212 \text{ trees/mile}$$

$$212 \text{ trees per street mile} \times 10 \text{ miles} = 2,110 \text{ potential sites for trees}$$

$$1,055 \text{ inventoried trees} \div 2,120 \text{ potential sites for trees} = 50\% \text{ stocked}$$



When the estimated stocking level is determined using theoretical assumptions, the actual number of planting sites may be significantly less than estimated due to unknown growing space constraints, including inadequate growing space size, proximity of private trees, and utility conflicts.

New Paltz's inventory data set included planting sites. Since the data included vacant planting sites, the stocking level can be more accurately projected and compared to the theoretical stocking level.

## Findings

The inventory found 569 planting sites and 487 stumps along the street ROW. Of the inventoried planting sites, 211 were potential planting sites for large-size trees (8-foot-wide and greater growing space size); 45 were potential sites for medium-size trees (6- to 7-foot-wide growing space sizes); and 313 were potential sites for small-size trees (3- to 5-foot-wide growing space sizes, or had overhead utilities). Based on the data collected during this inventory, New Paltz's current street ROW tree stocking level is 86%.

## Discussion/Recommendation

Fully stocking the street ROW with trees is an excellent goal. Inadequate tree planting and maintenance budgets, along with tree mortality, will result in lower stocking levels. Nevertheless, working to attain a fully stocked street ROW is important to promote canopy continuity and environmental sustainability. The village and town should consider improving its street ROW population's stocking level of 86% and working towards achieving the ideal of 90% or better. Generally, this entails a planned program of planting, care, and maintenance for the village's and town's street trees.

New Paltz estimates that it plants 15 trees per year. With a current total of 569 planting sites and 487 stumps along the street ROW, it would take approximately 20 years for New Paltz to reach the recommended stocking level of 90%. If budgets allow, DRG recommends that New Paltz increase the number of trees planted each year to 100. This planting rate will move street tree stocking level to 90% in 3 years (without consideration or replanting recommended removals). If possible, exceed this recommendation to better prepare for impending threats, a 1–3% natural mortality rate of existing populations, and to increase the benefits provided by the urban forest.

Calculations of trees per capita are important in determining the density of the New Paltz's urban forest. The more residents and greater housing density the village and town possess, the greater the need for trees to provide benefits.

The Village of New Paltz's ratio of street trees per capita is 0.57 and is more than the mean ratio of 0.37 reported for 22 U.S. cities (McPherson and Rowntree 1989). According to the villagewide study, there is 1 tree for every 1.76 residents of the village. The Village of New Paltz's potential is 1 tree for every 1.5 residents.

The Town of New Paltz's ratio was not calculated because not all street trees were inventoried.

## Other Observations

### Defects

Defects were recorded during the inventory to further describe a tree's health and structure.

### **Findings**

Dead and dying parts was most frequently observed and recorded (21% of inventoried trees). Of these 1,623 trees, 1,159 were recommended for pruning, 451 were recommended for removal, and 211 were rated as High or Moderate Risk trees.

**Table 1. Defects Recorded During the Tree Inventory**

Defects	Number of Trees	Percent
Dead and Dying Parts	1,623	21%
Broken and/or Hanging Branches	482	6%
Cracks	23	0%
Weakly Attached Branches and Codominant Stems	439	6%
Missing or Decayed Wood	414	5%
Tree Architecture	505	7%
Root Problems	122	2%
Other	852	11%
N/A	3,130	41%
Total	7,590	100%

### **Discussion/Recommendations**

Unless slated for removal, trees with noted defects should be regularly inspected and those of High or Moderate Risk should be inspected more often than those of Low Risk. Corrective actions, pruning or removal, should be taken when warranted. If condition of the tree worsens, removal may be required. The costs for maintaining deficient trees must be considered to determine whether removing and replacing the tree is the more viable option.

### Overhead Utilities

In an urban setting, space is limited both above and below ground. Trees in this environment may conflict with utility wires, which may pose risks to public health and safety. Existing or possible conflicts between trees and utility lines were recorded during the inventory. The type of utility line was not recorded. All aboveground lines connected to power poles are considered energized and thus recorded as present (conflicting or not conflicting) when lines pass through tree canopy or exist within the safe approach distance. The presence of overhead utility lines above a tree or planting site was noted; it is important to consider this data when planning pruning activities and selecting tree species for planting.

## **Findings**

There were 53 trees recorded that were conflicting with overhead utilities. Most of these trees were large- or medium-growing trees. Common conflicting species were sugar maple and callery pear. Another 2,729 sites were recorded as utility lines present and not conflicting. Of these 2,729 sites, 272 sites are recommended for planting small-growing trees only, 2,244 are trees, and 213 are stumps. Norway maple, sugar maple, eastern white pine, eastern redcedar, and Norway spruce are the most common species present near overhead utilities yet not conflicting at the time of the inventory.

**Table 2. Overhead Utilities**

Conflict	Presence	Number of Trees	Percent
Overhead Utilities	Present and Conflicting	53	1%
	Present and Not Conflicting	2,729	31%
	Not Present	5,914	68%
<b>Total</b>		<b>8,696</b>	<b>100%</b>

## **Discussion/Recommendations**

Planting only small-growing trees within 20 feet of overhead utilities, medium-size trees within 20–40 feet, and large-growing trees outside 40 feet will help improve future tree conditions, minimize future utility line conflicts, and reduce the costs of maintaining trees under utility lines.

### *Further Inspection*

This data field indicates whether a particular tree requires further inspection, such as a Level III risk inspection in accordance with ANSI A300, Part 9 (ANSI, 2011), insect/disease monitoring, or periodic inspection due to particular conditions that may cause it to be a safety risk and, therefore, hazardous. If a tree was noted for further inspection, New Paltz staff should investigate as soon as possible to determine corrective actions.

## **Findings**

DRG recommended 187 trees for further inspection. Of these 187 trees, 166 are recorded for insect/disease monitoring; 61% are ash trees and 38% are eastern hemlock. Level III and annual assessments were recommended for 8 trees and 13 trees, respectively.

## **Discussion/Recommendations**

An ISA Certified Arborist should perform inspections of the Level III annual assessments. If it is determined that these trees exceed the threshold for acceptable risk, the defective part(s) of the trees should be corrected or removed, or the entire tree may need to be removed.

The inventoried ash trees that showed signs and symptoms of EAB should be monitored and treated or removed. Once the ash tree is removed, the site should be inspected for a potential replacement. For a more thorough look into the emerald ash borer situation, visit the emerald ash borer strategy discussion in Section 4.



**Photographs 3 and 4. This ash tree near 200 Huguenot Street has emerald ash borer and has been marked for insect/disease monitoring. The tree will need to be removed if not treated for the pest. New Paltz staff should investigate and determine corrective actions as soon as possible.**

### *Potential Threats from Pests*

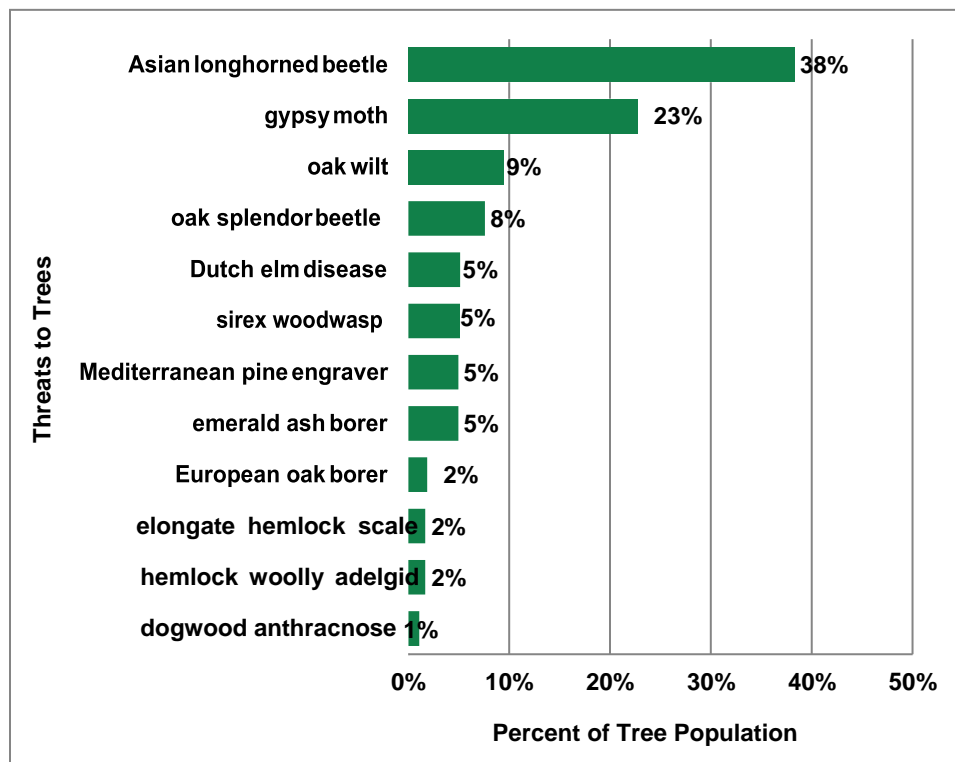
Insects and diseases pose serious threats to tree health. Awareness and early diagnosis are essential to ensuring the health and continuity of street and park trees. Appendix D provides information about some of the current potential threats to New Paltz trees and includes websites where more detailed information can be found.

Many pests target a single species or an entire genus. The inventory data were analyzed to provide a general estimate of the percentage of trees susceptible to some of the known pests in New York and the rest of the country (see Figure 7). It is important to note that the figure only presents data collected from the inventory. Many more trees throughout New Paltz, including those on public and private property, may be susceptible to these invasive pests.

### **Findings**

Asian longhorned beetle (ALB or *Anoplophora glabripennis*) and gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) are known threats to a large percentage of the inventoried public trees (38% and 23%, respectively). These pests were not detected in New Paltz, but if they were detected New Paltz could see severe losses in its tree population. Both pests are present within the state of New York.

There were 376 ash trees inventoried in New Paltz, and the majority of the population showed signs and symptoms of emerald ash borer (EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*). Of the 376 ash trees inventoried, 275 ash trees were recommended for removal. Private trees were not part of this inventory and signs and symptoms of infestation were present. In some capacity, such as near street ROW, ash trees on private property may be a concern for New Paltz as well.



**Figure 7. Potential impact of insect and disease threats noted during the 2018 inventory.**

### **Discussion/Recommendations**

New Paltz should be aware of the signs and symptoms of potential infestations and should be prepared to act if a significant threat is observed in its tree population or a nearby community. An integrated pest management plan should be established. The plan should focus on identifying and monitoring threats, understanding the economic threshold, selecting the correct treatment, properly timing management strategies, recordkeeping, and evaluating results. Visit Section 4 as an example strategy.



## SECTION 2: BENEFITS OF THE URBAN FOREST

The urban forest plays an important role in supporting and improving the quality of life in urban areas. A tree's shade and beauty contribute to a community's quality of life and soften the often hard appearance of urban landscapes and streetscapes. When properly maintained, trees provide communities abundant environmental, economic, and social benefits that far exceed the time and money invested in planting, pruning, protection, and removal.

### Environmental Benefits

- Trees decrease energy consumption and moderate local climates by providing shade and acting as windbreaks.
- Trees act as mini-reservoirs, helping to slow and reduce the amount of stormwater runoff that reaches storm drains, rivers, and lakes. One hundred mature tree crowns intercept roughly 100,000 gallons of rainfall per year (U.S. Forest Service 2003a).
- Trees help reduce noise levels, cleanse atmospheric pollutants, produce oxygen, and absorb carbon dioxide.
- Trees can reduce street-level air pollution by up to 60% (Coder 1996). Lovasi (2008) suggested that children who live on tree-lined streets have lower rates of asthma.
- Trees stabilize soil and provide a habitat for wildlife.

### Economic Benefits

- Trees in a yard or neighborhood increase residential property values by an average of 7%.
- Commercial property rental rates are 7% higher when trees are on the property (Wolf 2007).
- Trees moderate temperatures in the summer and winter, saving on heating and cooling expenses (North Carolina State University 2012, Heisler 1986).
- On average, consumers will pay about 11% more for goods in landscaped areas, with this figure being as high as 50% for convenience goods (Wolf 1998b, Wolf 1999, and Wolf 2003).
- Consumers also feel that the quality of products is better in business districts surrounded by trees than those considered barren (Wolf 1998b).
- The quality of landscaping along the routes leading to business districts had a positive influence on consumers' perceptions of the area (Wolf 2000).

### Social Benefits

- Tree-lined streets are safer; traffic speeds and the amount of stress drivers feel are reduced, which likely reduces road rage/aggressive driving (Wolf 1998a, Kuo and Sullivan 2001a).
- Chicago apartment buildings with medium amounts of greenery had 42% fewer crimes than those without any trees (Kuo and Sullivan 2001b).
- Chicago apartment buildings with high levels of greenery had 52% fewer crimes than those without any trees (Kuo and Sullivan 2001a).
- Employees who see trees from their desks experience 23% less sick time and report greater job satisfaction than those who do not (Wolf 1998a).
- Hospital patients recovering from surgery who had a view of a grove of trees through their windows required fewer pain relievers, experienced fewer complications, and left the hospital sooner than similar patients who had a view of a brick wall (Ulrich 1984, 1986).
- When surrounded by trees, physical signs of personal stress, such as muscle tension and pulse rate, were measurably reduced within three to four minutes (Ulrich 1991).

The trees growing along the public streets constitute a valuable community resource. They provide numerous tangible and intangible benefits such as pollution control, energy reduction, stormwater management, property value increases, wildlife habitat, education, and aesthetics.

The services and benefits of trees in the urban and suburban setting were once considered to be unquantifiable. However, by using extensive scientific studies and practical research, these benefits can now be confidently calculated using tree inventory information. The results of applying a proven, defensible model and method that determines tree benefit values for New Paltz's tree inventory data are summarized in this report using the i-Tree's Streets application. The results of New Paltz's tree inventory provide insight into the overall health of the public trees and the management activities needed to maintain and increase the benefits of trees into the future.



**Photograph 5. Trees provide significant aesthetic value to the community. Additionally, the tangible services of trees provide quantifiable benefits that justify the time and money invested in planting and maintenance.**

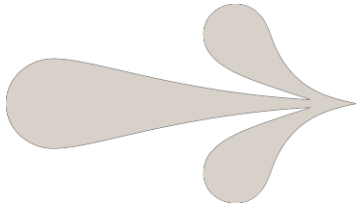
## Tree Benefit Analysis

In order to identify the dollar value provided and returned to the community, New Paltz's tree inventory data were formatted for use in the i-Tree Streets benefit-cost assessment tool.

i-Tree Streets, a component of i-Tree Tools, analyzes an inventoried tree population's structure to estimate the costs and benefits of that tree population. The assessment tool creates an annual benefit report that demonstrates the value public trees (particularly street trees) provide to a community:

These quantified benefits and the reports generated are described below.

- **Aesthetic/Other Benefits:** Shows the tangible and intangible benefits of trees reflected by increases in property values (in dollars).
- **Air Quality:** Quantifies the air pollutants (ozone [O<sub>3</sub>], nitrogen dioxide [NO<sub>2</sub>], sulfur dioxide [SO<sub>2</sub>], particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter [PM<sub>10</sub>]) deposited on tree surfaces, and reduced emissions from power plants (NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, volatile organic compounds [VOCs], SO<sub>2</sub>) due to reduced electricity use in pounds. This is measured in pounds and has been translated to tons for this report. The potential negative effects of trees on air quality due to biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC) emissions is also reported.
- **Carbon Sequestered:** Presents annual reductions in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> due to sequestration by trees and reduced emissions from power plants due to reductions in energy use. This is measured in pounds and has been translated to tons for this report. The model accounts for CO<sub>2</sub> released as trees die and decompose and CO<sub>2</sub> released during the care and maintenance of trees.
- **Carbon Stored:** Tallies all of the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) stored in the urban forest over the life of its trees as a result of sequestration. Carbon stored is measured in pounds and has been translated to tons for this report.
- **Energy:** Presents the contribution of the urban forest towards conserving energy in terms of reduced natural gas use in the winter (measured in therms [thm]) and reduced electricity use for air conditioning in the summer (measured in Megawatt-hours [MWh]).
- **Importance Value (IV):** IVs are calculated for species that comprise more than 1% of the population. The Streets IV is the mean of three relative values (percentage of total trees, percentage of total leaf area, and percentage of canopy cover) and can range from 0 to 100, with an IV of 100 suggesting total reliance on one species. IVs offer valuable information about a community's reliance on certain species to provide functional benefits. For example, a species might represent 10% of a population but have an IV of 25% due to its substantial benefits, indicating that the loss of those trees would be more significant than just their population percentage would suggest.
- **Stormwater:** Presents reductions in annual stormwater runoff due to rainfall interception by trees measured in gallons.



### i-Tree Tools

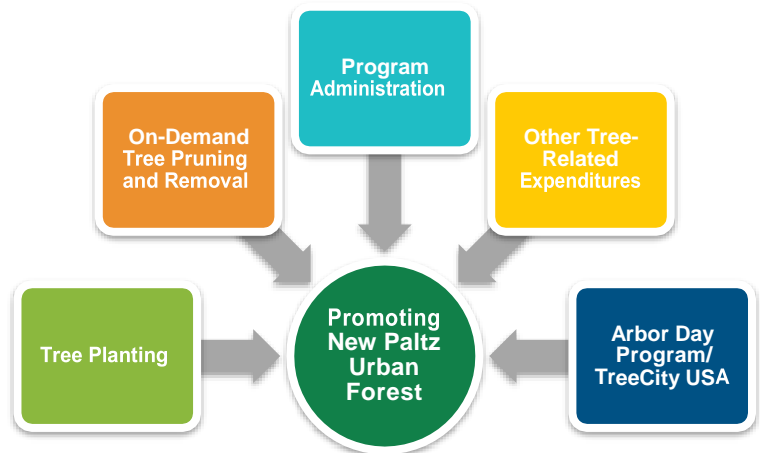


*i-Tree Tools software was developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (USDA FS) with the help of several industry partners, including The Davey Tree Expert Company. Learn more at [www.itreetools.org](http://www.itreetools.org).*

## i-Tree Streets Inputs

In addition to tree inventory data, i-Tree Streets requires cost-specific information to manage a community's tree management program—including administrative costs and costs for tree pruning, removal, and planting. Regional data, including energy prices, property values, and stormwater costs, are required inputs to generate the environmental and economic benefits trees provide. If community program costs or local economic data

are not available, i-Tree Streets uses default economic inputs from a reference city selected by USDA FS for the climate zone in which your community is located. Any default value can be adjusted for local conditions.



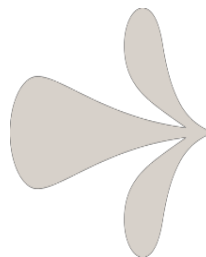
## New Paltz's Inputs

Since specific local economic data for the New Paltz's urban forestry program were not available at the time of this plan, economic data from the Northeast Climate Zone reference city were used to help calculate the benefits provided to New Paltz's community.

Because unadjusted program economic defaults were used, the reporting function of the i-Tree Streets model is based on estimates of tree benefits. Net Annual Benefits, Cost for Public Trees, and Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) will not be calculated.

## Annual Benefits

The i-Tree Streets model estimated that the inventoried public trees provide a total annual benefit of \$872,049. Essentially, \$872,049 was saved to cool buildings, manage stormwater, and clean the air. In addition, community aesthetics were improved and property values increased because of the presence of trees. On average, one of New Paltz's trees provides an annual benefit of \$115.



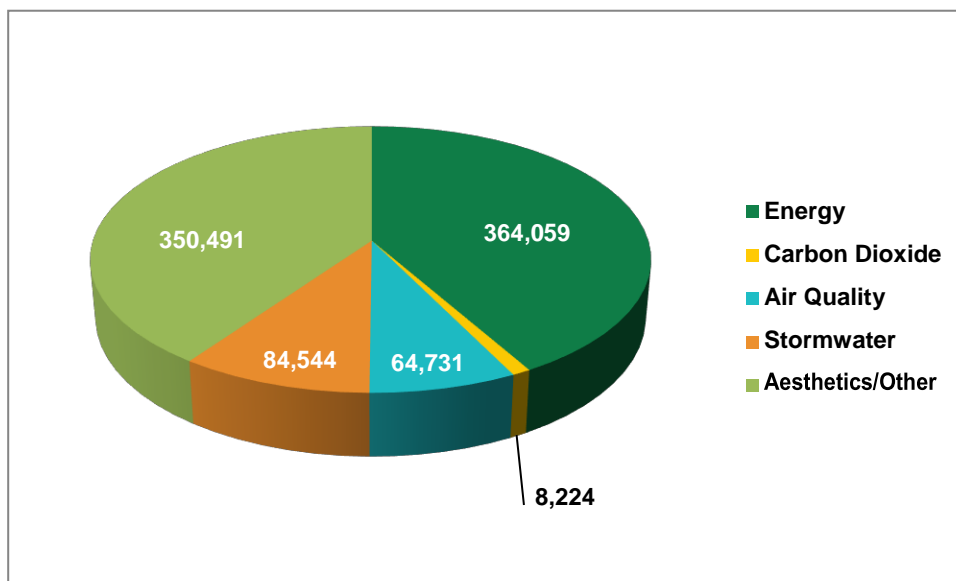
### i-Tree Tools

*A common example of a natural BVOC is the gas emitted from pine trees, which creates the distinct smell of a pine forest.*

The assessment found that energy conservation benefits trees provide were the greatest value to the community (approximately \$364,059, 42% of total benefit). In addition to energy conservation, trees also play a major role in aesthetics and other tangible and intangible benefits. New Paltz's public trees increase property values, which equates to \$350,491 community revenue. aesthetics and other tangible and intangible benefits comprises 40% of the annual benefits public trees provide. Stormwater management, reductions in CO<sub>2</sub>, and removal of other air pollutants are important benefits as well. Stormwater reductions accounted for 10% of the annual benefits, while CO<sub>2</sub> and air pollutant reductions accounted for 8% of the annual benefits.

Figure 8 summarizes the categories of annual benefits and results for the public tree population.

Table 3 presents results for individual tree species from the i-Tree Streets analysis.



**Figure 8. Breakdown of total annual benefits provided to New Paltz.**



Table 3. Benefit Data for Common Trees by Species

Most Common Trees Collected During Inventory		Number Trees	Percent of Total Trees	Canopy Cover	Benefit Provide By Public Trees					Importance Value (IV)
					Aesthetic/ Other	Stormwater	Energy	Carbon Sequestered	Air Quality	
Common Name	Botanical Name		(%)	(ft <sup>2</sup> )	Average/\$/Tree					0–100 (higher IV = more important species)
Norway maple	Acer platanoides	912	12	539,424	38.60	7.62	42.78	1.12	7.37	9.66
sugar maple	Acer saccharum	753	10	626,809	52.19	15.21	57.06	1.34	9.65	12.56
eastern redcedar	Juniperus virginiana	465	6	119,720	20.32	3.61	18.03	0.51	4.14	3.14
American elm	Ulmus americana	389	5	289,390	78.06	11.26	52.45	1.24	8.91	5.63
eastern white pine	Pinus strobus	361	5	267,565	18.58	13.93	47.35	0.82	9.13	4.61
red maple	Acer rubrum	334	4	273,849	44.17	13.66	55.96	1.06	9.71	5.10
white ash	Fraxinus americana	321	4	191,130	43.05	8.63	42.92	0.80	7.32	3.74
Norway spruce	Picea abies	317	4	222,210	18.52	13.21	44.99	0.77	8.65	3.91
pin oak	Quercus palustris	246	3	287,818	68.27	17.68	64.01	1.98	11.92	4.63
black cherry	Prunus serotina	236	3	190,216	84.90	11.73	66.44	1.32	10.77	3.37
silver maple	Acer saccharinum	224	3	305,176	45.91	23.15	84.23	1.89	15.67	5.10
black locust	Robinia pseudoacacia	200	3	267,077	88.52	21.16	84.59	1.71	15.76	4.43
unknown tree	unknown tree	150	2	90,726	45.77	10.37	44.92	0.84	7.40	1.90
black walnut	Juglans nigra	143	2	121,811	84.79	12.58	66.92	1.34	11.12	2.14
northern red oak	Quercus rubra	141	2	167,527	48.29	17.31	71.70	1.75	12.49	2.59
apple	Malus species	137	2	36,055	14.52	3.64	22.05	0.39	3.61	1.00
white mulberry	Morus alba	136	2	72,892	46.00	9.27	40.21	0.76	6.58	1.60
eastern hemlock	Tsuga canadensis	127	2	37,197	20.74	4.10	20.34	0.58	4.72	0.90
plum	Prunus species	113	1	24,107	11.03	2.44	18.10	0.41	2.80	0.73
callery pear	Pyrus calleryana	112	1	57,381	85.47	7.75	33.44	1.09	6.59	1.15
Siberian elm	Ulmus pumila	111	1	112,052	83.83	14.93	62.62	1.58	11.45	1.97
white oak	Quercus alba	104	1	134,654	70.45	19.58	67.04	2.20	12.85	2.12
arborvitae spp.	Thuja spp.	99	1	17,395	16.67	2.42	12.71	0.36	2.86	0.59
boxelder	Acer negundo	98	1	67,677	45.13	9.29	48.08	1.37	8.52	1.17
Colorado spruce	Picea pungens	86	1	56,147	22.78	12.38	42.15	0.78	8.04	1.02
other public trees	~14 genera of varying species	1275	17	789,750	40.40	8.52	38.85	0.85	6.71	15.22
Total	~58 genera and ~122 species	7,590	100	5,365,755	46.18	11.14	47.97	1.08	8.53	100

## Energy Benefits

Public trees conserve energy by shading structures and surfaces, which reduces electricity use for air conditioning in the summer. Trees divert wind in the winter to reduce natural gas use. Based on the inventoried trees, the annual electric and natural gas savings are equivalent to 548 MWh of electricity and 204,062 therms of natural gas. When converted into dollars and cents using default economic data, this accounts for an annual savings of \$364,059 in energy consumption.

Sugar maple contributed \$42,932 to the annual energy benefits. This contribution (greatest among all species) was due to its dominance (2<sup>nd</sup> to Norway maple) in the public tree population and its per tree value of \$135.46. The sugar maple per tree value is greater than the average per tree value (\$115) and Norway maple is less than the average per tree value. Other tree species, specifically silver maple and northern red oak, contributed more to reduce energy usage on a per-tree basis than Norway maple. The annual value these trees provide exceeds \$70 per tree, although they comprise only 4% and 3% of the population, respectively. These large leafy canopies are valuable because they provide shade, which reduces energy usage. Smaller trees inventoried such as arborvitae, eastern redcedar, and plum were found to have smaller reductions in energy usage on a per-tree basis. Eastern redcedar, third most populated tree in public areas, provides a value of only \$18.03 per tree and plum, small growing tree, provided a value of only \$18.10.

Acer saccharum (sugar maple)	Acer platanoides (Norway maple)	Juniperus virginiana (eastern redcedar)	Prunus species (plum)
10% of public trees	12% of public trees	6% of public trees	1% of public trees
62 MWh Electricity	56 MWh Electricity	13 MWh Electricity	3 MWh Electricity
24,300 thm Natural Gas	22,145 thm Natural Gas	4,654 thm Natural Gas	1,202 thm Natural Gas
\$57.06 Average \$/tree	\$42.78 Average \$/tree	\$18.03 Average \$/tree	\$18.10 Average \$/tree

## Aesthetic/Other Benefits

The total annual benefit associated with property value increases and other tangible and intangible benefits of public trees inventoried was \$350,491. The average benefit per tree equaled \$46.18 per year.

## Stormwater Benefits

Trees intercept rainfall, which helps lower costs to manage stormwater runoff. The inventoried trees in New Paltz intercept 2,966,438 gallons of rainfall annually (Table 4). On average, the estimated annual savings for New Paltz's in stormwater runoff management is \$84,544.

Of all species inventoried, sugar maple contributed most of the annual stormwater benefits. The population of sugar maple (10% of trees) intercepted approximately 11,453 gallons of rainfall. The most dominant species, Norway maple (12% of public trees), only intercepted approximately 6,948 gallons of rainfall. On a per-tree basis, large trees with leafy canopies provided the most value. Silver maple comprised 3% of the population and absorbed 3 times more gallons of rainfall than Norway maple. These large-statured trees with big canopies offered the greatest benefits.

**Table 4. Stormwater Benefits Provided by Public Trees**

Most Common Trees Collected During Inventory		Number of Trees on the ROW	Percent of Total Trees	Total Rainfall Interception
Common Name	Botanical Name		(%)	(gal.)
Norway maple	Acer platanoides	912	12	6,948
sugar maple	Acer saccharum	753	10	11,453
eastern redcedar	Juniperus virginiana	465	6	1,680
American elm	Ulmus americana	389	5	4,378
eastern white pine	Pinus strobus	361	5	5,029
red maple	Acer rubrum	334	4	4,561
white ash	Fraxinus americana	321	4	2,770
Norway spruce	Picea abies	317	4	4,186
pin oak	Quercus palustris	246	3	4,349
black cherry	Prunus serotina	236	3	2,767
silver maple	Acer saccharinum	224	3	5,185
black locust	Robinia pseudoacacia	200	3	4,231
unknown tree	unknown tree	150	2	1,555
black walnut	Juglans nigra	143	2	1,799
northern red oak	Quercus rubra	141	2	2,441
apple	Malus species	137	2	498
white mulberry	Morus alba	136	2	1,260
eastern hemlock	Tsuga canadensis	127	2	520
plum	Prunus species	113	1	276
callery pear	Pyrus calleryana	112	1	868
Siberian elm	Ulmus pumila	111	1	1,658
white oak	Quercus alba	104	1	2,036
arborvitae spp.	Thuja spp.	99	1	239
boxelder	Acer negundo	98	1	911
Colorado spruce	Picea pungens	86	1	1,065
other public trees	~14 genera of varying species	1275	17	11,879
<b>Total</b>	<b>~58 genera and ~108 species</b>	<b>7,590</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>84,544</b>

## Air Quality Improvements

The inventoried tree population annually removes 3.3 tons of air pollutants (including ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and particulate matter) through deposition. The population also avoids 3.8 tons annually.

The i-Tree Streets calculation takes into account the biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC's) that are released from trees. While trees do a great deal to absorb air pollutants, they also contribute negatively to air pollution. Trees emit various BVOCs such as isoprenes and monoterpenes, which can also contribute to formation of ozone, a harmful gas that pollutes the air and damages vegetation. These BVOC emissions are accounted for in the air quality net benefit.

The net total value of these benefits is estimated to be \$64,731. The inventoried trees removed or avoided more pollutants than they emitted, resulting in a positive economic value. The trees that provided the most benefits based on an annual per-tree average value were black locust and silver maple at \$15.76 and \$15.67, respectively.

## Carbon Storage and Carbon Sequestration

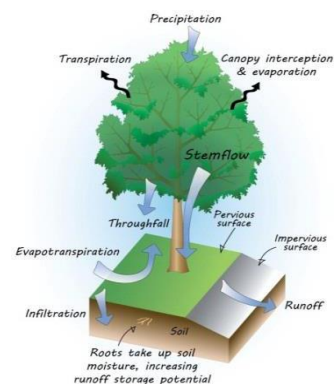
Trees store some of the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) they absorb. This prevents CO<sub>2</sub> from reaching the upper atmosphere, where it can react with other compounds and form harmful gases like ozone, which adversely affects air quality. These trees also sequester some of the CO<sub>2</sub> during growth (Nowak et al. 2013).

New Paltz's public trees store 11,620 tons of carbon (measured in CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents). This amount reflects the amount of carbon they have amassed during their lifetimes. Through sequestration and avoidance, 1,421 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> are removed each year.

The i-Tree Streets calculation takes into account the carbon emissions that are *not* released from power stations due to the heating and cooling effect of trees (i.e., conserved energy in buildings and homes). It also calculates emissions released during tree care and maintenance, such as driving to the site and operating equipment. The net carbon benefit is approximately \$8,224 per year. White oak provided the most carbon benefits, with each tree annually sequestering \$2.20 per tree worth of carbon.



**Photograph 6. Trees improve quality of life and help enhance the character of a community. Trees filter air, water, and sunlight, moderate local climate, slow wind and stormwater, shade homes, and provide shelter to animals and recreational areas for people.**



- Trees reduce stormwater runoff by capturing and storing rainfall in their canopy and releasing water into the atmosphere.
- Tree roots and leaf litter create soil conditions that promote the infiltration of rainwater into the soil.
- Trees help slow down and temporarily store runoff and reduce pollutants by absorbing nutrients and other pollutants from soils and water through their roots.
- Trees transform pollutants into less harmful substances.

## Importance Value (IV)

Understanding the importance of a tree species to the community is based on its presence on the street right-of-way or within public property, but also its ability to provide environmental and economic benefits to the community. The IV calculated by the i-Tree Streets computer model takes into account the total number of trees of a species, its percentage in the population, and its total leaf area and canopy cover. The IV can range from 0 to 100, with an IV of 100 suggesting total reliance on one species. If IV values are greater or less than the percentage of a species in the population, it indicates that the loss of that species may be more important or less important than its population percentage implies.

The i-Tree Streets assessment found that sugar maple has the greatest IV in the ROW population at 12.56, even though it comprises only 10% of the inventoried public tree population. This indicates that the loss of the sugar maple population would be more economically detrimental than its percentage of the population leads us to believe. The second highest IV was for Norway maple (9.66), followed by American elm (5.63), red maple (5.10), and silver maple (5.10). The IV for Norway maple is less than its percentage of the population, indicating that if Norway maple was lost, its economic impact would not be as significant. American elm, red maple, and silver maple's IVs are greater than their percent of population. The size and canopy of large growing broadleaf species by nature provide more environmental benefits to the community.

## Discussion/Recommendations

The i-Tree Streets analysis found that public trees provide environmental and economic benefits to the community by virtue of their mere presence on the streets and in parks or other public properties. Currently, energy conservation provided by public trees was rated as having the greatest value to the community. The shade and windbreak to reduce energy usage and increase residential savings provided by trees is important to stimulate economic growth. In addition to energy conservation, trees improve aesthetic/other benefits materialized by increases in property value, manage stormwater through rainfall interception, store and sequester CO<sub>2</sub>, and remove air pollutants. Even though these environmental benefits were not found to be as great as the energy conservation, they are noteworthy.

i-Tree Streets analysis found that sugar maple is the most influential public tree in New Paltz. If this species was lost to ALB or other threats, its loss would be felt more than the community may realize.

To increase the benefits the urban forest provides, New Paltz should plant young, large-statured tree species that manage the most stormwater, absorb the most CO<sub>2</sub>, and remove the most air pollutants. Leafy, large-stature trees consistently created the most environmental and economic benefits. The following list of tree species is used for improving environmental benefits (i-Tree Species 2017):

### Pollutant Removal

- *Tsuga canadensis* (eastern hemlock)
- *Ulmus americana* (American elm)
- *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree)
- *Betula alleghaniensis* (yellow birch)
- *Tilia americana* (American linden)



### Carbon Storage

- *Quercus shumardii* (shumard oak)
- *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore)
- *Zelkova serrata* (Japanese zelkova)
- *Ulmus americana* (American elm)
- *Betula alleghaniensis* (yellow birch)

### Stormwater Reduction

- *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree)
- *Ulmus americana* (American elm)
- *Tilia americana* (American linden)
- *Betula alleghaniensis* (yellow birch)
- *Magnolia acuminata* (cucumber magnolia)

### Energy Reduction

- *Liriodendron tulipifera* (tuliptree)
- *Ulmus americana* (American elm)
- *Tilia americana* (American linden)
- *Betula alleghaniensis* (yellow birch)
- *Platanus occidentalis* (American sycamore)

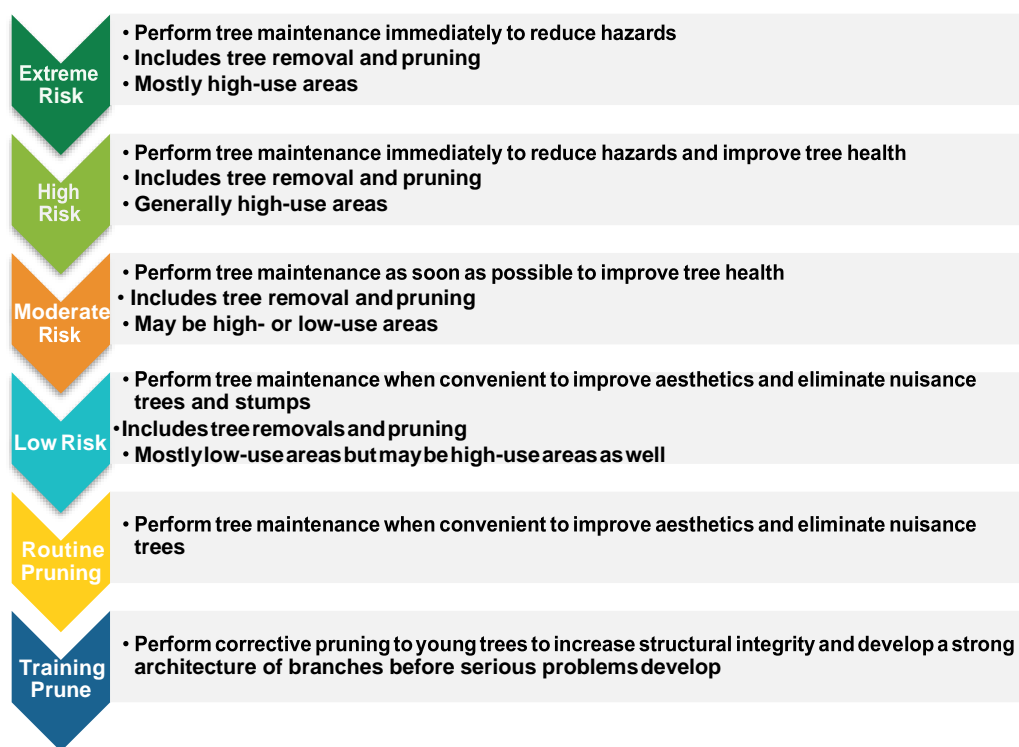
## SECTION 3: TREE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

This tree management program was developed to uphold New Paltz’s comprehensive vision for preserving its urban forest. This seven-year program is based on the tree inventory data; the program was designed to reduce risk through prioritized tree removal and pruning, and to improve tree health and structure through proactive pruning cycles. Tree planting to mitigate removals and increase canopy cover and public outreach are important parts of the program as well.

While implementing a tree care program is an ongoing process, tree work must always be prioritized to reduce public safety risks. DRG recommends completing the work identified during the inventory based on the assigned risk rating; however, routinely monitoring the tree population is essential so that other Extreme, High, or Moderate Risk trees can be identified and systematically addressed. While regular pruning cycles and tree planting are important, priority work (especially for Extreme, High, or Moderate Risk trees) must sometimes take precedence to ensure that risk is expediently managed.

### Priority and Proactive Maintenance

In this plan, the recommended tree maintenance work was divided into either priority or proactive maintenance. Priority maintenance includes tree removals and pruning of trees with an assessed risk rating of Extreme, High, or Moderate Risk. Proactive tree maintenance includes pruning of trees with an assessed risk of Low Risk and trees that are young. Tree planting, inspections, and community outreach are also considered proactive maintenance. See Appendix E for more information on risk assessment and priority maintenance.



## Tree and Stump Removal

Although tree removal is usually considered a last resort and may sometimes create a reaction from the community, there are circumstances in which removal is necessary. Trees fail from natural causes, such as diseases, insects, and weather conditions, and from physical injury due to vehicles, vandalism, and root disturbances. DRG recommends that trees be removed when corrective pruning will not adequately eliminate the hazard or when correcting problems would be cost-prohibitive. Trees that cause obstructions or interfere with power lines or other infrastructure should be removed when their defects cannot be corrected through pruning or other maintenance practices. Diseased and nuisance trees also warrant removal.

Even though large short-term expenditures may be required, it is important to secure the funding needed to complete priority tree removals. Expedient removal reduces risk and promotes public safety.

Figure 9 presents tree removals by risk rating and diameter size class. The following sections briefly summarize the recommended removals identified during the inventory.

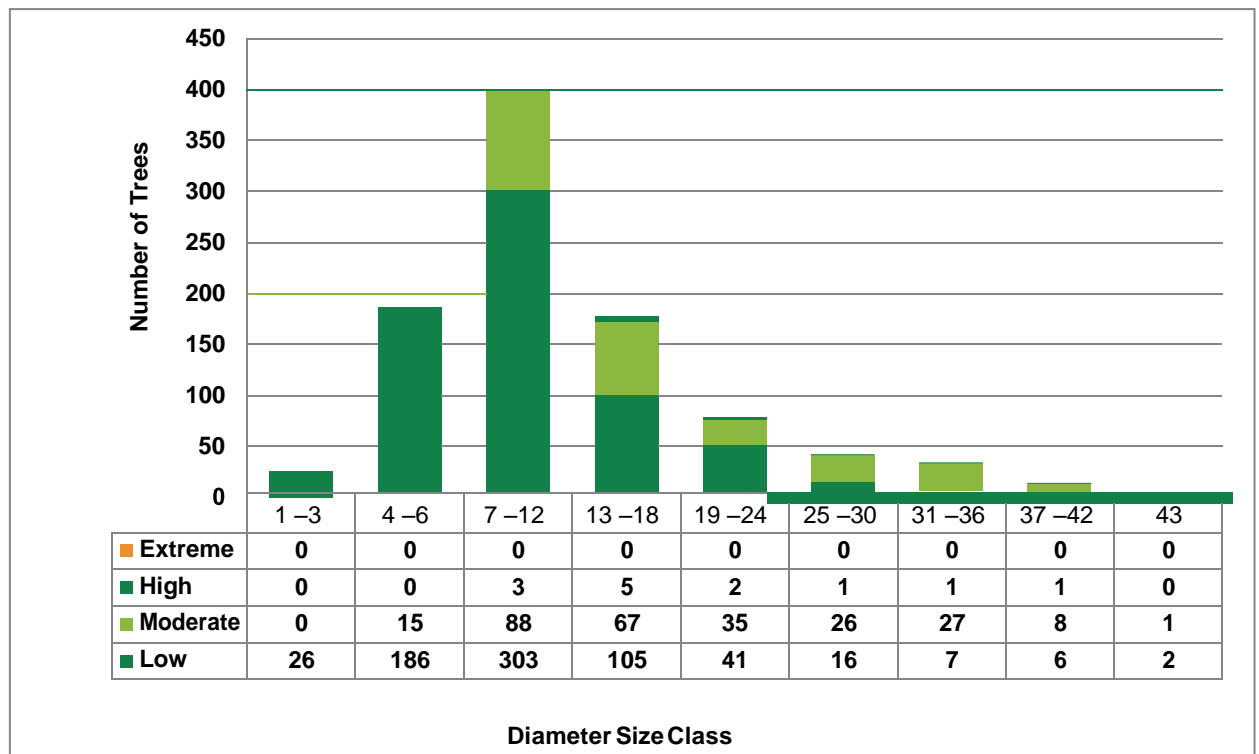


Figure 9. Tree removals by risk rating and diameter size class.

## Findings

The inventory identified 13 High Risk trees, 267 Moderate Risk trees, 692 Low Risk trees, and 537 stumps that are recommended for removal.

The diameter size classes for High Risk trees ranged between 7–12 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) and 37–42 inches DBH. These trees should be removed immediately based on their assigned risk.

Most Moderate Risk trees were smaller than 37 inches DBH. These trees should be removed as soon as possible after all High Risk removals have been completed.

Low Risk removals pose little threat; these trees are generally small or do not often have targets, are dead, invasive, or poorly formed trees that need to be removed. Eliminating these trees will reduce breeding site locations for insects and diseases and will increase the aesthetic value of the area. Healthy trees growing in poor locations or undesirable species are also included in this category. All Low Risk trees should be removed when convenient and after all High and Moderate Risk removals and pruning have been completed.

## Discussion/Recommendations

Unless already slated for removal, trees noted as having dead and dying parts, cracks, weakly attached branches, missing or decayed wood, poor tree architecture, or root problems should be inspected on a regular basis. Corrective action should be taken when warranted. If their condition worsens, tree removal may be required. Proactive tree maintenance that actively mitigates elevated-risk situations will promote public safety.

Updating the tree inventory data can streamline workload management and lend insight into setting accurate budgets and staffing levels. Inventory updates should be made electronically and can be implemented using TreeKeeper® or similar computer software.

## Tree Pruning

High and Moderate Risk pruning generally require cleaning the canopy of both small and large trees to remove defects such as dead and/or broken branches that may be present even when the rest of the tree is sound. In these cases, pruning the branch or branches can correct the problem and reduce risk associated with the tree. Figure 10 presents the number of High and Moderate Risk trees recommended for pruning by size class. The following sections briefly summarize the recommended pruning maintenance identified during the inventory.

## Findings

The inventory identified, 5 High Risk trees, and 127 Moderate Risk trees recommended for pruning.

High Risk trees ranged in diameter size classes from 7–12 inches DBH to 25–30 inches DBH. This pruning should be performed immediately based on assigned risk. Moderate Risk trees ranged in diameter size classes from 7–12 inches DBH to over 43 inches DBH. Low Risk trees recommended for pruning should be included in a proactive, routine pruning cycle after all the higher risk trees are addressed.

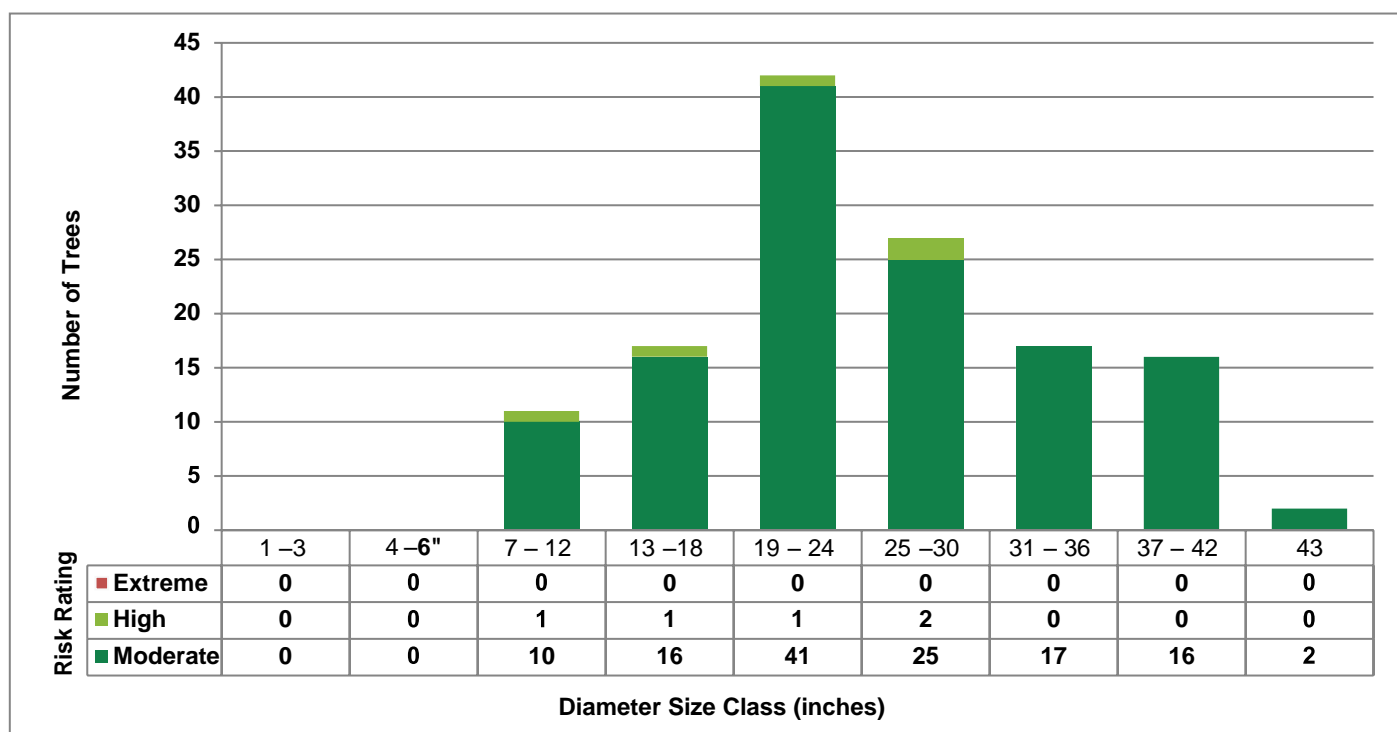


Figure 10. High and Moderate Risk pruning by diameter size class.

## Pruning Cycles

The goals of pruning cycles are to visit, assess, and prune trees on a regular schedule to improve health and reduce risk. DRG recommends that pruning cycles begin after all High and Moderate Risk trees are corrected through removal or pruning. However, due to the long-term benefits of pruning cycles, DRG recommends that the cycles be implemented as soon as possible. To ensure that all trees receive the type of pruning they need to mature with better structure and lower associated risk, two pruning cycles are recommended: the young tree training cycle (YTT Cycle) and the routine pruning cycle (RP Cycle). The cycles differ in the type of pruning, the general age of the target tree, and length.

The recommended number of trees in the pruning cycles will need to be modified to reflect changes in the tree population as trees are planted, age, and die. Newly planted trees will enter the YTT Cycle once they become established. As young trees reach maturity, they will be shifted from the YTT Cycle into the RP Cycle. When a tree reaches the end of its useful life, it should be removed and eliminated from the RP Cycle.

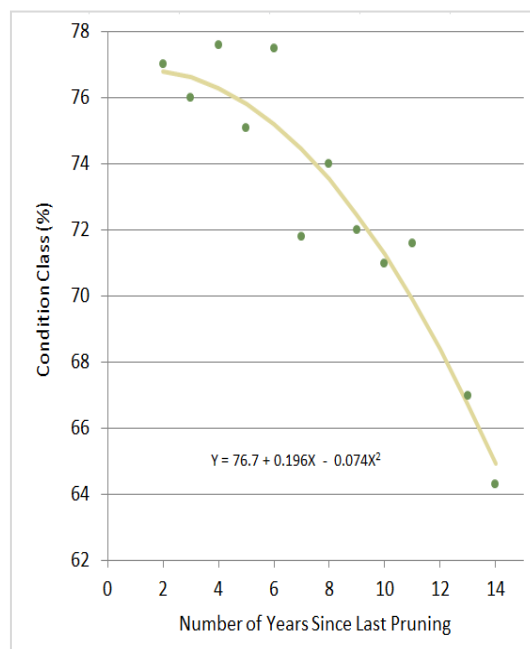
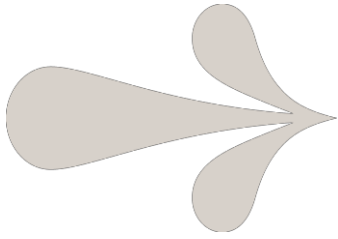


Figure 11. Relationship between average tree condition class and the number of years since the most recent pruning (adapted from Miller and Sylvester 1981).





### Why Prune Trees on a Cycle?

*Miller and Sylvester (1981) examined the frequency of pruning for 40,000 street and boulevard trees in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They documented a decline in tree health as the length of the pruning cycle increased. When pruning was not completed for more than 10 years, the average tree condition was rated 10% lower than when trees had been pruned within the last several years. Miller and Sylvester suggested that a pruning cycle of five years is optimal for urban trees.*

For many communities, a proactive tree management program is considered unfeasible. An on-demand response to urgent situations is the norm. Research has shown that a proactive program that includes a routine pruning cycle will improve the overall health of a tree population (Miller and Sylvester 1981). Proactive tree maintenance has many advantages over on-demand maintenance, the most significant of which is reduced risk. In a proactive program, trees are regularly assessed and pruned, which helps detect and eliminate most defects before they escalate to a hazardous situation with an unacceptable level of risk. Other advantages of a proactive program include: increased environmental and economic benefits from trees, more predictable budgets and projectable workloads, and reduced long-term tree maintenance costs.

### Young Tree Training Cycle

Trees included in the YTT Cycle are generally less than 8 inches DBH. These younger trees sometimes have branch structures that can lead to potential problems as the tree ages. Potential structural problems include codominant leaders, multiple limbs attaching at the same point on the trunk, or crossing/interfering limbs. If these problems are not corrected, they may worsen as the tree grows, increasing risk and creating potential liability.

YTT pruning is performed to improve tree form or structure; the recommended length of a YTT Cycle is three years because young trees tend to grow at faster rates (on average) than more mature trees.

The YTT Cycle differs from the RP Cycle in that these trees generally can be pruned from the ground with a pole pruner or pruning shear. The objective is to increase structural integrity by pruning for one dominant leader. YTT Pruning is species-specific, since many trees such as *Betula nigra* (river birch) may naturally have more than one leader. For such trees, YTT pruning is performed to develop a strong structural architecture of branches so that future growth will lead to a healthy, structurally sound tree.

### **Recommendations**

DRG recommends that New Paltz implement a three-year YTT Cycle to begin in the first year of the seven-year program. The YTT Cycle will include existing young trees. During the inventory, 432 trees that were 8 inches or smaller DBH were inventoried and recommended for young tree training. The benefit of beginning the YTT Cycle is substantial, DRG recommends an average of 145 trees be structurally pruned each year over 3 years, beginning in Year One of the management program.

If trees are planted, they will need to enter the YTT Cycle after establishment, typically a few years after planting.

In future years, the number of trees in the YTT Cycle will be based on tree planting efforts and growth rates of young trees. New Paltz should strive to prune approximately one-third of its young trees each year.

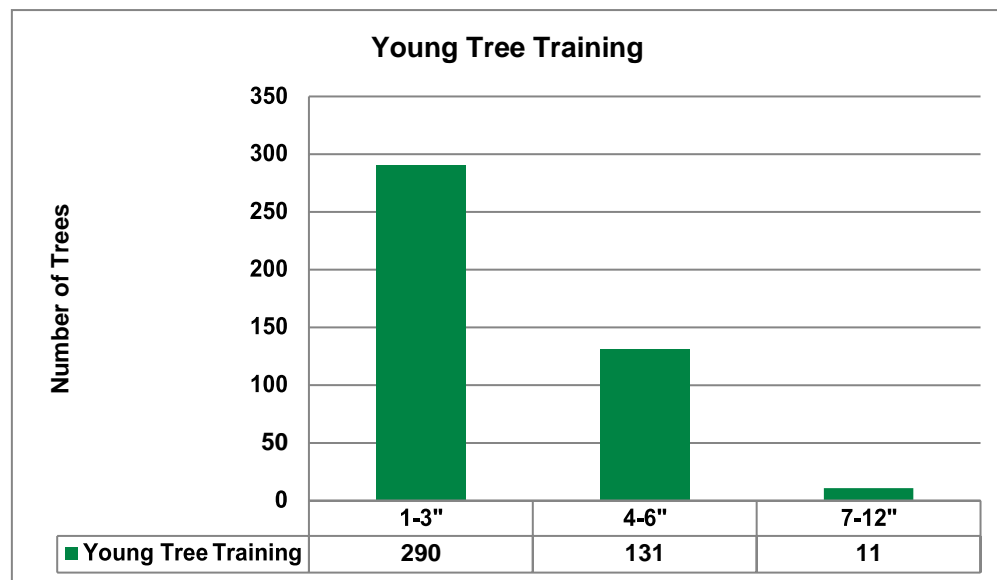


Figure 12. Trees recommended for the YTT Cycle by diameter size class.

## Routine Pruning Cycle

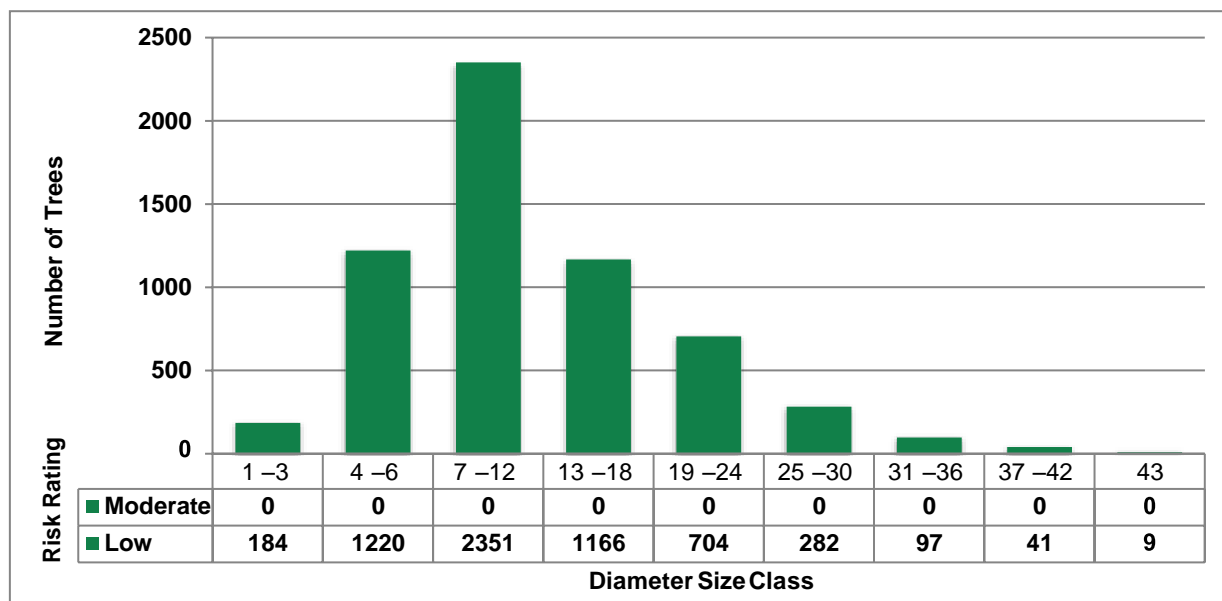
The RP Cycle includes established, maturing, and mature trees (mostly greater than 8 inches DBH) that need cleaning, crown raising, and reducing to remove deadwood and improve structure. Over time, routine pruning can reduce reactive maintenance, minimize instances of elevated risk, and provide the basis for a more defensible risk management program. Included in this cycle are Low Risk trees that require pruning and pose some risk but have a smaller size of defect and/or less potential for target impact. The defects found within these trees can usually be remediated during the RP Cycle.

The length of the RP Cycle is based on the size of the tree population and what was assumed to be a reasonable number of trees for a program to prune per year. Generally, the RP Cycle recommended for a tree population is five years but may extend to seven years if the population is large.

### Recommendations

DRG recommends that New Paltz establish a five-year RP Cycle in which approximately one-fifth of the tree population is to be pruned each year. The tree inventory identified approximately 6,054 trees that should be pruned over a five-year RP Cycle. An average of 1,210 trees should be pruned each year over the course of the cycle. Davey Resource Group recommends that the RP Cycle begin in Year Three of this seven-year plan, after all High and Moderate Risk trees are pruned.

The inventory found that most trees (80%) needed routine pruning. Figure 13 shows that a variety of tree sizes will require pruning; however, most of the trees that require routine pruning were smaller than 24 inches DBH.



**Figure 13. Trees recommended for the RP Cycle by diameter size class.**

## Maintenance Schedule

Utilizing data from the 2018 New Paltz tree inventory, an annual maintenance schedule was developed that details the number and type of tasks recommended for completion each year. DRG made budget projections using industry knowledge and public bid tabulations. Actual costs were not specified by New Paltz. A complete table of estimated costs for New Paltz’s seven-year tree management program is presented in Table 5.

The schedule provides a framework for completing the inventory maintenance recommendations over the next five years. Following this schedule can shift tree care activities from an on-demand system to a more proactive tree care program.

To implement the maintenance schedule, the village and town’s tree maintenance budget should be no less than an average of \$246,500 for the first three years of implementation, no less than \$244,277 for the fourth year, no less than \$239,348 for the fifth year, no less than \$227,728 for the sixth year, and no less than \$216,407 for the seventh year of the maintenance schedule. After the seventh year, annual budget should normalize and Year 7 is an estimate of that proactive tree can budget. Table 5 budget table and individual budgets for village and town have been provided via CD-ROM as an editable Excel™ spreadsheet. Annual budget funds are needed to ensure that high risk trees are remediated and that crucial YTT and RP Cycles can begin. With proper professional tree care, the safety, health, and beauty of the urban forest will improve.

If routing efficiencies and/or contract specifications allow for the completion of more tree work, or if the schedule requires modification to meet budgetary or other needs, then the schedule should be modified accordingly. Unforeseen situations such as severe weather events may arise and change the maintenance needs of trees. Should conditions or maintenance needs change, budgets and equipment will need to be adjusted to meet the new demands.

**Table 5. Estimated Costs for Seven-Year Urban Forestry Management Program**

Estimated Costs for Each Activity			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Seven-Year Cost
Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	
High and Moderate Risk Removals	1-3"	\$28	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	4-6"	\$58	15	\$863	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$863
	7-12"	\$138	91	\$12,513	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$12,513
	13-18"	\$314	72	\$22,572	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$22,572
	19-24"	\$605	37	\$22,385	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$22,385
	25-30"	\$825	27	\$22,275	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$22,275
	31-36"	\$1,045	28	\$29,260	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$29,260
	37-42"	\$1,485	9	\$13,365	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$13,365
	43"+	\$2,035	1	\$2,035	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$2,035
Activity Total(s)			280	\$125,267	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$125,267
Low Risk Removals	1-3"	\$28	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	26	\$715	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$715
	4-6"	\$58	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	186	\$10,695	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$10,695
	7-12"	\$138	0	\$0	75	\$10,313	168	\$23,100	60	\$8,250	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$41,663
	13-18"	\$314	0	\$0	105	\$32,918	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$32,918
	19-24"	\$605	0	\$0	41	\$24,805	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$24,805
	25-30"	\$825	0	\$0	16	\$13,200	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$13,200
	31-36"	\$1,045	0	\$0	7	\$7,315	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$7,315
	37-42"	\$1,485	0	\$0	6	\$8,910	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$8,910
	43"+	\$2,035	0	\$0	2	\$4,070	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$4,070
Activity Total(s)			0	\$0	252	\$101,530	168	\$23,100	272	\$19,660	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$144,290
Stump Removals	1-3"	\$18	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	26	\$455	0	\$0	7	\$123	0	\$0	\$455
	4-6"	\$28	15	\$413	0	\$0	0	\$0	186	\$5,115	0	\$0	76	\$2,090	0	\$0	\$5,528
	7-12"	\$44	91	\$4,004	75	\$3,300	168	\$7,392	60	\$2,640	0	\$0	207	\$9,108	0	\$0	\$17,336
	13-18"	\$72	72	\$5,148	105	\$7,508	0	\$0	0	\$0	125	\$8,938	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$12,656
	19-24"	\$94	37	\$3,460	41	\$3,834	0	\$0	0	\$0	55	\$5,143	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$7,293
	25-30"	\$110	27	\$2,970	16	\$1,760	0	\$0	0	\$0	32	\$3,520	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$4,730
	31-36"	\$138	28	\$3,850	7	\$963	0	\$0	0	\$0	17	\$2,338	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$4,813
	37-42"	\$160	9	\$1,436	6	\$957	0	\$0	0	\$0	12	\$1,914	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$2,393
	43"+	\$182	1	\$182	2	\$363	0	\$0	0	\$0	6	\$1,089	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$545
Activity Total(s)			280	\$21,461	252	\$18,684	168	\$7,392	272	\$8,210	247	\$22,941	290	\$11,321	0	\$0	\$55,747
High and Moderate Risk Pruning	1-3"	\$20	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	4-6"	\$30	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$0
	7-12"	\$75	1	\$75	10	\$750	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$825
	13-18"	\$120	1	\$120	16	\$1,920	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$2,040
	19-24"	\$170	1	\$170	41	\$6,970	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$7,140
	25-30"	\$225	2	\$450	25	\$5,625	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$6,075
	31-36"	\$305	0	\$0	17	\$5,185	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$5,185
	37-42"	\$380	0	\$0	16	\$6,080	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$6,080
	43"+	\$590	0	\$0	2	\$1,180	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$1,180
Activity Total(s)			5	\$815	127	\$27,710	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	0	\$0	\$28,525
Routine Pruning (5-year cycle)	1-3"	\$20	0	\$0	0	\$0	37	\$740	37	\$740	37	\$740	37	\$740	37	\$740	\$2,220
	4-6"	\$30	0	\$0	0	\$0	244	\$7,320	244	\$7,320	244	\$7,320	244	\$7,320	244	\$7,320	\$21,960
	7-12"	\$75	0	\$0	0	\$0	470	\$35,250	470	\$35,250	470	\$35,250	470	\$35,250	470	\$35,250	\$105,750
	13-18"	\$120	0	\$0	0	\$0	233	\$27,960	233	\$27,960	233	\$27,960	233	\$27,960	233	\$27,960	\$83,880
	19-24"	\$170	0	\$0	0	\$0	141	\$23,970	141	\$23,970	141	\$23,970	141	\$23,970	141	\$23,970	\$71,910
	25-30"	\$225	0	\$0	0	\$0	56	\$12,600	56	\$12,600	56	\$12,600	56	\$12,600	56	\$12,600	\$37,800
	31-36"	\$305	0	\$0	0	\$0	19	\$5,795	19	\$5,795	19	\$5,795	19	\$5,795	19	\$5,795	\$17,385
	37-42"	\$380	0	\$0	0	\$0	8	\$3,040	8	\$3,040	8	\$3,040	8	\$3,040	8	\$3,040	\$9,120
	43"+	\$590	0	\$0	0	\$0	2	\$1,180	2	\$1,180	2	\$1,180	2	\$1,180	2	\$1,180	\$3,540
Activity Total(s)			0	\$0	0	\$0	1,210	\$117,855	1,210	\$117,855	1,210	\$117,855	1,210	\$117,855	1,210	\$117,855	\$353,565
Young Tree Training Pruning (3-year cycle)	1-3"	\$20	97	\$1,940	97	\$1,940	97	\$1,940	97	\$1,940	97	\$1,940	97	\$1,940	97	\$1,940	\$9,700
	4-6"	\$30	44	\$1,320	44	\$1,320	44	\$1,320	44	\$1,320	44	\$1,320	44	\$1,320	44	\$1,320	\$6,600
	7-12"	\$75	4	\$300	4	\$300	4	\$300	4	\$300	4	\$300	4	\$300	4	\$300	\$1,500
Activity Total(s)			145	\$3,560	145	\$3,560	145	\$3,560	145	\$3,560	145	\$3,560	145	\$3,560	145	\$3,560	\$17,800

Estimated Costs for Each Activity			Year 1		Year 2		Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6		Year 7		Seven-Year Cost
Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	# of Trees	Total Cost	
Replacement Tree Planting	Purchasing	\$170	100	\$17,000	100	\$17,000	100	\$17,000	100	\$17,000	100	\$17,000	100	\$17,000	100	\$17,000	\$85,000
	Planting	\$110	100	\$11,000	100	\$11,000	100	\$11,000	100	\$11,000	100	\$11,000	100	\$11,000	100	\$11,000	\$55,000
Activity Total(s)			200	\$28,000	200	\$28,000	200	\$28,000	200	\$28,000	200	\$28,000	200	\$28,000	200	\$28,000	\$140,000
Replacement Young Tree Maintenance	Mulching	\$100	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	\$50,000
	Watering	\$100	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	100	\$10,000	\$50,000
Activity Total(s)			200	\$20,000	200	\$20,000	200	\$20,000	200	\$20,000	200	\$20,000	200	\$20,000	200	\$20,000	\$100,000
Annual Mortality (1%) Removals	Average Tree	\$138	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	\$45,540
Activity Total(s)			66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	66	\$9,108	\$45,540
Annual Mortality (1%) Stump Removals	Average Tree	\$94	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	\$31,020
Activity Total(s)			66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	66	\$6,204	\$31,020
Annual Mortality (1%) Planting	Average Tree	\$480	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	\$158,400
Activity Total(s)			66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	66	\$31,680	\$158,400
Activity Grand Total			1,308		1,374		2,289		2,497		2,200		2,243		1,953		
Cost Grand Total				\$246,095		\$246,476		\$246,899		\$244,277		\$239,348		\$227,728		\$216,407	\$1,200,154

## Community Outreach

The data collected and analyzed to develop this plan contribute significant information about the tree population and can be utilized to guide the proactive management of that resource. These data can also be utilized to promote the value of the urban forest and the tree management program in the following ways:

- Tree inventory data can be used to justify necessary priority and proactive tree maintenance activities as well as tree planting and preservation initiatives.
- Species data can be used to guide tree species selection for planting projects with the goals of improving species diversity and limiting the introduction of invasive pests and diseases.
- Information in this plan can be used to advise citizens about threats to urban trees (such as Asian longhorned beetle, gypsy moth, and emerald ash borer).

There are various avenues for outreach. Maps can be created and posted on websites, in parks, or in business areas. Public service announcements can be developed. Articles can be written and programs about trees and the benefits they provide can be developed. Arbor Day and Earth Day celebrations can become community traditions. Signs can be hung from trees to highlight the contributions trees make to the community. Contests can even be created to increase awareness of the importance of trees. Trees provide oxygen we need to breathe, shade to cool our neighborhoods, and canopies to stand under when it rains.

New Paltz's data are instrumental in helping to provide tangible and meaningful outreach about the urban forest.



## Inspections

Inspections are essential to uncovering potential problems with trees. They should be performed by a qualified arborist who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees. Arborists are knowledgeable about the needs of trees and are trained and equipped to provide proper care.

Public trees should be regularly inspected and attended to as needed based on the inspection findings. When trees need additional or new work, they should be added to the maintenance schedule and budgeted as appropriate. Use appropriate computer management software such as TreeKeeper® to update inventory data and work records. In addition to locating potential new hazards, inspections are an opportunity to look for signs and symptoms of pests and diseases. New Paltz has a large population of trees that are susceptible to pests and diseases, such as maple, oak, and ash.

## Inventory and Plan Updates

DRG recommends that the inventory and management plan be updated using an appropriate computer software program so that New Paltz can sustain its program and accurately project future program and budget needs:

- Conduct inspections of trees after all severe weather events. Record changes in tree condition, maintenance needs, and risk rating in the inventory database. Update the tree maintenance schedule and acquire the funds needed to promote public safety. Schedule and prioritize work based on risk.
- Perform routine inspections of public trees as needed. Windshield surveys (inspections performed from a vehicle) in line with *ANSI A300 (Part 9)* (ANSI 2011) will help New Paltz staff stay apprised of changing conditions. Update the tree maintenance schedule and the budget as needed so that identified tree work may be efficiently performed. Schedule and prioritize work based on risk.
- If the recommended work cannot be completed as suggested in this plan, modify maintenance schedules and budgets accordingly.
- Update the inventory database using TreeKeeper® as work is performed. Add new tree work to the schedule when work is identified through inspections or a citizen call process.
- Re-inventory the public trees in five years or a portion of the population (1/5) every year over the course of five years.
- Revise the *Tree Management Plan* after five years when the re-inventory has been completed.

## SECTION 4. EMERALD ASH BORER STRATEGY

Throughout the United States, urban and community forests are under increased pressure from exotic and invasive insects and diseases. Exotic pests that arrive from overseas typically have no natural predators and become invasive when our native trees and shrubs do not have appropriate defense mechanisms to fight them off. Mortality from these pests can range from two weeks with oak wilt (OW, *Ceratocystis fagacearum*), to seven years with emerald ash borer (EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*) or more.

An integral part of tree management is being aware of invasive insects and diseases in the area and how to best manage them. Depending on the tree diversity within the New Paltz urban forest, an invasive insect or disease has the potential to negatively impact the tree population.

This section provides the different management strategies for dealing with EAB. Included are sections on how to effectively monitor EAB, increase public education, handle ash debris, reforestation, work with stakeholders, and utilize ash wood. Appendix F contains additional EAB reference materials.



**Map 1. EAB detections throughout North America as of June 2018.**  
Map courtesy of USDA.

### *Emerald Ash Borer*

Emerald ash borer is a small insect native to Asia. In North America, the borer is an invasive species highly destructive to ash trees in its introduced range. The potential damage of EAB rivals that of chestnut blight and Dutch elm disease. Chestnut blight is a fungus that was introduced in North America around 1900 and, by 1940, it virtually wiped out most of the mature American chestnut population. It is believed that chestnut blight was imported by chestnut lumber or through imported chestnut trees. Dutch elm disease is a fungus spread sexually by the elm bark beetle. It was first reported in the United States in 1928 and was believed to have been introduced by imported timber. Since its discovery in the United States, it has killed millions of elm trees. EAB is thought to have been introduced into the United States and Canada in the 1990s but was not positively identified in North America until 2002 in Canton, Michigan. It has now been confirmed in 33 states and has killed more than million ash trees so far and threatens billions more ash trees throughout North America. New York's EAB infestation was discovered June 2009 in the town of Randolph of Cattaraugus County.

The insect was quickly found in seven neighboring counties in western New York. With an estimated 9 million ash trees at risk in New York the state is committed to early detection and thoughtful management of this pest. For more information visit the New York State, Department of Environmental Conservation web sites (<https://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/7253.html>). In the US, EAB has been known to attack all native ash trees, including white, green, blue, and black ash. EAB has been identified in New Paltz and poses a serious threat to the health and condition of New Paltz's urban forest.

### Identification

The adult beetle is elongate, metallic green, and 3/8- to 5/8-inch long. The adult beetle emerges from late May until early August, feeding on a small amount of foliage. The adult females then lay eggs on the trunk and branches of ash trees and, in about a week, the eggs hatch into larvae, which then bore into the tree. Larvae are creamy white in color and can grow up to an inch long and are found underneath the bark of the trees. The larvae tunnel and feed on the inner bark and phloem, creating winding galleries as they feed. This cuts off the flow of the water and nutrients to the tree, causing dieback and death.

EAB can be very difficult to detect. Initial symptoms include yellowing and/or thinning of the foliage and longitudinal bark splitting. The entire canopy may die back, or symptoms may be restricted to certain branches. Declining trees may sprout epicormic shoots at the tree base or on branches. Woodpecker injury is often apparent on branches of infested trees, especially in late winter. Removal of bark reveals tissue callusing and frass-filled serpentine tunneling. The S-shaped larval feeding tunnels are about 1/4 inch in diameter. Tunneling may occur from upper branches to the trunk and root flare. Adults exit from the trunk and branches in a characteristic D-shaped exit hole that is about 1/8 inch in diameter. The loss of water and nutrients from the intense larvae tunneling can cause trees to lose between 30% and 50% of their canopies during the first year of infestation. Trees often die within two years following infestation.



**Photograph 9. Larvae consume the cambium and phloem, effectively girdling the tree and eventually causing death within a few years.**

## Ash Population

With the threat of EAB looming in New Paltz, it is crucial that New Paltz have an action plan. Some of the most important questions to answer will be, “How many ash trees do we have, where are they located, and what actions should we take?” In order to answer these questions, New Paltz needs to maintain an up-to-date inventory, know what resources are available, and understand New Paltz’s priorities.

Based on the current public tree inventory, there are 376 ash trees distributed throughout New Paltz. Table 6 presents the diameter class of each inventoried ash tree by the condition class.



**Photograph 10.** This ash tree is declining from EAB infestation. The loss of water and nutrients from the intense larvae tunneling can cause the trees to lose between 30% and 50% of their canopies during the first year of infestation (Photo courtesy of <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/eab/signs-and-symptoms/>).

**Table 6. Tree Condition Versus Diameter Class Matrix**

Diameter Class (inches)											
Condition Class		1–3	4–6	7–12	13–18	19–24	25–30	31–36	37–42	43+	Total
	Good	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Fair	21	18	52	15	3	1	1	0	0	111
	Poor	7	58	80	24	3	2	3	1	0	178
	Dead	0	32	39	12	2	0	0	0	0	85
	Total	30	108	171	51	8	3	4	1	0	376



## Ash Tree Risk Reduction Pruning and Removals

As the infestation of EAB increases exponentially in New Paltz, it becomes the village and town's highest priority and it is advisable to refocus budgeted funds and personnel to concentrate more closely on the ash tree population. DRG recommends that New Paltz perform both treatment and safety related activities on ash trees. This activity will end up saving New Paltz money and increasing productivity.

DRG also recommends that New Paltz proactively remove ash trees currently recommended for removal in the 2018 inventory and remove ash trees during road reconstruction projects and other public works or parks associated activities. By proactively removing said ash trees, the cost and impacts should be lower. Table 7 presents the diameter class of each inventoried ash tree by the condition class excluding 2018 inventory recommended removals. The remainder of this discussion will use data from this the Table 7 matrix so not to compound estimated costs between budgets of the 5-year management program and the following EAB strategies.

**Table 7. Excluding Recommended Removals Tree Condition Versus Diameter Class Matrix**

		Diameter Class (inches)									
Condition Class		1–3	4–6	7–12	13–18	19–24	25–30	31–36	37–42	43+	Total
	Good	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Fair	21	12	44	12	3	1	1	0	0	94
	Poor	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Dead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	23	15	44	14	3	1	1	0	0	101

## EAB Management Strategies

New Paltz should expediently explore different options for managing EAB. With the current infestation, New Paltz has limited time and a short opportunity to select one of several management types. New Paltz should consider all options and develop their strategy based on the benefits to the community. The following are current strategy options for managing EAB and the costs associated with them.

### **EAB Strategy 1: Do Nothing**

This means letting EAB run its course and having no strategy for dealing with EAB. This strategy includes not removing and not treating any ash trees. This strategy is economical in the beginning of an infestation because it costs the New Paltz no money, but it would become a severe public safety issue within a few years. DRG does not recommend this management strategy.



**Photograph 11. This is an example of a do nothing strategy. These ash trees became infested with EAB and eventually died. They have now become a public safety issue.**



### **EAB Strategy 2: Remove and Replace all Ash**

Remove and replace all 101 ash trees by 2019. This strategy would benefit public safety from the perspective of illuminating an EAB infestation but would have an impact on New Paltz's budget and a greater impact on the lost benefits that these trees provide to New Paltz. This strategy will require a lot of upfront cost. It will be very important to replace all of these ash trees once they have been removed.

The total approximate cost for this strategy would be \$45,565; \$20,360 would be the approximate cost to remove all ash trees, \$2,985 would be the approximate cost to remove all stumps, and \$22,220 would be the approximate cost to replace all ash trees. Refer to Table 8.

**Table 8. Cost to Remove and Replace all Ash**

Management Strategy	Management Action	# of Trees	Cost
Remove and Replace All Ash Trees	Removal All	101	\$20,360
	Replace All	101	\$22,220
	Stump Removal	101	\$2,985
	Total	303	\$45,565

### **EAB Strategy 3: Treat all Ash**

Treating all of the ash trees in New Paltz could reduce the annual mortality rate, stabilize removals, and would be less expensive than removing and replacing all ash trees. Treating all ash would enable these trees to keep providing New Paltz with the monetary benefits that they provide. On the other hand, treating all ash trees is not an ideal practice because some of these ash trees may be less than desirable to retain.

If New Paltz wanted to annually treat all of its 101 ash trees that are not recommended for removal, it would cost approximately \$15,660 over a six-year period. This means that it would cost New Paltz approximately \$5,220 annually to treat all remaining ash trees. Refer to Table 9.

**Table 9. Cost to Treat All Ash**

Management Action	# of Trees	Cost
Treat all Ash Trees for Six Years	101	\$15,660
Total	101	\$15,660

#### **EAB Strategy 4: Combination of Removals and Treatment**

In the event that New Paltz decides to proactively remove ash trees, DRG recommends that New Paltz remove all ash trees less than 7 inches and trees that are rated as Poor condition first. These trees are providing little benefit to the community and the cost for removals should not be significant.

This strategy is intended to give New Paltz options for a combination of removing and treating ash trees to stabilize annual removals, annual budgets, and prolong the life of ash trees that are Good and Fair condition. Table 10 is an EAB matrix table that is intended to organize trees that should be considered for removal and trees that should be considered for treatment. Subsections after this EAB matrix table will go into detail about why certain ash trees should be considered for removal and treatment.

**Table 10. EAB Matrix Table**

Condition Class	Diameter Class (inches)									
		1–3	4–6	7–12	13–18	19–24	25–30	31–36	37–42	43+
	Good	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Fair	21	12	44	12	3	1	1	0	0
	Poor	0	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Total		23	15	44	14	3	1	1	0	0

Based on these numbers, DRG makes the following recommendations:

##### **40 Trees to Be Removed**

- Trees in the Poor condition class are recommended for removal. These trees are recommended for removal because they are more susceptible to EAB infestation and if not removed could pose a public safety issue in the future. A total of 5 trees are recommended for removal and replacement.
- The remaining 35 trees are less than 7 inches DBH and recommended for removal and replacement. These trees do not provide as many benefits to the community compared to mature ash trees. It would be in the best interest of New Paltz to remove these trees and replace them with a more diversified mix of trees.

##### **61 Candidate Trees for Chemical Treatment**

- The intent here is to defer removal of a large block of trees within the matrix of Good and Fair condition class 7 inches DBH and greater. These 61 trees are considered to be candidate trees for chemical treatment. Treating trees will stabilize annual budgets and removals each year and will be economically beneficial while reducing the chance for a public safety issue in the near future.

The total approximate cost for this strategy would be \$25,821; \$13,131 would be the approximate cost to treat 61 ash trees for 6 years, \$2,860 would be the approximate cost to remove 40 ash trees, \$1,030 would be the approximate cost to remove 40 stumps, \$8,800 would be the approximate cost to replace 40 ash trees. Refer to Table 11.

**Table 11. Cost to Treat, Remove, and Replace**

Activity	Diameter	Cost/Tree	# of Trees	Total Cost
Removal	1-3"	\$25	23	\$575
	4-6"	\$105	15	\$1,575
	7-12"	\$220	0	\$0
	13-18"	\$355	2	\$710
	19-24"	\$525	0	\$0
	25-30"	\$845	0	\$0
	31-36"	\$1,140	0	\$0
	37-42"	\$1,470	0	\$0
	43"+	\$1,850	0	\$0
Activity Total(s)			40	\$2,860
Treatment (over six years)	1-3"	\$9	0	\$0
	4-6"	\$30	0	\$0
	7-12"	\$57	44	\$7,524
	13-18"	\$93	12	\$3,348
	19-24"	\$129	3	\$1,161
	25-30"	\$165	1	\$495
	31-36"	\$201	1	\$603
	37-42"	\$237	0	\$0
	43"+	\$276	0	\$0
Activity Total(s)			61	\$13,131
Stump Removal	1-3"	\$25	23	\$575
	4-6"	\$25	15	\$375
	7-12"	\$25	0	\$0
	13-18"	\$40	2	\$80
	19-24"	\$60	0	\$0
	25-30"	\$85	0	\$0
	31-36"	\$110	0	\$0
	37-42"	\$130	0	\$0
	43"+	\$160	0	\$0
Activity Total(s)			40	\$1,030
Replanting		\$220	40	\$8,800
Activity Total(s)			40	\$8,800
Option Totals			181	\$25,821

## Private Trees

Dying and infested ash trees on private property will pose a threat to human and public safety. In the event that New Paltz should have to get involved with private property owners about a potential infested ash tree, New Paltz should consider utilizing the current New Paltz tree and landscape ordinance. New Paltz should consider amending sections of the ordinance so that EAB is acknowledged as a public nuisance.

EAB will impact trees located on private property. The number of private ash trees is unknown but it could be equal or more than the ash trees located on public property. During the inventory, it was evident to the inventory arborists that there is an abundance of ash trees located on private properties. The cost to remove ash trees will be higher on private property because of the greater inaccessibility to these areas.

## Public Education

It is crucial for New Paltz property owners to be well informed about EAB. Their assistance and cooperation will be vital in helping detect EAB, managing ash trees on private property, and the reforestation process that will come from the removal of ash trees. New Paltz should inform the public that EAB has been discovered in the village and town. If the public is well informed, then they are more likely to accept what is happening without panicking and cooperate with the New Paltz's requests. The following are examples of how New Paltz should go about informing the public:

- New releases
- City newsletter articles
- Radio programs
- Post information about EAB on the village's and town's websites

It is vital for New Paltz to enlighten the public on how to detect EAB, become informed about treatment options, and the importance for reforestation. If the public is advised on how to detect for EAB, then they can make proactive choices about managing infested ash trees. This could help put New Paltz officials at ease by not having as many private trees becoming a public safety issue. Property owners may want to keep their ash trees because of the benefits they receive from them.

New Paltz should provide information about treatment options so that their trees can last for years to come. It will be important for New Paltz to inform the public on reforestation. Explaining the important benefits that trees provide to neighborhoods and how trees increase real estate value. This can help fund and promote neighborhood tree plantings. The following are examples of ways New Paltz can inform the public about these issues.

- Display information packets at public buildings
- Postcard mailings to ash tree owners
- Door hangers explaining maintenance options
- Presentations to community groups
- Post information about EAB on the village and town's websites
- Tie ribbons around ash trees and place tags on the trees with information about EAB



**Photograph 12. Hangers will help make private homeowners aware of the management options available for EAB.**



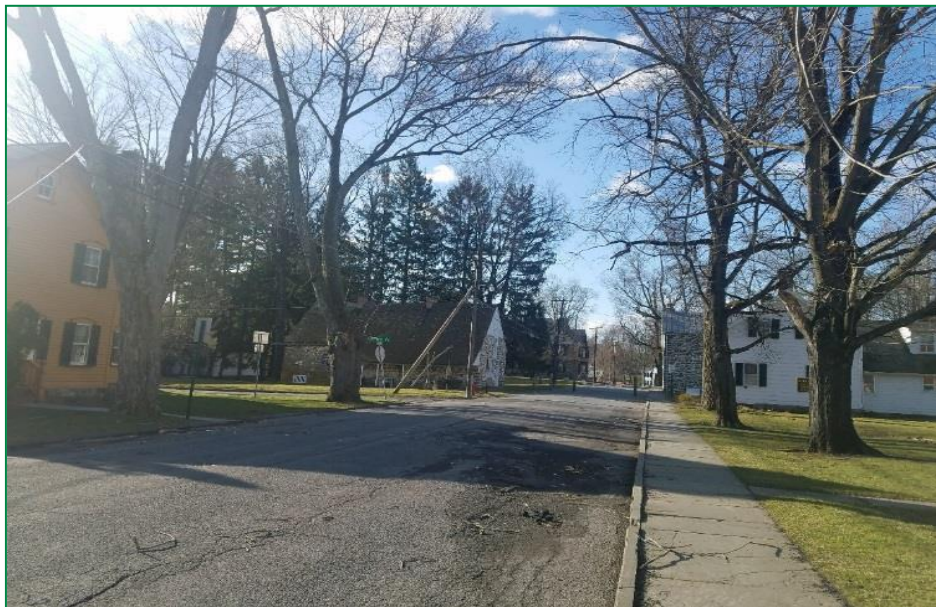
**Photograph 13. Posting information about EAB on ash trees around the village and town could promote private homeowners to become more proactive in managing their ash trees.**

## Reforestation

As the ash tree population is being reduced in New Paltz, New Paltz will need to come up with a plan to replant where ash trees have been removed. New Paltz could potentially lose over 5% of its tree population due to EAB. It will be vital for a prompt reforestation in New Paltz because of the numerous benefits that the ash trees provide the community.

If New Paltz is to replace all the ash trees, it will cost approximately \$45,565. This would be a huge financial burden on New Paltz, but it will be important that these trees be replaced. The cost of replanting ash trees could be spread out over multiple years by establishing a goal that a certain amount of trees need to be planted each year. If New Paltz was to plant 25 trees a year, then New Paltz could replace all of the ash trees within 4 years. This cost could be reduced if New Paltz comes up with a plan to work with volunteers and private property owners. This could include giving private property owners the option of paying for the tree and getting to pick the tree they want from a list of 10 species. New Paltz should also explore grants for reforestation. Organizing volunteer groups to participate in planting trees could help decrease the cost for planting trees.

It is important to consider diversification when replacing ash trees. Without diversification, a community is much more vulnerable to catastrophic losses that impact budgets and community appearance. DRG recommends that no one species represents 10% and that no one genus comprises more than 20% of the total public tree population. Since EAB has hit local communities, there might be a possibility that local nurseries have a shortage of trees. New Paltz might want to consider nurseries in other regions for trees.



**Photograph 14. A street well stocked with trees provides economic, environmental, and social benefits, including temperature moderation, reduction of air pollutants, energy conservation, and increased property values.**



## CONCLUSIONS

Every hour of every day, public trees in New Paltz are supporting and improving the quality of life. New Paltz trees provide an annual benefit of \$872,049. When properly maintained, trees provide numerous environmental, economic, and social benefits that far exceed the time and money invested in planting, pruning, protection, and removal.

Managing trees in urban areas is often complicated. Navigating the recommendations of experts, the needs of residents, the pressures of local economics and politics, concerns for public safety and liability, physical components of trees, forces of nature and severe weather events, and the expectation that these issues are resolved all at once is a considerable challenge. New Paltz should prepare and implement an EAB management plan as soon as possible.

New Paltz must carefully consider these challenges to fully understand the needs of maintaining an urban forest. With the knowledge and wherewithal to address the needs of the village's and town's trees, New Paltz is well positioned to thrive. If the management program is successfully implemented, the health and safety of New Paltz's trees and citizens will be maintained for years to come.

# GLOSSARY

**address number (data field):** The address number was recorded based on the visual observation by the Davey Resource Group arborist at the time of the inventory of the actual address number posted on a building at the inventoried site. In instances where there was no posted address number on a building or sites were located by vacant lots with no GIS parcel addressing data available, the address number assigned was matched as closely as possible to opposite or adjacent addresses by the arborist(s) and an “X” was added to the number in the database to indicate that the address number was assigned.

**Aesthetic/Other Report:** The i-Tree Streets Aesthetic/Other Report presents the tangible and intangible benefits of trees reflected by increases in property values in dollars (\$).

**Air Quality Report:** The i-Tree Streets Air Quality Report quantifies the air pollutants (ozone [O<sub>3</sub>], nitrogen dioxide [NO<sub>2</sub>], sulfur dioxide [SO<sub>2</sub>], coarse particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter [PM<sub>10</sub>]) deposited on tree surfaces and reduced emissions from power plants (NO<sub>2</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, Volatile Oxygen Compounds [VOCs], SO<sub>2</sub>) due to reduced electricity use measured in pounds (lbs.). Also reported are the potential negative effects of trees on air quality due to Biogenic Volatile Organic Compounds (BVOC) emissions.

**American National Standards Institute (ANSI):** ANSI is a private, nonprofit organization that facilitates the standardization work of its members in the United States. ANSI’s goals are to promote and facilitate voluntary consensus standards and conformity assessment systems, and to maintain their integrity.

**ANSI A300:** Tree care performance parameters established by ANSI that can be used to develop specifications for tree maintenance.

**arboriculture:** The art, science, technology, and business of commercial, public, and utility tree care.

**biogenic volatile organic compounds (BVOC):** Gases emitted from trees, like pine trees, which create the distinct smell of a pine forest. When exposed to sunlight in the air, BVOCs react to form tropospheric ozone, a harmful gas that pollutes the air and damages vegetation.

**canopy:** Branches and foliage that make up a tree’s crown.

**canopy cover:** As seen from above, it is the area of land surface that is covered by tree canopy.

**Carbon Dioxide Report:** The i-Tree Streets Carbon Dioxide Report presents annual reductions in atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> due to sequestration by trees and reduced emissions from power plants due to reduced energy use in pounds. The model accounts for CO<sub>2</sub> released as trees die and decompose and CO<sub>2</sub> released during the care and maintenance of trees.

**community forest:** see **urban forest**.

**condition (data field):** The general condition of each tree rated during the inventory according to the following categories adapted from the International Society of Arboriculture’s rating system: Good, Fair, Poor, Dead.

**cycle:** Planned length of time between vegetation maintenance activities.

**defect (data field):** See **structural defect**.

**diameter:** See **tree size**.

**diameter at breast height (DBH):** See **tree size**.

**Energy Report:** The i-Tree Streets Energy Report presents the contribution of the urban forest toward conserving energy in terms of reduced natural gas use in winter measured in therms (th) and reduced electricity use for air conditioning in summer measured in megawatt-hours (MWh).

**Extreme Risk tree:** Applies in situations where tree failure is imminent, there is a high likelihood of impacting the target, and the consequences of the failure are “severe.” In some cases, this may mean immediate restriction of access to the target zone area in order to prevent injury.

**failure:** In terms of tree management, failure is the breakage of stem or branches, or loss of mechanical support of the tree’s root system.

**further inspection (data field):** Notes that a specific tree may require an annual inspection for several years to make certain of its maintenance needs. A healthy tree obviously impacted by recent construction serves as a prime example. This tree will need annual evaluations to assess the impact of construction on its root system. Another example would be a tree with a defect requiring additional equipment for investigation.

**genus:** A taxonomic category ranking below a family and above a species and generally consisting of a group of species exhibiting similar characteristics. In taxonomic nomenclature, the genus name is used, either alone or followed by a Latin adjective or epithet, to form the name of a species.

**geographic information system (GIS):** A technology that is used to view and analyze data from a geographic perspective. The technology is a piece of an organization’s overall information system framework. GIS links location to information (such as people to addresses, buildings to parcels, or streets within a network) and layers that information to provide a better understanding of how it all interrelates.

**global positioning system (GPS):** GPS is a system of earth-orbiting satellites that make it possible for people with ground receivers to pinpoint their geographic location.

**High Risk tree:** The High Risk category applies when consequences are “significant” and likelihood is “very likely” or “likely,” or consequences are “severe” and likelihood is “likely.” In a population of trees, the priority of High Risk trees is second only to Extreme Risk trees.

**importance value (IV):** A calculation in i-Tree Streets displayed in table form for all species that make up more than 1% of the population. The i-Tree Streets IV is the mean of three relative values (percentage of total trees, percentage of total leaf area, and percentage of canopy cover) and can range from 0 to 100, with an IV of 100 suggesting total reliance on one species. IVs offer valuable information about a community’s reliance on certain species to provide functional benefits. For example, a species might represent 10% of a population, but have an IV of 25% because of its great size, indicating that the loss of those trees due to pests or disease would be more significant than their numbers suggest.

**invasive, exotic tree:** A tree species that is out of its original biological community. Its introduction into an area causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health. An invasive, exotic tree has the ability to thrive and spread aggressively outside its natural range. An invasive species that colonizes a new area may gain an ecological edge since the insects, diseases, and foraging animals that naturally keep its growth in check in its native range are not present in its new habitat.

**inventory:** See **tree inventory**.

**i-Tree Streets:** i-Tree Streets is a street tree management and analysis tool that uses tree inventory data to quantify the dollar value of annual environmental and aesthetic benefits: energy conservation, air quality improvement, CO<sub>2</sub> reduction, stormwater control, and property value increase.

**i-Tree Tools:** State-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools. The i-Tree Tools help communities of all sizes to strengthen their urban forest management and advocacy efforts by quantifying the structure of community trees and the environmental services that trees provide.

**location (data fields):** A collection of data fields collected during the inventory to aid in finding trees, including address number, street name, site number, side, and block side.

**Low Risk tree:** The Low Risk category applies when consequences are “negligible” and likelihood is “unlikely”; or consequences are “minor” and likelihood is “somewhat likely.” Some trees with this level of risk may benefit from mitigation or maintenance measures, but immediate action is not usually required.

**Management Costs:** Used in i-Tree Streets, they are the expenditures associated with street tree management presented in total dollars, dollars per tree, and dollars per capita.

**mapping coordinate (data field):** Helps to locate a tree; X and Y coordinates were generated for each tree using GPS.

**Moderate Risk tree:** The Moderate Risk category applies when consequences are “minor” and likelihood is “very likely” or “likely”; or likelihood is “somewhat likely” and consequences are “significant” or “severe.” In populations of trees, Moderate Risk trees represent a lower priority than High or Extreme Risk trees.

**monoculture:** A population dominated by one single species or very few species.

**Net Annual Benefits:** Specific data field for i-Tree Streets. Citywide benefits and costs are calculated according to category and summed. Net benefits are calculated as benefits minus costs.

**Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>):** Nitrogen dioxide is a compound typically created during the combustion processes and is a major contributor to smog formation and acid deposition.

**None (risk rating):** Equal to zero. It is used only for planting sites and stumps.

**notes (data field):** Describes additional pertinent information.

**ordinance:** See **tree ordinance**.

**overhead utilities (data field):** The presence of overhead utility lines above a tree or planting site.

**Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>):** A strong-smelling, pale blue, reactive toxic chemical gas with molecules of three oxygen atoms. It is a product of the photochemical process involving the Sun’s energy. Ozone exists in the upper layer of the atmosphere as well as at the Earth’s surface. Ozone at the Earth’s surface can cause numerous adverse human health effects. It is a major component of smog.

**Particulate Matter (PM<sub>10</sub>):** A major class of air pollutants consisting of tiny solid or liquid particles of soot, dust, smoke, fumes, and mists.

**Plant (Primary Maintenance Need):** If collected during an inventory, this data field identifies planting sites as small, medium, or large (indicating the ultimate size that the tree will attain), depending on the growspace available and the presence of overhead wires.

**Primary Maintenance Need (data field):** The type of tree work needed to reduce immediate risk.

**pruning:** The selective removal of plant parts to meet specific goals and objectives.

**Removal (Primary Maintenance Need):** Data field collected during the inventory identifying the need to remove a tree. Trees designated for removal have defects that cannot be cost-effectively or practically treated. Most of the trees in this category have a large percentage of dead crown.

**right-of-way (ROW):** See **street right-of-way**.

**risk:** Combination of the probability of an event occurring and its consequence.

**risk rating:** Level 2 qualitative risk assessment will be performed on the ANSI A300 (Part 9) and the companion publication *Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment*, published by International Society of Arboriculture (2011). Trees can have multiple failure modes with various risk ratings. One risk rating per tree will be assigned during the inventory. The failure mode having the greatest risk will serve as the overall tree risk rating. The specified time period for the risk assessment is one year.

**side value (data field):** Each site is assigned a side value to aid in locating the site. Side values include: *front*, *side*, *median* (includes islands), and *rear* based on the site's location in relation to the lot's street frontage. The *front* side is the side that faces the address street. *Side* is the name of the street the arborist is walking toward or away as data are being collected *Median* indicates a median or island. The *rear* is the side of the lot opposite the front.

**species:** Fundamental category of taxonomic classification, ranking below a genus or subgenus, and consisting of related organisms capable of interbreeding.

**stem:** A woody structure bearing buds and foliage, and giving rise to other stems.

**stems (data field):** Identifies the number of stems or trunks splitting less than 1 foot above ground level.

**Stored Carbon Report:** While the i-Tree Streets Carbon Dioxide Report quantifies annual CO<sub>2</sub> reductions, the i-Tree Streets Stored Carbon Report tallies all of the Carbon (C) stored in the urban forest over the life of the trees as a result of sequestration measured in pounds as the CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent.

**Stormwater Report:** A report generated by i-Tree Streets that presents the reductions in annual stormwater runoff due to rainfall interception by trees measured in gallons (gals.).

**street name (data field):** The name of a street right-of-way or road identified using posted signage or parcel information.

**street right-of-way (ROW):** A strip of land generally owned by a public entity over which facilities, such as highways, railroads, or power lines, are built.

**street tree:** A street tree is defined as a tree within the right-of-way.

**structural defect:** A feature, condition, or deformity of a tree or tree part that indicates weak structure and contributes to the likelihood of failure.

**Stump Removal (Primary Maintenance Need):** Indicates a stump that should be removed.

**Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>):** A strong-smelling, colorless gas that is formed by the combustion of fossil fuels. Sulfur oxides contribute to the problem of acid rain.



**Summary Report:** A report generated by i-Tree Streets that presents the annual total of energy, stormwater, air quality, carbon dioxide, and aesthetic/other benefits. Values are reflected in dollars per tree or total dollars.

**Train (Primary Maintenance Need):** Data field based on *ANSI A300* standards, this maintenance activity is characterized by pruning of young trees to correct or eliminate weak, interfering, or objectionable branches to improve structure. These trees can be up to 20 feet tall and can be worked with a pole pruner by a person standing on the ground.

**topping:** Characterized by reducing tree size using internodal cuts without regard to tree health or structural integrity; this is not an acceptable pruning practice.

**tree:** A tree is defined as a perennial woody plant that may grow more than 20 feet tall. Characteristically, it has one main stem, although many species may grow as multi-stemmed forms.

**tree benefit:** An economic, environmental, or social improvement that benefits the community and results mainly from the presence of a tree. The benefit received has real or intrinsic value associated with it.

**Prune (Primary Maintenance Need):** Based on *ANSI A300 Standards*, removal of one or more limbs to reduce risk, provide clearance, and restore the tree.

**tree inventory:** Comprehensive database containing information or records about individual trees typically collected by an arborist.

**tree ordinance:** Tree ordinances are policy tools used by communities striving to attain a healthy, vigorous, and well-managed urban forest. Tree ordinances simply provide the authorization and standards for management activities.

**tree size (data field):** A tree's diameter measured to the nearest inch in 1-inch size classes at 4.5 feet above ground, also known as diameter at breast height (DBH) or diameter.

**urban forest:** All of the trees within a municipality or a community. This can include the trees along streets or rights-of-way, in parks and greenspaces, in forests, and on private property.

**urban tree canopy (UTC) assessment:** A study performed of land cover classes to gain an understanding of the tree canopy coverage, particularly as it relates to the amount of tree canopy that currently exists and the amount of tree canopy that could exist. Typically performed using aerial photographs, GIS data, or Lidar.

**Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs):** Hydrocarbon compounds that exist in the ambient air and are by-products of energy used to heat and cool buildings. Volatile organic compounds contribute to the formation of smog and/or are toxic. Examples of VOCs are gasoline, alcohol, and solvents used in paints.

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# APPENDIX A

## DATA COLLECTION AND SITE LOCATION METHODS

### Data Collection Methods

DRG collected tree inventory data using a system that utilizes a customized data collection program loaded onto pen-based field computers equipped with geographic information system (GIS) and global positioning system (GPS) receivers. The knowledge and professional judgment of DRG's arborists ensure the high quality of inventory data.

Data fields are defined in the glossary of the management plan. At each site, the following data fields were collected:

• condition	• risk assessment
• further inspection	• risk rating
• location	• risk assessment complete
• primary maintenance needs	• residual risk
• mapping coordinates	• species
• defects	• side
• notes	• stems
• overhead utilities	• tree size*

\* measured in inches in diameter at 4.5 feet above ground (or diameter at breast height [DBH])

Maintenance needs are based on *ANSI A300 (Part 1)* (ANSI 2008). Risk assessment and risk rating are based on *Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment* (International Society of Arboriculture [ISA] 2011).

The data collected were provided in DRG's TreeKeeper® software, as ESRI® shapefiles and/or geodatabase, an Access™ database, and an Excel™ spreadsheet.

### Site Location Methods

#### Equipment and Base Maps

Inventory arborists used FZ-G1 Panasonic Toughpad® units with internal GPS receivers.

Base map layers were loaded onto these units to help locate sites during the inventory. Table 1 lists the base map layers, utilized along with source and format information for each layer.

**Base Map Layers Utilized for Inventory**

Imagery/Data Source	Date	Projection
Ulster County Clearinghouse <a href="http://ulstercountyny.gov/ucis/gis-data">http://ulstercountyny.gov/ucis/gis-data</a> Parcel data and City Limits	2016-2017	NAD 1983 StatePlane New York, East; Feet
New York GIS Clearinghouse <a href="https://gis.ny.gov/">https://gis.ny.gov/</a> Aerial Imagery and Streets	2016	NAD 1983 StatePlane New York, East; Feet

## Street ROW Site Location

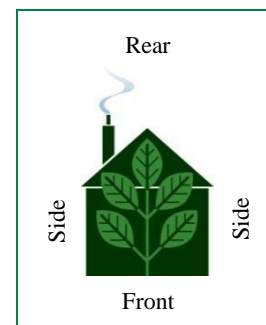
Individual street ROW sites (trees, stumps, or planting sites) were located using a methodology that identifies sites by *address number*, *street name*, or *side*. This methodology was developed by DRG to help ensure consistent assignment of location.

## Address Number and Street Name

The *address number* was recorded based on visual observation by the arborist at the time of the inventory (the address number was posted on a building at the inventoried site) or parcel data from the village/town. Where there was no posted address number on a building, or where the site was located by a vacant lot with no GIS parcel addressing data available, the arborist used his/her best judgment to assign an address number based on opposite or adjacent addresses. An “X” was then added to the number in the database to indicate that it was assigned (for example, “37X Choice Avenue”).

Sites in medians or islands were assigned an address number using the address on the right side of the street in the direction of collection closest to the site. Each segment was numbered with an assigned address that was interpolated from addresses facing that median/island. If there were multiple median/islands between cross streets, each segment was assigned its own address.

The *street name* assigned to a site was determined by street ROW parcel information and posted street name signage.



← Street ROW

Median

Street ROW →

**Side values for street ROW sites.**

## Side Value

Each site was assigned a *side value* and *site number*. Side values include: *front*, *side*, *median* (includes islands), or *rear* based on the site’s location in relation to the lot’s street frontage (Figure 1). The *front side* is the side that faces the address street. *Side* is the name of the street the arborist walks towards or away as data are being collected. *Median* indicates a median or island. The *rear* is the side of the lot opposite the front.

## Block Side

Block side information for a site includes the *on street*.

- The *on street* is the street on which the site is located. The *on street* may not match the address street. A site may be physically located on a street that is different from its street address (i.e., a site located on a side street).

## Park and/or Public Space Site Location

Park and/or public space site locations were collected using the same methodology as street ROW sites; however, the *on street* would be the nearest street and the *street name* would be the park address. *Park areas* data field contains the park name.

## Site Location Examples



**The tree trimming crew in the truck traveling westbound on E. Mac Arthur Street is trying to locate an inventoried tree with the following location information:**

<b>Address/Street Name:</b>	<b>226 E. Mac Arthur Street</b>
<b>Side:</b>	<b>Side</b>
<b>On Street:</b>	<b>Davis Street</b>

The tree site circled in red signifies the crew's target site. Because the tree is **located on the side of the lot**, the on street is **Davis Street**, even though it is addressed as **226 East Mac Arthur Street**.





**Location information collected for  
inventoried trees at Corner Lots A and B.**

**Corner Lot A**

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.  
Side/Site Number: Side  
On Street: Taft St.

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.  
Side/Site Number: Side  
On Street: Taft St.

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.  
Side/Site Number: Side  
On Street: Taft St.

Address/Street Name: 205 Hoover St.  
Side/Site Number: Front  
On Street: Hoover St.

**Corner Lot B**

Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.  
Side/Site Number: Side  
On Street: Davis St.

Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.  
Side/Site Number: Front  
On Street: E Mac Arthur St.

Address/Street Name: 226 E Mac Arthur St.  
Side/Site Number: Front  
On Street: E Mac Arthur St.

# APPENDIX B

## RECOMMENDED SPECIES FOR FUTURE PLANTING

Proper landscaping and tree planting are critical components of the atmosphere, livability, and ecological quality of a community's urban forest. The tree species listed below have been evaluated for factors such as size, disease and pest resistance, seed or fruit set, and availability. The following list is offered to assist all relevant community personnel in selecting appropriate tree species. These trees have been selected because of their aesthetic and functional characteristics and their ability to thrive in the soil and climate conditions throughout Zones 5 and 6 on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map.

### Deciduous Trees

#### Large Trees: Greater than 45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple	<b>Red Sunset®</b>
<i>Acer saccharum</i>	sugar maple	'Legacy'
<i>Acer nigrum</i>	black maple	
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i> *	yellow birch	
<i>Betula lenta</i> *	sweet birch	
<i>Betula nigra</i>	river birch	<b>Heritage®</b>
<i>Carpinus betulus</i>	European hornbeam	'Franz Fontaine'
<i>Carya illinoensis</i> *	pecan	
<i>Carya lacinata</i> *	shellbark hickory	
<i>Carya ovata</i> *	shagbark hickory	
<i>Castanea mollissima</i> *	Chinese chestnut	
<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	sugarberry	
<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	common hackberry	'Prairie Pride'
<i>Cercidiphyllum japonicum</i>	katsuratree	'Aureum'
<i>Diospyros virginiana</i> *	common persimmon	
<i>Fagus grandifolia</i> *	American beech	
<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> *	European beech	<b>(Numerous exist)</b>
<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	ginkgo	<b>(Choose male trees only)</b>
<i>Gleditsia triacanthos inermis</i>	thornless honeylocust	'Shademaster'
<i>Gymnocladus dioica</i>	Kentucky coffeetree	<b>Prairie Titan®</b>
<i>Juglans nigra</i> *	black walnut	
<i>Larix decidua</i> *	European larch	
<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	American sweetgum	'Rotundiloba'
<i>Liriodendron tulipifera</i> *	tuliptree	'Fastigiatum'
<i>Magnolia acuminata</i> *	cucumbertree magnolia	<b>(Numerous exist)</b>
<i>Magnolia macrophylla</i> *	bigleaf magnolia	
<i>Metasequoia glyptostroboides</i>	dawn redwood	'Emerald Feathers'
<i>Nyssa sylvatica</i>	blackgum	
<i>Platanus occidentalis</i> *	American sycamore	
<i>Platanus x acerifolia</i>	London planetree	'Yarwood'
<i>Quercus alba</i>	white oak	

### Large Trees: Greater than 45 Feet in Height at Maturity (Continued)

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	swamp white oak	
<i>Quercus coccinea</i>	scarlet oak	
<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	overcup oak	
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	bur oak	
<i>Quercus montana</i>	chestnut oak	
<i>Quercus muehlenbergii</i>	chinkapin oak	
<i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak	
<i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	shingle oak	
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	willow oak	
<i>Quercus robur</i>	English oak	Heritage®
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	northern red oak	'Splendens'
<i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Shumard oak	
<i>Styphnolobium japonicum</i>	Japanese pagodatree	'Regent'
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	common baldcypress	'Shawnee Brave'
<i>Tilia americana</i>	American linden	'Redmond'
<i>Tilia cordata</i>	littleleaf linden	'Greenspire'
<i>Tilia x euchlora</i>	Crimean linden	
<i>Tilia tomentosa</i>	silver linden	'Sterling'
<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>	Chinese elm	Allée®
<i>Zelkova serrata</i>	Japanese zelkova	'Green Vase'

### Medium Trees: 31 to 45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Aesculus x carnea</i>	red horsechestnut	
<i>Alnus cordata</i>	Italian alder	
<i>Asimina triloba</i> *	pawpaw	
<i>Cladrastis kentukea</i>	American yellowwood	'Rosea'
<i>Corylus colurna</i>	Turkish filbert	
<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i>	hardy rubber tree	
<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i>	goldenraintree	
<i>Ostrya virginiana</i>	American hophornbeam	
<i>Parrotia persica</i>	Persian parrotia	'Vanessa'
<i>Phellodendron amurense</i>	Amur corktree	'Macho'
<i>Pistacia chinensis</i>	Chinese pistache	
<i>Prunus maackii</i>	Amur chokecherry	'Amber Beauty'
<i>Prunus sargentii</i>	Sargent cherry	
<i>Pterocarya fraxinifolia</i> *	Caucasian wingnut	
<i>Quercus acutissima</i>	sawtooth oak	
<i>Quercus cerris</i>	European turkey oak	
<i>Sassafras albidum</i> *	sassafras	

### Small Trees: 15 to 30 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
Acer buergerianum	trident maple	Streetwise®
Acer campestre	hedge maple	Queen Elizabeth™
Acer cappadocicum	coliseum maple	'Aureum'
Acer ginnala	Amur maple	Red Rhapsody™
Acer griseum	paperbark maple	
Acer oliverianum	Chinese maple	
Acer pensylvanicum*	striped maple	
Acer triflorum	three-flower maple	
Aesculus pavia*	red buckeye	
Amelanchier arborea	downy serviceberry	(Numerous exist)
Amelanchier laevis	Allegheny serviceberry	
Carpinus caroliniana*	American hornbeam	
Cercis canadensis	eastern redbud	'Forest Pansy'
Chionanthus virginicus	white fringetree	
Cornus alternifolia	pagoda dogwood	
Cornus kousa	kousa dogwood	(Numerous exist)
Cornus mas	corneliancherry dogwood	'Spring Sun'
Corylus avellana	European filbert	'Contorta'
Cotinus coggygia*	common smoketree	'Flame'
Cotinus obovata*	American smoketree	
Crataegus phaenopyrum*	Washington hawthorn	Princeton Sentry™
Crataegus viridis	green hawthorn	'Winter King'
Franklinia alatamaha*	Franklinia	
Halesia tetraptera*	Carolina silverbell	'Arnold Pink'
Laburnum x watereri	goldenchain tree	
Maackia amurensis	Amur maackia	
Magnolia x soulangiana*	saucer magnolia	'Alexandrina'
Magnolia stellata*	star magnolia	'Centennial'
Magnolia tripetala*	umbrella magnolia	
Magnolia virginiana*	sweetbay magnolia	Moonglow®
Malus spp.	flowering crabapple	(Disease resistant only)
Oxydendrum arboreum	sourwood	'Mt. Charm'
Prunus subhirtella	Higan cherry	'Pendula'
Prunus virginiana	common chokecherry	'Schubert'
Staphylea trifolia*	American bladdernut	
Stewartia ovata	mountain stewartia	
Styrax japonicus*	Japanese snowbell	'Emerald Pagoda'
Syringa reticulata	Japanese tree lilac	'Ivory Silk'

**Note:** \* denotes species that are not recommended for use as street trees.

## Coniferous and Evergreen Trees

### Large Trees: Greater than 45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Abies balsamea</i>	<b>balsam fir</b>	
<i>Abies concolor</i>	<b>white fir</b>	'Violacea'
<i>Cedrus libani</i>	<b>cedar-of-Lebanon</b>	
<i>Chamaecyparis nootkatensis</i>	<b>Nootka falsecypress</b>	'Pendula'
<i>Cryptomeria japonica</i>	<b>Japanese cryptomeria</b>	'Sekkan-sugi'
✕ <i>Cupressocyparis leylandii</i>	<b>Leyland cypress</b>	
<i>Ilex opaca</i>	<b>American holly</b>	
<i>Picea omorika</i>	<b>Serbian spruce</b>	
<i>Picea orientalis</i>	<b>Oriental spruce</b>	
<i>Pinus densiflora</i>	<b>Japanese red pine</b>	
<i>Pinus strobus</i>	<b>eastern white pine</b>	
<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	<b>Scotch pine</b>	
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	<b>loblolly pine</b>	
<i>Pinus virginiana</i>	<b>Virginia pine</b>	
<i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	<b>Douglas-fir</b>	
<i>Thuja plicata</i>	<b>western arborvitae</b>	<b>(Numerous exist)</b>
<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>	<b>eastern hemlock</b>	

### Medium Trees: 31 to 45 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Chamaecyparis thyoides</i>	<b>Atlantic whitecedar</b>	<b>(Numerous exist)</b>
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	<b>eastern redcedar</b>	
<i>Pinus bungeana</i>	<b>lacebark pine</b>	
<i>Pinus flexilis</i>	<b>limber pine</b>	
<i>Pinus parviflora</i>	<b>Japanese white pine</b>	
<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	<b>eastern arborvitae</b>	<b>(Numerous exist)</b>

### Small Trees: 15 to 30 Feet in Height at Maturity

Scientific Name	Common Name	Cultivar
<i>Ilex</i> ✕ <i>attenuata</i>	<b>Foster's holly</b>	
<i>Pinus aristata</i>	<b>bristlecone pine</b>	
<i>Pinus mugo mugo</i>	<b>mugo pine</b>	

*Dirr's Hardy Trees and Shrubs* (Dirr 2013) and *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants* (5<sup>th</sup> Edition) (Dirr 1988) were consulted to compile this suggested species list. Cultivar selections are recommendations only and are based on DRG's experience. Tree availability will vary based on availability in the nursery trade.



# APPENDIX C

## TREE PLANTING

### Tree Planting

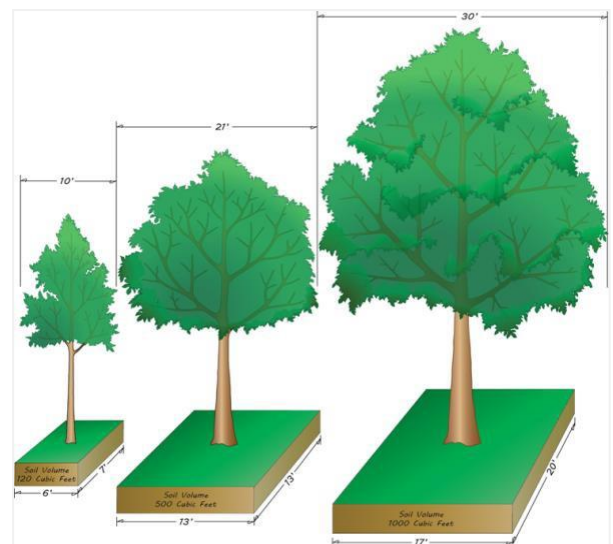
Planting trees is a valuable goal as long as tree species are carefully selected and correctly planted. When trees are planted, they are planted selectively and with purpose. Without proactive planning and follow-up tree care, a newly planted tree may become a future problem instead of a benefit to the community.

When planting trees, it is important to be cognizant of the following:

- Consider the specific purpose of the tree planting.
- Assess the site and know its limitations (i.e., confined spaces, overhead wires, and/or soil type).
- Select the species or cultivar best suited for the site conditions.
- Examine trees before buying them, and buy for quality.

### Inventoried Street ROW Planting Space

The goal of tree planting is to have a vigorous, healthy tree that lives to the limits of its natural longevity. That can be difficult to achieve in an urban growing environment because irrigation is limited and the soils are typically poor quality. However, proper planning, species selection, tree planting techniques, and follow-up tree maintenance will improve the chance of tree planting success.



**Minimum recommended requirements for tree sites is based on tree size/dimensions. This illustration is based on the work of Casey Trees (2008).**

### Findings

The inventory found 569 planting sites, of which 55% are designated for small-sized mature trees, 8% for medium-sized trees, and 37% for large-sized trees.

### Tree Species Selection

Selecting a limited number of species could simplify decision-making processes; however, careful deliberation and selection of a wide variety of species is more beneficial and can save money.

Planting a variety of species can decrease the impact of species-specific pests and diseases by limiting the number of susceptible trees in a population. This reduces time and money spent to mitigate pest- or disease-related problems. A wide variety of tree species can help limit the impacts from physical events, as different tree species react differently to stress. Species diversity helps withstand drought, ice, flooding, strong storms, and wind.

New Paltz is located between USDA Hardiness Zone 6a and 5b, which is identified as a climatic region with average annual minimum temperatures between  $-15^{\circ}\text{F}$  and  $-5^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Tree species selected for planting in New Paltz should be appropriate for this zone.

Tree species should be selected for their durability and low-maintenance characteristics. These attributes are highly dependent on site characteristics below ground (soil texture, soil structure, drainage, soil pH, nutrients, road salt, and root spacing). Matching a species to its favored soil conditions is the most important task when planning for a low-maintenance landscape. Plants that are well matched to their environmental site conditions are much more likely to resist pathogens and insect pests and will, therefore, require less maintenance overall.

The Right Tree in the Right Place is a mantra for tree planting used by the Arbor Day Foundation and many utility companies nationwide. Trees come in many different shapes and sizes, and often change dramatically over their lifetimes. Some grow tall, some grow wide, and some have extensive root systems. Before selecting a tree for planting, make sure it is the right tree—know how tall, wide, and deep it will be at maturity. Equally important to selecting the right tree is choosing the right spot to plant it. Blocking an unsightly view or creating some shade may be a priority, but it is important to consider how a tree may impact existing utility lines as it grows taller, wider, and deeper. If the tree's canopy, at maturity, will reach overhead lines, it is best to choose another tree or a different location. Taking the time to consider location before planting can prevent power disturbances and improper utility pruning practices.

A major consideration for street trees is the amount of litter dropped by mature trees. Trees such as *Acer saccharinum* (silver maple) have weak wood and typically drop many small branches during a growing season. Others, such as *Liquidambar styraciflua* (American sweetgum), drop high volumes of fruit. In certain species, such as *Ginkgo biloba* (ginkgo), female trees produce large odorous fruit; male ginkgo trees, however, do not produce fruit. Furthermore, a few species of trees, including *Crataegus* spp. (hawthorn) and *Gleditsia triacanthos* (honeylocust), may have substantial thorns. These species should be avoided in high-traffic areas.

Seasonal color should also be considered when planning tree plantings. Flowering varieties are particularly welcome in the spring, and deciduous trees that display bright colors in autumn can add a great deal of appeal to surrounding landscapes.

Davey Resource Group recommends limiting the planting of *Acer platanoides* (Norway maple) until the species distribution normalizes. Of the inventoried population, Norway maple occupied 12%, which exceeds the recommended 10% species threshold.

## Tips for Planting Trees

To ensure a successful tree planting effort, the following measures should be taken:

- Handle trees with care. Trees are living organisms and are perishable. Protect trees from damage during transport and when loading and unloading. Use care not to break branches, and do not lift trees by the trunk.
- If trees are stored prior to planting, keep the roots moist.
- Dig the planting hole according to the climate. Generally, the planting hole is two to three times wider and not quite as deep as the root ball. The root flare is at or just above ground level.
- Fill the hole with native soil unless it is undesirable, in which case soil amendments should be added as appropriate for local conditions. Gently tamp and add water during filling to reduce large air pockets and ensure a consistent medium of soil, oxygen, and water.
- Stake the tree as necessary to prevent it from shifting too much in the wind.
- Add a thin layer (1–2 inches) of mulch to help prevent weeds and keep the soil moist around the tree. Do not allow mulch to touch the trunk.

## Newly Planted and Young Tree Maintenance

Caring for trees is just as important as planting them. Once a tree is planted, it must receive maintenance for several years.

### Watering

Initially, watering is the key to survival; new trees typically require at least 60 days of watering to establish. Determine how often trees should be irrigated based on time of planting, drought status, species selection, and site condition.

### Mulching

Mulch can be applied to the growspace around a newly planted tree (or even a more mature tree) to ensure that no weeds grow, that the tree is protected from mechanical damage, and that the growspace is moist. Mulch should be applied in a thin layer, generally 1 to 2 inches, and the growing area should be covered. Mulch should not touch the tree trunk or be piled up around the tree.

### Lifelong Tree Care

After the tree is established, it will require routine tree care, which includes inspections, routine pruning, watering, plant health care, and integrated pest management as needed.

The village and town should employ qualified arborists to provide most of the routine tree care. An arborist can determine the type of pruning necessary to maintain or improve the health, appearance, and safety of trees. These techniques may include: eliminating branches that rub against each other; removing limbs that interfere with wires and buildings or that obstruct streets, sidewalks, or signage; removing dead, damaged, or weak limbs that pose a hazard or may lead to decay; removing diseased or insect-infested limbs; creating better structure to reduce wind resistance and minimize the potential for storm damage; and removing branches—or thinning—to increase light penetration.

An arborist can help decide whether a tree should be removed and, if so, to what extent removal is needed. Additionally, an arborist can perform—and provide advice on—tree maintenance when disasters such as storms or droughts occur. Storm-damaged trees can often be dangerous to remove or trim. An arborist can assist in advising or performing the job in a safe manner while reducing further risk of damage to property.

Plant Health Care, a preventive maintenance process that keeps trees in good health, helps a tree better defend itself against insects, disease, and site problems. Arborists can help determine proper plant health so that the village and town's tree population will remain healthy and provide benefits to the community for as long as possible.

Integrated Pest Management is a process that involves common sense and sound solutions for treating and controlling pests. These solutions incorporate basic steps: identifying the problem, understanding pest biology, monitoring trees, and determining action thresholds. The practice of Integrated Pest Management can vary depending on the site and based on each individual tree. A qualified arborist will be able to make sure that the village and town's trees are properly diagnosed and that a beneficial and realistic action plan is developed.

The arborist can also help with cabling or bracing for added support to branches with weak attachment, aeration to improve root growth, and installation of lightning protection systems.

Educating the community on basic tree care is a good way to promote New Paltz's urban forestry program and encourage tree planting on private property. The village and town should encourage citizens to water trees on the ROW adjacent to their homes and to reach out the village and town if they notice any changes in the trees, such as signs or symptoms of pests, early fall foliage, or new mechanical or vehicle damage.

## APPENDIX D

# INVASIVE PESTS AND DISEASES

In today's worldwide marketplace, the volume of international trade brings increased potential for pests and diseases to invade our country. Many of these pests and diseases have seriously harmed rural and urban landscapes and have caused billions of dollars in lost revenue and millions of dollars in clean-up costs. Keeping these pests and diseases out of the country is the number one priority of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Inspection Service (APHIS).

Although some invasive species naturally enter the United States via wind, ocean currents, and other means, most invasive species enter the country with some help from human activities. Their introduction to the U.S. is a byproduct of cultivation, commerce, tourism, and travel. Many species enter the United States each year in baggage, cargo, contaminants of commodities, or mail.

Once they arrive, hungry pests grow and spread rapidly because controls, such as native predators, are lacking. Invasive pests disrupt the landscape by pushing out native species, reducing biological diversity, killing trees, altering wildfire intensity and frequency, and damaging crops. Some pests may even push species to extinction. The following sections include key pests and diseases that adversely affect trees in America at the time of this plan's development. This list is not comprehensive and may not include all threats.

It is critical to the management of community trees to routinely check APHIS, USDA Forest Service, and other websites for updates about invasive species and diseases in your area and in our country so that you can be prepared to combat their attack.



**APHIS, Plant Health, Plant Pest Program  
Information**

• [www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info)



**The University of Georgia, Center for  
Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health**

• [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org)



**USDA National Agricultural Library**

• [www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/microbes](http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/microbes)



**USDA Northeastern Areas Forest Service,  
Forest Health Protection**

• [www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/fhp)



## Asian Longhorned Beetle

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB, *Anoplophora glabripennis*) is an exotic pest that threatens a wide variety of hardwood trees in North America. The beetle was introduced in Chicago, New Jersey, and New York City, and is believed to have been introduced in the United States from wood pallets and other wood-packing material accompanying cargo shipments from Asia. ALB is a serious threat to America's hardwood tree species.

Adults are large (3/4- to 1/2-inch long) with very long, black and white banded antennae. The body is glossy black with irregular white spots. Adults can be seen from late spring to fall depending on the climate. ALB has a long list of host species; however, the beetle prefers hardwoods, including several maple species. Examples include: *Acer negundo* (box elder); *A. platanooides* (Norway maple); *A. rubrum* (red maple); *A. saccharinum* (silver maple); *A. saccharum* (sugar maple); *Aesculus glabra* (buckeye); *A. hippocastanum* (horsechestnut), *Betula* (birch), *Platanus × acerifolia* (London planetree), *Salix* (willow), and *Ulmus* (elm).



Adult Asian longhorned beetle

Photograph courtesy of New Bedford Guide  
2011

## Dutch Elm Disease

Considered by many to be one of the most destructive, invasive diseases of shade trees in the United States, Dutch elm disease (DED) was first found in Ohio in 1930; by 1933, the disease was present in several East Coast cities. By 1959, it had killed thousands of elms. Today, DED covers about two-thirds of the eastern United States, including Illinois, and annually kills many of the remaining and newly planted elms. The disease is caused by a fungus that attacks the vascular system of elm trees blocking the flow of water and nutrients, resulting in rapid leaf yellowing, tree decline, and death.

There are two closely-related fungi that are collectively referred to as DED. The most common is *Ophiostoma novo-ulmi*, which is thought to be responsible for most of the elm deaths since the 1970s. The fungus is transmitted to healthy elms by elm bark beetles. Two species carry the fungus: native elm bark beetle (*Hylurgopinus rufipes*) and European elm bark beetle (*Scolytus multistriatus*).

The species most affected by DED is the *Ulmus americana* (American elm).



Branch death, or flagging, at multiple locations in the crown of a diseased elm

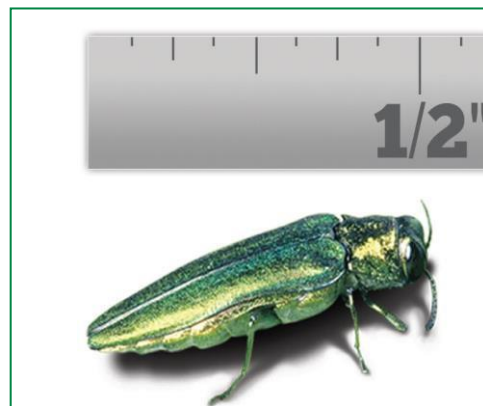
Photograph courtesy of Steven Katovich,  
USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org  
(2011)

## Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald ash borer (*EAB*) (*Agrilus planipennis*) is responsible for the death or decline of tens of millions of ash trees in 14 states in the American Midwest and Northeast. Native to Asia, EAB has been found in China, Japan, Korea, Mongolia, eastern Russia, and Taiwan. It likely arrived in the United States hidden in wood-packing materials commonly used to ship consumer goods, auto parts, and other products. The first official United States identification of EAB was in southeastern Michigan in 2002.

Adult beetles are slender and 1/2-inch long. Males are smaller than females. Color varies but adults are usually bronze or golden green overall with metallic, emerald-green wing covers. The top of the abdomen under the wings is metallic, purplish-red and can be seen when the wings are spread.

The EAB-preferred host tree species are in the genus *Fraxinus* (ash).



Close-up of the emerald ash borer

Photograph courtesy of APHIS  
(2011)

## Gypsy Moth

The gypsy moth (GM) (*Lymantria dispar*) is native to Europe and first arrived in the United States in Massachusetts in 1869. This moth is a significant pest because its caterpillars have an appetite for more than 300 species of trees and shrubs. GM caterpillars defoliate trees, which makes the species vulnerable to diseases and other pests that can eventually kill the tree.

Male GMs are brown with a darker brown pattern on their wings and have a 1/2-inch wingspan. Females are slightly larger with a 2-inch wingspan and are nearly white with dark, saw-toothed patterns on their wings. Although they have wings, the female GM cannot fly.

The GMs prefer approximately 150 primary hosts but feed on more than 300 species of trees and shrubs. Some trees are found in these common genera: *Betula* (birch), *Juniperus* (cedar), *Larix* (larch), *Populus* (aspen, cottonwood, poplar), *Quercus* (oak), and *Salix* (willow).



Close-up of male (darker brown) and  
female (whitish color) European  
gypsy moths

Photograph courtesy  
of APHIS (2011b)

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

The hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA, *Adelges tsugae*) was first described in western North America in 1924 and first reported in the eastern United States in 1951 near Richmond, Virginia.

In their native range, populations of HWA cause little damage to the hemlock trees, as they feed on natural enemies and possible tree resistance has evolved with this insect. In eastern North America and in the absence of natural control elements, HWA attacks both *Tsuga canadensis* (eastern or Canadian hemlock) and *T. caroliniana* (Carolina hemlock), often damaging and killing them within a few years of becoming infested.

The HWA is now established from northeastern Georgia to southeastern Maine and as far west as eastern Kentucky and Tennessee.



Hemlock woolly adelgids on a branch

Photograph courtesy of USDA Forest Service (2011a)

## Oak Wilt

Oak wilt was first identified in 1944 and is caused by the fungus *Ceratocystis fagacearum*. While considered an invasive and aggressive disease, its status as an exotic pest is debated since the fungus has not been reported in any other part of the world. This disease affects the oak genus and is most devastating to those in the red oak subgenus, such as *Quercus coccinea* (scarlet oak),

*Q. imbricaria* (shingle oak), *Q. palustris* (pin oak), *Q. phellos* (willow oak), and *Q. rubra* (red oak). It also attacks trees in the white oak subgenus, although it is not as prevalent and spreads at a much slower pace in these trees.

Just as with DED, oak wilt disease is caused by a fungus that clogs the vascular system of oaks and results in decline and death of the tree. The fungus is carried from tree to tree by several borers common to oaks, but the disease is more commonly spread through root grafts. Oak species within the same subgenus (red or white) will form root colonies with grafted roots that allow the disease to move readily from one tree to another.



Oak wilt symptoms on red and white oak leaves

Photograph courtesy of USDA Forest Service (2011a)



## Sirex Woodwasp

Sirex woodwasp (*Sirex noctilio*) has been the most common species of exotic woodwasp detected at United States ports-of-entry associated with solid wood-packing materials. Recent detections of sirex woodwasp outside of port areas in the United States have raised concerns because this insect has the potential to cause significant mortality of pines. Awareness of the symptoms and signs of a sirex woodwasp infestation increases the chance of early detection, thus increasing the rapid response needed to contain and manage this exotic forest pest.



Close-up of female Sirex Woodwasp

Photograph courtesy of USDA (2005)

Woodwasps (or horntails) are large robust insects, usually 1.0 to 1.5 inches long. Adults have a spear-shaped plate (cornus) at the tail end; in addition, females have a long ovipositor under this plate. Larvae are creamy white, legless, and have a distinctive dark spine at the rear of the abdomen. More than a dozen species of native horntails occur in North America.

Sirex woodwasps can attack living pines, while native woodwasps attack only dead and dying trees. At low populations, sirex woodwasp selects suppressed, stressed, and injured trees for egg laying. Foliage of infested trees initially wilts, and then changes color from dark green to light green, to yellow, and finally to red, during the three to six months following attack. Infested trees may have resin beads or dribbles at the egg laying sites, but this is more common at the mid-bole level. Larval galleries are tightly packed with very fine sawdust. As adults emerge, they chew round exit holes that vary from 1/8 to 3/8 inch in diameter.

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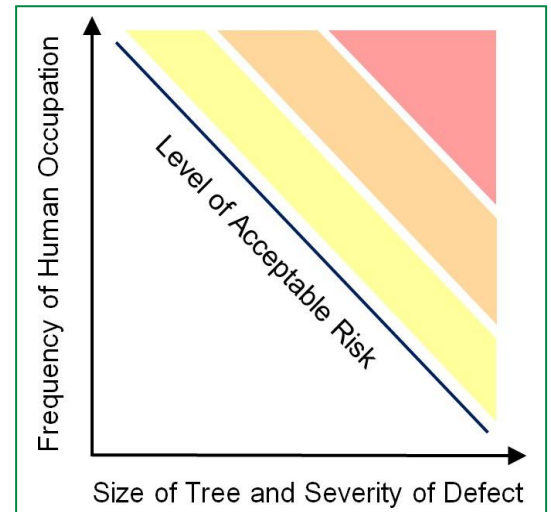


# APPENDIX E

## RISK ASSESSMENT/PRIORITY AND PROACTIVE MAINTENANCE

### Risk Assessment

Every tree has an inherent risk of tree failure or defective tree part failure. During the inventory, Davey Resource Group, Inc. “DRG” performed a Level 2 qualitative risk assessment for each tree and assigned a risk rating based on the ANSI A300 (Part 9), and the companion publication *Best Management Practices: Tree Risk Assessment* (ISA 2011). Trees can have multiple failure modes with various risk ratings. One risk rating per tree will be assigned during the inventory. The failure mode having the greatest risk will serve as the overall tree risk rating. The specified time period for the risk assessment is one year.



- **Likelihood of Failure**—Identifies the most likely failure and rates the likelihood that the structural defect(s) will result in failure based on observed, current conditions.
  - Improbable—The tree or branch is not likely to fail during normal weather conditions and may not fail in many severe weather conditions within the specified time period.
  - Possible—Failure could occur but is unlikely during normal weather conditions within the specified time period.
  - Probable—Failure may be expected under normal weather conditions within the specified time period.
- **Likelihood of Impacting a Target**—The rate of occupancy of targets within the target zone and any factors that could affect the failed tree as it falls towards the target.
  - Very low—The chance of the failed tree or branch impacting the target is remote.
    - Rarely used sites
    - Examples include rarely used trails or trailheads
    - Instances where target areas provide protection
  - Low—It is not likely that the failed tree or branch will impact the target.
    - Occasional use area fully exposed to tree
    - Frequently used area partially exposed to tree
    - Constant use area that is well protected

- Medium—The failed tree or branch may or may not impact the target.
  - Frequently used areas that are partially exposed to the tree on one side
  - Constantly occupied area partially protected from the tree
- High—The failed tree or branch will most likely impact the target.
  - Fixed target is fully exposed to the tree or tree part
- **Categorizing Likelihood of Tree Failure Impacting a Target**—The likelihood for failure and the likelihood of impacting a target are combined in the matrix below to determine the likelihood of tree failure impacting a target.

Likelihood of Failure	Likelihood of Impacting Target			
	Very Low	Low	Medium	High
<b>Imminent</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Likely</b>	<b>Very Likely</b>
<b>Probable</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Likely</b>
<b>Possible</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>
<b>Improbable</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Unlikely</b>

- **Consequence of Failure**—The consequences of tree failure are based on the categorization of target and potential harm that may occur. Consequences can vary depending upon size of defect, distance of fall for tree or limb, and any other factors that may protect a target from harm. Target values are subjective and should be assessed from the client's perspective.
  - Negligible—Consequences involve low value damage and do not involve personal injury.
    - Small branch striking a fence
    - Medium-sized branch striking a shrub bed
    - Large tree part striking structure and causing monetary damage
    - Disruption of power to landscape lights
  - Minor—Consequences involve low to moderate property damage, small disruptions to traffic or communication utility, or very minor injury.
    - Small branch striking a house roof from a high height
    - Medium-sized branch striking a deck from a moderate height
    - Large tree part striking a structure, causing moderate monetary damage
    - Short-term disruption of power at service drop to house
    - Temporary disruption of traffic on neighborhood street
  - Significant—Consequences involve property damage of moderate to high value, considerable disruption, or personal injury.
    - Medium-sized part striking a vehicle from a moderate or high height
    - Large tree part striking a structure resulting in high monetary damage
    - Disruption of distribution of primary or secondary voltage power lines, including individual services and street-lighting circuits
    - Disruption of traffic on a secondary street

- Severe—Consequences involve serious potential injury or death, damage to high-value property, or disruption of important activities.
  - Injury to a person that may result in hospitalization
  - Medium-sized part striking an occupied vehicle
  - Large tree part striking an occupied house
  - Serious disruption of high-voltage distribution and transmission power line disruption of arterial traffic or motorways
- **Risk Rating**—The overall risk rating of the tree will be determined based on combining the likelihood of tree failure impacting a target and the consequence of failure in the matrix below.

Likelihood of Failure	Consequences			
	Negligible	Minor	Significant	Severe
<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Extreme</b>
<b>Likely</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>High</b>
<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Moderate</b>	<b>Moderate</b>
<b>Unlikely</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>

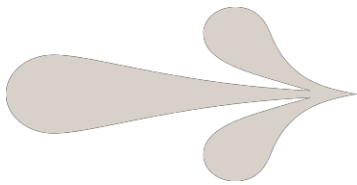
Trees have the potential to fail in more than one way and can affect multiple targets.

Tree risk assessors will identify the tree failure mode having the greatest risk, and report that as the tree risk rating. Generally, trees with the highest qualitative risk ratings should receive corrective treatment first. The following risk ratings will be assigned:

- None—Used for planting and stump sites only.
- Low—The Low Risk category applies when consequences are “negligible” and likelihood is “unlikely”; or consequences are “minor” and likelihood is “somewhat likely.” Some trees with this level of risk may benefit from mitigation or maintenance measures, but immediate action is not usually required.
- Moderate—The Moderate Risk category applies when consequences are “minor” and likelihood is “very likely” or “likely”; or likelihood is “somewhat likely” and consequences are “significant” or “severe.” In populations of trees, Moderate Risk trees represent a lower priority than High or Extreme Risk trees.
- High—The High Risk category applies when consequences are “significant” and likelihood is “very likely” or “likely,” or consequences are “severe” and likelihood is “likely.” In a population of trees, the priority of High Risk trees is second only to Extreme Risk trees.

- Extreme—The Extreme Risk category applies in situations where tree failure is imminent and there is a high likelihood of impacting the target, and the consequences of the failure are “severe.” In some cases, this may mean immediate restriction of access to the target zone area to avoid injury to people.

Trees with elevated (Extreme or High) risk levels are usually recommended for removal or pruning to eliminate the defects that warranted their risk rating. However, in some situations, risk may be reduced by adding support (cabling or bracing) or by moving the target away from the tree. DRG recommends only removal or pruning to alleviate risk. But in special situations, such as a memorial tree or a tree in a historic area, Manchester may decide that cabling, bracing, or moving the target may be the best option for reducing risk.



*Determination of acceptable risk ultimately lies with village and town managers. Since there are inherent risks associated with trees, the location of a tree is an important factor in the determination and acceptability of risk for any given tree. The level of risk associated with a tree increases as the frequency of human occupation increases in the vicinity of the tree. For example, a tree located next to a heavily traveled street will have a higher level of risk than a similar tree in an open field.*

## Priority Maintenance

Identifying and ranking the maintenance needs of a tree population enables tree work to be assigned priority based on observed risk. Once prioritized, tree work can be systematically addressed to eliminate the greatest risk and liability first (Stamen 2011).

Risk is a graduated scale that measures potential tree-related hazardous conditions. A tree is considered hazardous when its potential risks exceed an acceptable level. Managing trees for risk reduction provides many benefits, including:

- Lower frequency and severity of accidents, damage, and injury
- Less expenditure for claims and legal expenses
- Healthier, long-lived trees
- Fewer tree removals over time
- Lower tree maintenance costs over time

Regularly inspecting trees and establishing tree maintenance cycles generally reduce the risk of failure, as problems can be found and addressed before they escalate.

In this plan, all tree removals and Extreme and High Risk prunes are included in the priority maintenance program.

## Proactive Maintenance

Proactive tree maintenance requires that trees are managed and maintained under the responsibility of an individual, department, or agency. Tree work is typically performed during a cycle. Individual tree health and form are routinely addressed during the cycle. When trees are planted, they are planted selectively and with purpose. Ultimately, proactive tree maintenance should reduce crisis situations in the urban forest, as every tree in the inventoried population is regularly visited, assessed, and maintained. DRG recommends proactive tree maintenance that includes pruning cycles, inspections, and planned tree planting.



# **APPENDIX F**

## **EMERALD ASH BORER INFORMATION**

# Ash Tree Identification

Ash species attacked by emerald ash borer include green (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), white (*F. americana*), black (*F. nigra*), and blue (*F. quadrangulata*), as well as horticultural cultivars of these species. Green and white ash are the most commonly found ash species in the Midwest with blue ash being rare.

While other woody plants, such as mountain ash and prickly ash, have “ash” in their name, they are not true ash, or *Fraxinus* species. Only true ash are susceptible to attack by emerald ash borer.

## To properly identify ash trees, use the following criteria:



### Branch and Bud Arrangement

Branches and buds are directly across from each other and not staggered. When looking for opposite branching in trees, please consider that buds or limbs may die; hence not every single branch will have an opposite mate.



*Diane Brown-Rytlewski*

### Leaves

Leaves are compound and composed of 5-11 leaflets. Leaflet margins may be smooth or toothed. The only other oppositely branched tree with compound leaves is boxelder (*Acer negundo*), which almost always has three to five leaflets. White ash (on left) and green ash (on right)



*\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University*

### Bark

On mature trees (left), the bark is tight with a distinct pattern of diamond-shaped ridges. On young trees (right), bark is relatively smooth.



*\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University*

### Seeds

When present on trees, seeds are dry, oar-shaped samaras. They usually occur in clusters and typically hang on the tree until late fall, early winter.

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY  
EXTENSION



**Emerald  
Ash Borer**



## Tree Species Resembling Ash

### Boxelder (*Acer negundo*)

Exhibits opposite branching and compound leaves. However, has 3 to 5 leaflets (instead of 5 to 11) and the samaras are always in pairs instead of single like the ash.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University



\*Bill Cook, Michigan State University

### European Mountainash (*Sorbus aucuparia*)

Leaves are compound with alternate (staggered) branching. Tree bears clusters of creamy white flowers in May. Fruits are fleshy, red-orange berries.



Diane Brown-Rytlewski



\*Boris Hrasovec, University of Zagreb

### Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*)

Leaves are compound with 5 to 7 leaflets, but the plant has an alternate branching habit. Fruit are hard-shelled nuts in a green husk.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

### Elm (*Ulmus species*)

Branching is alternate and the leaves are simple with an unequal leaf base.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

### Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*)

Leaves are compound with 9 to 15 leaflets, but the plant has an alternate branching habit. Fruit is a large dark brown nut inside a green husk.



\*Paul Wray, Iowa State University

Authors: Kimberly Rebek and Mary Wilson

\*[www.forestryimages.org](http://www.forestryimages.org)

## **Illinois Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Plan**

Prepared by: Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Team (see attached)

Edited by: Edith Makra, Community Trees Advocate, The Morton Arboretum

The Emerald ash borer (EAB) is a significant threat to the urban and rural forests of Illinois. It was first identified in the spring of 2002 in Ontario and the Detroit area. It is estimated that it has already killed about 16 million ash trees in Michigan. In the two years since it was identified, infestations have broken out in several locations in Ohio, in Maryland, and most recently in Indiana. Thirteen counties in Michigan are quarantined and significant containment and clean-up operations are underway. The outbreaks in Indiana, Maryland and Ohio have required swift, aggressive and organized responses by regulatory and other government agencies and the cooperation of stakeholder groups.

The emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis*, is a slender, elongated (3/4-inch), bright green beetle in the same genus as the bronze birch borer. It likely arrived in Michigan from China at least five years ago, probably traveling with ship cargo. Although chemical and biological controls are being researched and show promise, more aggressive containment and eradication efforts are necessary for new outbreaks outside the core zones and quarantined areas of Michigan.

The borer kills trees relatively quickly and affects white, green, black, pumpkin, and several horticultural varieties of ash whether healthy or stressed. The beetle deposits eggs on the surface or cracks of ash tree bark, which hatch to release larvae that feed on the tree's phloem and outer sapwood. Within several weeks, larval feeding creates S-shaped galleries in the tree's inner bark that wind back and forth, becoming progressively wider and girdling the trunk and branches as larvae grow. Adult beetles emerge headfirst, creating very small (3-4 mm) D-shaped exit holes that leave minimal evidence of infestation until the canopy begins to die back. Then the tree quickly declines in the second growing season and is usually dead by the third. The symptoms of emerald ash borer infestation resemble ash decline or damage from the native ash-lilac borer and the two-lined chestnut borer, making detection difficult.

The Morton Arboretum took the lead in organizing to minimize the risk of an EAB introduction into Illinois, to find it, and contain it quickly if it arrives. First, we conducted a survey of area municipalities to determine the scope of the ash population at risk. From a sample of municipal street tree inventories, we determined that about 19.2 % of public trees in the Chicago area are ash, usually white (*Fraxinus americana*) or green (*F. pennsylvanica*.) The US Forest Service did a sampling of public and private land in Cook and DuPage County in 1993 and determined that 19.4% of the overall urban and community forest is ash, essentially confirming the validity of the street tree sampling. Statewide, forests are 6% ash according to US Forest Service surveys.

The planning began in July of 2003 by assembling nearly 40 representatives from municipal, county, state, and federal governments, green industry professional associations, universities, and Chicago Wilderness (a coalition of public and private land management and educating organizations) to develop an Emerald ash borer 'readiness plan'. The group worked together to identify resources available from participating organizations and likewise, identify gaps. Existing EAB efforts and programs were compiled, including current regional efforts and work from other states that serve as useful models.

All members of the planning team brought useful and important knowledge and experience to the planning effort. The team itself creates a critical network for information sharing and dissemination. Educational outreach to the members and constituents represented on the planning team has already been effective in raising awareness and fostering cooperation and collaboration. The team's work has resulted in strengthening the ability of the state regulatory agency, putting more staff expertise in the field inspecting nursery stock and responding to possible sightings of EAB. The collaboration has also spawned and funded a survey of EAB in the Chicago area being done in the summer of 2004, and another statewide survey is in the works.

There is much work to be done to protect Illinois' ash trees from this aggressive pest. The following Plan lays out a comprehensive strategy to assess resources, minimize risk, identify an infestation promptly, and collaborate to contain an infestation. The network of the Readiness Planning Team already facilitates the administrative and technical readiness called for in the Plan. Public and professional education and awareness are critical to the overall success of the plan.

The Readiness Planning Team continues to collaborate and cooperate to implement the plan. Current priorities are public awareness to identify likely infestations and minimize the possible spread of EAB through firewood movement, and the regulation and inspection of the firewood industry in Illinois.

For information and inquiries, please contact Edith Makra, The Morton Arboretum, at 630-719-2425 or [emakra@mortonarb.org](mailto:emakra@mortonarb.org).



## Illinois Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Plan

June 12, 2006

**1. GENERAL READINESS-** to reduce risk, minimize impact, and respond more effectively to a possible infestation of the Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*, and to work collaboratively towards overall health and sustainability of the forests, both urban and rural, throughout Illinois and northeast Indiana

(√ indicates task completed, → indicates ongoing effort already begun)

**A. √ Establish a network of agencies and organizations** that may be affected by the EAB into the **Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Team** (see attached list.) The team's goal is to collaborate in drafting a readiness plan; and to advise, advocate and lead in the implementation of the plan.

Subdivide into:

1. √Statutory Administrative Team – agencies that have, by law, been assigned the responsibility of managing an exotic infestation and have been granted the legal authority to act by the federal, state, or local government

- Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA)
- USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)
- Affected local government(s) at site of infestation

2. √Technical and Administrative Team – agencies and organizations that are vital to the design and rapid implementation of the readiness plan; and serve important roles in research related to Emerald ash borer; administration and coordination of policies, programs, and staff; and the education of stakeholders

- Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA), Environmental Programs
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)
- USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) Plant Protection and Quarantine (PPQ)
- USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program
- USDA Forest Service Forest Health Program
- USDA Forest Service, North Central Research Station
- University of Illinois
- Illinois Arborist Association
- Illinois Nurseryman's Association

3. ✓ **Education and Communication Team** – agencies that will collaborate to communicate accurate information, quickly and broadly in a manner that supports the prevention, identification and control of a possible infestation.

- APHIS PPQ
- USDA Forest Service, Public Affairs
- IDA, Environmental Programs
- Illinois Landscape Contractor's Association
- The Morton Arboretum
- Regional councils of governments (i.e., DuPage Mayor's and Manager's Association, Northwest Municipal Conference)
- Chicago Wilderness
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
- University of Illinois
- Municipalities
- Forest Preserve Districts
- Other Trade Groups and stakeholders

**B. Administrative Readiness** – to assure that current, relevant, and achievable policies are in place that allow the actions described in this plan to occur quickly and unencumbered:

1. ✓ Draft EAB Readiness Plan
  - a) ✓ Distribute plan to readiness team
  - b) Readiness Team members to distribute condensed plan to constituencies
  - c) → Foster cooperation among agencies for implementation
2. Identify resources and needs
  - a) ✓ Evaluate staffing needs in regulatory agencies
  - b) Monitor nursery field operations
  - c) Determine firewood movement
  - d) Identify sources of funding for readiness activities
  - e) ✓ Assess human and technical resources
3. Take proactive steps to speed administrative processes
  - a) ✓ analyze IDA procedures to identify streamlining opportunities
  - b) ✓ analyze APHIS procedures to identify streamlining opportunities
  - c) ✓ communicate EAB status to Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) liaison
  - d) encourage communities to examine local administrative processes for streamlining opportunities

4. Educate the media and assure accuracy of information
  - a) ✓ **Issue a press release on the final plan**
  - b) Coordinate Public Information Officers from statutory team
  - c) ✓ **Identify key sources of current information**
  - d) ✓ **create a Core Communications Team for expedited communications clearance including representatives from:**
    - IDA
    - Morton Arboretum
    - Forest Service
5. Explore wood waste utilization opportunities to reclaim ash material to its highest possible use should a volume material suddenly become available

**C. Technical Readiness** – to assure that policy decisions, actions, and education initiatives are guided by the best and most current science

1. ✓ **Review and distribute federal scientific guidelines to advise actions. (i.e., EAB biology and controls)**
2. Reference national plan, when one is available
3. Operate under New Pest Response Guidelines or other relevant USDA technical guidelines
4. Advocate for continued research for greater understanding of EAB and management options
5. Participate in annual Forest Pest meeting in Annapolis, MD
6. Transfer technology as it becomes available

**II. REDUCE RISK OF INFESTATION** – to assure that all means of EAB introduction are known and blocked, whenever possible

**A. Assess Risk** - to determine the size and scope of the ash resource and the severity of new and existing EAB infestations

1. → **Analyze possible sources of EAB importation (i.e., ash logs, firewood and nursery stock from Michigan) and other affected areas**
2. ✓ **Assess the scope of the resource at risk (number of ash trees)**
3. Analyze density of ash populations to determine high risk areas
4. → **Track spread of EAB and distribute to Readiness Team**

**B. Reduce Risk**

1. → **Raise public awareness about risk from firewood importation**
  - b) install educational posters at State, and county campgrounds
  - c) promote "EAB-free" firewood from reputable firewood dealers

2. →Convene a Firewood Committee to analyze the firewood market and find ways to reduce the risk of importation with representatives from:
  - IDNR
  - APHIS
  - IDA
  - Lake County Forest Preserve District
3. Survey or inspect firewood dealers
4. Recruit campground and firewood dealers associations to participate
5. →Contact municipal officials to request trace-back of records for firewood transport
6. Educate industries about risk of ash importation
  - a) reach out to wood products manufacturers through IDNR's licensed timber buyers and the Illinois Wood Products Association
  - b) →educate contractors and municipalities about the importance of knowing the source of ash trees and assure they are IDA inspected
  - c) educate garden centers, firewood dealers about risk
  - d) reach out to trucking associations to help track movement of ash
7. ✓Assure full and thorough analysis of ash nursery stock movement and effective inspection of current ash stock
  - a) → advocate for strong state support of nursery inspection program
  - b) ✓ track nursery stock importation in recent past
  - a. ✓review trace-back program for nursery shipping records from Michigan with the assistance of ANLA (American Nursery and Landscape Association)
8. Assure planting selections contribute to a diverse and sustainable urban forest
  - a) → educate municipalities and large property managers about diversity in planting
  - b) →encourage tree inventories to analyze diversity and guide planting decisions
9. Seek legislative support to reduce risk
  - a. assure Michigan's control efforts are well supported
  - b. advocate for readiness funding
  - c. advise federal legislators of the hardship of state required match of federal funds

**III. IDENTIFY INFESTATION PROMPTLY** – to minimize the spread and improve odds of containing an infestation

- A. Survey urban ash populations** - to quickly find or rule out the presence of EAB using USDA Forest Service Forest Health survey protocols
1. Continue the University of Illinois, The Morton Arboretum, and APHIS collaborative detection surveys
  2. Enable municipal and commercial green industry professionals to participate in monitoring and reporting in a systematic way
  3. Communicate survey results to stakeholders and the media

4. ✓ Convene Monitoring and Surveying Committee to survey and monitor ash populations to determine the presence of the Emerald ash borer including representatives from:

APHIS  
The Morton Arboretum  
US Forest Service  
University of Illinois

**B. → Educate the public and professionals** to provide stakeholders with current and accurate information in a targeted manner to aid in rapid identification of symptoms of an infestation

1. → Offer training and outreach based on current information to landscapers, arborists, nurserymen and other green industry workers to assess ash health and accurately identify EAB
2. Educate general public about ash health and EAB
  - a) ✓ Convene a Public Education Committee

IDNR  
The Morton Arboretum  
DuPage County Forest Preserve District  
University of Illinois
  - b) ✓ develop simple educational materials for the general public
  - c) → pursue opportunities for speaking, educating, and exhibiting educational displays including EAB identification material broadly
  - d) distribute and promote newly developed *Project Learning Tree* activities on EAB and Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB)
  - e) Broadly distribute U of I public education materials
3. Recruit and enable volunteer scouting
  - a) Promote awareness through the media with regular press releases and public appeals for help in scouting
  - b) Prepare kits to support volunteer scouting by both individuals and groups

**C. Coordinate state and national information** to address professional and public inquiries from Illinois and foster cooperation and communication

1. Have Readiness Team members link to USFS, APHIS and Michigan State websites
2. Coordinate with <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/> to add Illinois information
3. Support full staffing of regulatory agencies so that vital information about Illinois forest health is readily available

**D. → Guide public inquiries and possible sightings** through the following process for the most effective use of resources and quickest response:

1. Contact University of Illinois Extension, The Morton Arboretum Plant Clinic, municipal forestry programs and other professional resources, or the expertise of a certified arborist to pre-screen inquiries, i.e., assure suspect tree is an ash, rule out similar but common insects, etc.



2. If other pests are ruled out and EAB is still suspected, contact IDA's statewide **Pesticide Hotline 800-641-3934** or in the Chicago area use **312-74BEETL (312-742-3385)**
3. An IDA or APHIS official shall dismiss or confirm the identification of the Emerald ash borer

**E. Guide *professional* (arborist, entomologist, pathologist, plant health care specialist) inquiries and possible sightings** through the following process:

1. If a suspected Emerald Ash Borer is found, contact:  
**Illinois Department of Agriculture (847) 294-4343**  
or  
**USDA-APHIS-PPQ (847) 299-6939**  
Officers from these agencies will collaborate to inspect the suspected ash tree(s) and identify the specimen.
2. Collected specimen will be sent or delivered to:  
APHIS Identifier  
USDA-APHIS  
P.O. Box 61192  
Terminal 5  
O'Hare International Airport  
Chicago, Illinois 66192
3. If collected specimen is initially confirmed to be Emerald Ash Borer by an APHIS Identifier, the specimen will then be sent to the National Systematic Entomology Laboratory to make final identification:  
  
Systematic Entomology Laboratory  
ATTN: Communication and Taxonomic Services Unit  
Bldg. 005, Rm 137  
BARK - West  
10300 Baltimore Avenue  
Beltsville, MD 20705
4. All cooperators are notified that a suspect Emerald Ash Borer is in the system for identification. However, **at this point, all information is not for public dissemination.**
5. The result, either positive or negative for EAB, is received from the Systematic Entomology Laboratory and all cooperators are notified.

**IV. IN THE EVENT OF AN INFESTATION CONTAIN AND MANAGE THE EAB POPULATION** – the Statutory Administrative Team will be established with the affected local government(s) and will implement coordinated efforts to contain the infestation according to New Pest Response Guidelines established by USDA under the leadership of IDA and APHIS

**A. APHIS and the Illinois Department of Agriculture will take the lead** in planning and implementing actions.

1. Begin collaborative response with affected county and city government(s)
  - a) schedule an emergency meeting with cooperators
  - b) discuss and determine a preliminary plan of action
  - c) release verified, accurate information to the press
2. Initiate and conduct a thorough delimiting survey to determine the outer boundary of the infestation.
3. **Illinois Department of Agriculture places into effect an Emerald Ash Borer State Interior Quarantine** regulating all potential host material (ash wood and ash wood products) within the quarantined area as determined by the delimiting survey. This would include the “declaration of all plants and part thereof infested with the Emerald Ash Borer as a nuisance in the State of Illinois” as well as the establishment of a formal quarantine of the infested area (s).
4. Reference APHIS State Plant Health Director’s Emergency Plant Health Management Plan based on incident command.
5. Regulatory and control activities will be initiated as necessary.
  - a) Administer provisional quarantine established by IDA consistent with the Insect Pest and Plant Disease Act (505 ILCS 90) and associated regulation 8 IAC 240
  - b) Remove trees up to ½ mile from infestation or necessary distance as determined by current protocol based on research
  - c) Municipalities may act under their own local authorities when local ordinances are applicable and consistent with IDA quarantine requirements

**B. Communicate and coordinate actions, information and response**

1. Provide accurate information and updates to the media through EAB Core Communications Team.
2. Provide accurate information to affected residents
  - a) have an informational door-hanger ready for customizing and distributing to affected area immediately after infestation is found
  - b) host local resident meetings or visit affected residents to share information as soon as possible after finding an infestation
3. Communicate with public and industry professionals to foster cooperation to maximize effective response
4. Communicate eradication success stories

**C. Dispose of Wood debris**

1. Establish processing facilities in the quarantine zones to efficiently handle ash debris and reclaim useable products as best as possible
  - a) market reclaimed wood products

**D. Develop and implement a reforestation program authorized under applicable federal, state and local authorities using available resources.**

**Illinois Emerald Ash Borer Readiness Team**

City of Chicago  
Chicago Wilderness  
Chicago Park District  
Cook County Forest Preserve  
DuPage Mayors & Mgrs. Assoc.  
DuPage County Forest Preserve Dist.  
Hinsdale Nursery  
IL Arborist Association  
IL Department. of Agriculture  
IL Department of Natural Resources  
IL Forestry Development Council  
IL Landscape Contractors Assoc.  
IL Natural History Survey  
IL Nurseryman's Assoc.  
IL Parks and Recreation Association  
IL Wood Products Association  
Indiana Dept of Natural Resources  
Lake County Forest Preserve Dist  
Michigan State University  
The Morton Arboretum  
Northwest Municipal Conference  
Purdue University  
University of Illinois  
USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area  
USDA Forest Service, North Central Research Station  
USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS, Plant Protection and  
Quarantine, PPQ  
Wilson Nurseries  
Village of Bolingbrook, for Northeast Municipal Foresters  
Village of Oak Lawn, for Northeast Municipal Foresters



# Insecticide Options for Protecting Ash Trees From Emerald Ash Borer

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**Emerald ash borer** (*Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire), an invasive insect native to Asia, has killed tens of millions of ash trees in urban, rural and forested settings. This beetle was first discovered in 2002 in southeast Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. As of May 2009, emerald ash borer (EAB) infestations were known to be present in 11 states and two Canadian provinces. Many homeowners, arborists and tree care professionals want to protect valuable ash trees from EAB. Scientists have learned much about this insect and methods to protect ash trees since 2002. This bulletin is designed to answer frequently asked questions and provide the most current information on insecticide options for controlling EAB.



EAB larvae damage the vascular system of the tree as they feed, which interferes with movement of systemic insecticides in the tree.



EAB adults must feed on foliage before they become reproductively mature.

## Answers to Frequently Asked Questions

### What options do I have for treating my ash trees?

If you elect to treat your ash trees, there are several insecticide options available and research has shown that treatments can be effective. Keep in mind, however, that controlling insects that feed under the bark with insecticides has always been difficult. This is especially true with EAB because our native North American ash trees have little natural resistance to this pest. In university trials, some insecticide treatments were effective in some sites, but the same treatments failed in other sites. Furthermore, in some studies conducted over multiple years, EAB densities continued to increase in individual trees despite annual treatment. Some arborists have combined treatments

to increase the odds of success (e.g., combining a cover spray with a systemic treatment).



Healthy ash trees that have been protected with insecticides growing next to untreated ash trees killed by EAB.



Our understanding of how EAB can be managed successfully with insecticides has increased substantially in recent years. The current state of this understanding is detailed in the bulletin. It is important to note that research on management of EAB remains a work in progress. Scientists from universities, government agencies and companies continue to conduct intensive studies to understand how and when insecticide treatments will be most effective.

### **I know my tree is already infested with EAB. Will insecticides still be effective?**

If a tree has lost more than 50 percent of its canopy, it is probably too late to save the tree. Studies have shown that it is best to begin using insecticides while ash trees are still relatively healthy. This is because most of the insecticides used for EAB control act systemically — the insecticide must be transported within the tree. In other words, a tree must be healthy enough to carry a systemic insecticide up the trunk and into the branches and canopy. When EAB larvae feed, their galleries injure the phloem and xylem that make up the plant's circulatory system. This interferes with the ability of the tree to transport nutrients and water, as well as insecticides. As a tree becomes more and more infested, the injury becomes more severe. Large branches or even the trunk can be girdled by the larval galleries.

Studies have also shown that if the canopy of a tree is already declining when insecticide treatments are initiated, the condition of the tree may continue to deteriorate during the first year of treatment. In many cases, the tree canopy will begin to improve in the second year of treatment. This lag in the reversal of canopy decline probably reflects the time needed for the tree to repair its vascular system after the EAB infestation has been reduced.

### **My ash tree looks fine but my county is quarantined for EAB. Should I start treating my tree?**

Scientists have learned that ash trees with low densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation. Therefore, if your property is within a county that has been quarantined for EAB, your ash trees are probably at risk. Similarly, if your trees are outside a quarantined county but are still within 10-15 miles of a known EAB infestation, they may be at risk. If your ash trees are more than 15 miles beyond this range, it is probably too early to begin insecticide treatments. Treatment programs that begin too early are a waste of money. Remember, however, that new EAB infestations have been discovered every year since 2002 and existing EAB populations will build and spread over time. Stay up to date with current EAB quarantine maps and related information at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info). You can use the links in this Web site to access specific information for individual states. When an EAB infestation is detected in a state or county for the first time, it will be added to these maps. Note, however, that once an area has been quarantined, EAB surveys generally stop, and further spread of EAB in that area will not be reflected on future maps.

### **I realize that I will have to protect my ash trees from EAB for several years. Is it worth it?**

The economics of treating ash trees with insecticides for EAB protection are complicated. Factors that can be considered include the cost of the insecticide and expense of application, the size of the trees, the likelihood of success, and potential costs of removing and replacing the trees. Until recently, insecticide products had to be applied every year. A new product that is effective for two years or even longer (emamectin benzoate) has altered the economics of treating ash trees. As research progresses, costs and methods of treating trees will continue to change and it will be important to stay up to date on treatment options.

Benefits of treating trees can be more difficult to quantify than costs. Landscape trees typically increase property values, provide shade and cooling, and contribute to the quality of life in a neighborhood. Many people are sentimental about their trees. These intangible qualities are important and should be part of any decision to invest in an EAB management program.

It is also worth noting that the size of EAB populations in a specific area will change over time. Populations initially build very slowly, but later increase rapidly as more trees become infested. As EAB populations reach their peak, many trees will decline and die within one or two years. As untreated ash trees in the area succumb, however, the local EAB population will decrease substantially. Scientists do not yet have enough experience with EAB to know what will happen over time to trees that survive the initial wave of EAB. Ash seedlings and saplings are common in forests, woodlots, and right-of-ways, however, and it is unlikely that



EAB will ever completely disappear from an area. That means that ash trees may always be at some risk of being attacked by EAB, but it seems reasonable to expect that treatment costs could eventually decrease as pest pressure declines after the EAB wave has passed.

## Insecticide Options for Controlling EAB

Insecticides that can effectively control EAB fall into four categories: (1) systemic insecticides that are applied as soil injections or drenches; (2) systemic insecticides applied as trunk injections; (3) systemic insecticides applied as lower trunk sprays; and (4) protective cover sprays that are applied to the trunk, main branches, and (depending on the label) foliage.

Insecticide formulations and application methods that have been evaluated for control of EAB are listed in Table 1. Some are marketed for use by homeowners while others are intended for use only by professional applicators. The “active ingredient” refers to the compound in the product that is actually toxic to the insect.

Formulations included in Table 1 have been evaluated in multiple field trials conducted by the authors. Inclusion of a product in Table 1 does not imply that it is endorsed by the authors or has been consistently effective for EAB control. Please see the following sections for specific information about results from these trials. Results of some tests have also been posted on [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).

Strategies for the most effective use of these insecticide products are described below. It is important to note that pesticide labels and registrations change constantly and vary from state to state. It is the legal responsibility of the pesticide applicator to read, understand and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide product being used.

**Table 1.** Insecticide options for professionals and homeowners for controlling EAB that have been tested in multiple university trials. Some products may not be labeled for use in all states. Some of the listed products failed to protect ash trees when they were applied at labeled rates. Inclusion of a product in this table does not imply that it is endorsed by the authors or has been consistently effective for EAB control. See text for details regarding effectiveness.

Insecticide Formulation	Active Ingredient	Application Method	Recommended Timing
Professional Use Products			
Merit® (75WP, 75WSP, 2F)	Imidacloprid	Soil injection or drench	Mid-fall and/or mid- to late spring
Xytect™ (2F, 75WSP)	Imidacloprid	Soil injection or drench	Mid-fall and/or mid- to late spring
IMA-jet®	Imidacloprid	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Imicide®	Imidacloprid	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Pointer™	Imidacloprid	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
TREE-äge™	Emamectin benzoate	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Inject-A-Cide B®	Bidrin®	Trunk injection	Early May to mid-June
Safari™ (20 SG)	Dinotefuran	Systemic bark spray	Early May to mid-June
Astro®	Permethrin	Preventive bark and foliage cover sprays	2 applications at 4-week intervals; first spray should occur when black locust is blooming (early May in southern Ohio to early June in mid-Michigan)
Onyx™	Bifenthrin		
Tempo®	Cyfluthrin		
Sevin® SL	Carbaryl		
Homeowner Formulation			
Bayer Advanced™Tree & Shrub Insect Control	Imidacloprid	Soil drench	Mid-fall or mid- to late spring



## Using Insecticides to Control EAB

### Soil-Applied Systemic Insecticides

Systemic insecticides applied to the soil are taken up by the roots and translocated throughout the tree. The most widely tested soil-applied systemic insecticide for control of EAB is imidacloprid, which is available under several brand names for use by professional applicators and homeowners (see Table 1). All imidacloprid formulations can be applied as a drench by mixing the product with water, then pouring the solution directly on the soil around the base of the trunk. Dinotefuran is also labeled for use as a soil treatment, but to date it has been tested only as a basal trunk spray (discussed below). Studies to test its effectiveness as a soil treatment are currently underway.

Imidacloprid soil applications should be made when the soil is moist but not saturated. Application to water-logged soil can result in poor uptake if the insecticide becomes excessively diluted and can also result in puddles of insecticide that could wash away, potentially contaminating surface waters and storm sewers. Insecticide uptake will also be limited when soil is excessively dry. Irrigating the soil surrounding the base of the tree before the insecticide application can improve uptake.

The application rates for the homeowner product (Bayer Advanced™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control) and professional formulations of imidacloprid are very similar. Homeowners apply the same amount of active ingredient that professionals apply. However, there are certain restrictions on the use of homeowner formulations that do not apply to professional formulations. Homeowner formulations of imidacloprid can be applied only as a drench. It is not legal to inject these products into the soil, although some companies have marketed devices to homeowners specifically for this purpose. Homeowners are also restricted to making only one application per year. Several generic products containing imidacloprid are available to homeowners, but the formulations vary and the effectiveness of these products has not yet been evaluated in university tests.

Soil drenches offer the advantage of requiring no special equipment for application other than a bucket or watering can. However, imidacloprid can bind to surface layers of organic matter, such as mulch or leaf litter, which can reduce uptake by the tree. Before applying soil drenches, it is important to remove, rake or pull away any mulch or dead leaves so the insecticide solution is poured directly on the mineral soil.

Imidacloprid formulations labeled for use by professionals can be applied as a soil drench or as soil injections. Soil injections require specialized equipment, but offer the advantage of placing the insecticide under mulch or turf and directly into the root zone. This also can help to prevent runoff on sloped surfaces. Injections should be made just deep enough to place the insecticide beneath the soil surface (2-4 inches). Soil injections should be made within 18 inches of the trunk where the density of fine roots is highest. As you move away from the tree, large radial roots diverge like spokes on a wheel and studies have shown that uptake is higher when the product is applied at the base of the trunk. There are no studies that show that applying fertilizer with imidacloprid enhances uptake or effectiveness of the insecticide.

Optimal timing for imidacloprid soil injections and drenches is mid-April to mid-May, depending on your region. Allow four to six weeks for uptake and distribution of the insecticide within the tree. In southern Ohio, for example, you would apply the product by mid-April; in southern Michigan, you should apply the product by early to mid-May. When treating larger trees (e.g., with trunks larger than 12 inches in diameter), treat on the earlier side of the recommended timing. Large trees will require more time for uptake and transportation of the insecticide than will small trees. Recent tests show that imidacloprid soil treatments can also be successful when applied in the fall.

### Trunk-Injected Systemic Insecticides

Several systemic insecticide products can be injected directly into the trunk of the tree including formulations of imidacloprid and emamectin benzoate (see Table 1). An advantage of trunk injections is that they can be used on sites where soil treatments may not be practical or effective, including trees growing on excessively wet, compacted or restricted soil environments. However, trunk injections do wound the trunk, which may cause long-term damage, especially if treatments are applied annually.

Products applied as trunk injections are typically absorbed and transported within the tree more quickly than soil applications. Allow three to four weeks for most trunk-injected products to move through the tree. Optimal timing of trunk injections occurs after trees have leafed out in spring but before EAB eggs have hatched, or generally between mid-May and mid-June. Uptake of trunk-injected insecticides will be most efficient when trees are actively transpiring. Best results are usually obtained by injecting trees in the morning when soil is moist but not saturated. Uptake will be slowed by hot afternoon temperatures and dry soil conditions.

### Noninvasive, Systemic Basal Trunk Sprays

Dinotefuran is labeled for application as a noninvasive, systemic bark spray for EAB control. It belongs to the same chemical class as imidacloprid (neonicotinoids) but is much more soluble. The formulated insecticide is sprayed on the lower five to six feet of the trunk using a common garden sprayer and low pressure. Research has shown that the insecticide penetrates the bark and moves systemically throughout the rest of the tree. Dinotefuran can be mixed with surfactants that may facilitate its movement into the tree, particularly on large trees with thick bark. However, in field trials, adding a surfactant did not consistently increase the amount of insecticide recovered from the leaves of treated trees.

The basal trunk spray offers the advantage of being quick and easy to apply and requires no special equipment other than a garden sprayer. This application technique does not wound the tree, and when applied correctly, the insecticide does not enter the soil.

### Protective Cover Sprays

Insecticides can be sprayed on the trunk, branches and (depending on the label) foliage to kill adult EAB beetles as they feed on ash leaves, and newly hatched larvae as they chew through the bark. Thorough coverage is essential for best results. Products that have been evaluated as cover sprays for control of EAB include some specific formulations of permethrin, bifenthrin, cyfluthrin and carbaryl (see Table 1).

Protective cover sprays are designed to prevent EAB from entering the tree and will have no effect on larvae feeding under the bark. Cover sprays should be timed to occur when most adult beetles are feeding and beginning to lay eggs. Adult activity can be difficult to monitor because there are no effective pheromone traps for EAB. However, first emergence of EAB adults generally occurs between 450-550 degree days (starting date of January 1, base temperature of 50°F), which corresponds closely with full bloom of black locust (*Robinia pseudoacacia*). For best results, consider two applications, one at 500 DD<sub>50</sub> (as black locust approaches full bloom) and a second spray four weeks later.

## How Effective Are Insecticides for Control of EAB?

Extensive testing of insecticides for control of EAB has been conducted by researchers at Michigan State University (MSU) and The Ohio State University (OSU). Results of some of the MSU trials are available at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info).

### Soil-Applied Systemic Insecticides

Efficacy of imidacloprid soil injections for controlling EAB has been inconsistent; in some trials EAB control was excellent, while others yielded poor results. Differences in application protocols and conditions of the trials have varied considerably, making it difficult to reach firm conclusions about sources of variation in efficacy. For example, an MSU study found that low-volume soil injections of imidacloprid applied to small trees averaging 4 inches in DBH (diameter of the trunk at breast height) using the Kioritz applicator (a hand-held device for making low-volume injections) provided good control at one site. However, control was poor at another site where the same application protocols were used to treat larger trees (13-inch DBH). Imidacloprid levels may have been too low in the larger trees to provide adequate control. Higher pest pressure at the second site also may have contributed to poor control in the large trees.

In the same trials, high-pressure soil injections of imidacloprid (applied in two concentric rings, with one at the base of the tree and the other halfway to the drip line of the canopy) provided excellent control at one

site. At another site, however, soil injections applied using the same rate, timing and application method were completely ineffective, even though tree size and infestation pressure were very similar. It should be noted that recent studies have shown that imidacloprid soil injections made at the base of the trunk result in more effective uptake than applications made on grid or circular patterns under the canopy.

Imidacloprid soil drenches have also generated mixed results. In some studies conducted by MSU and OSU researchers, imidacloprid soil drenches have provided excellent control of EAB. However, in other studies, control has been inconsistent. Experience and research indicate that imidacloprid soil drenches are most effective on smaller trees and control of EAB on trees with a DBH that exceeds 15 inches is less consistent.

This inconsistency may be due to the fact that application rates for systemic insecticides are based on amount of product per inch of trunk diameter or circumference. As the DBH of a tree increases, the amount of vascular tissue, leaf area and biomass that must be protected by the insecticide increases exponentially. Consequently, for a particular application rate, the amount of insecticide applied as a function of tree size is proportionally decreased as trunk diameter increases. Hence, the DBH-based application rates that effectively protect relatively small trees can be too low to effectively protect large trees. Some systemic insecticide products address this issue by increasing the application rate for large trees.

In an OSU study with larger trees (15- to 22-inch DBH), Xytect™ (imidacloprid) soil drenches provided most consistent control of EAB when applied experimentally at twice the rate that was allowed at that time. Recently, the Xytect™ label was modified to allow the use of this higher rate, which we now recommend when treating trees larger than 15-inch DBH. Merit® imidacloprid formulations, however, are not labeled for application at this high rate. Therefore, when treating trees greater than 15-inch DBH with Merit® soil treatments, two applications are recommended, either in the fall and again in the spring, or twice in the spring, about four weeks apart (for example in late April and again in late May). This is not an option for Bayer Advanced™ Tree and Shrub Insect Control and other homeowner formulations of imidacloprid, which are limited by the label to one application per year. Homeowners wishing to protect trees larger than 15-inch DBH should consider having their trees professionally treated.

All treatment programs must comply with the limits specified on the label regarding the maximum amount of insecticide that can be applied per acre during a given year.

## Trunk-Injected Systemic Insecticides

### Emamectin benzoate

In several intensive studies conducted by MSU and OSU researchers, a single injection of emamectin benzoate in mid-May or early June provided excellent control of EAB for at least two years, even under high pest pressure. For example, in a highly-replicated study conducted on trees ranging in size from 5- to 20-inch DBH at three sites in Michigan, untreated trees had an average of 68 to 132 EAB larvae per m<sup>2</sup> of bark surface, which represents high pest pressure. In contrast, trees treated with emamectin benzoate had, on average, only 0.2 larvae per m<sup>2</sup>, a reduction of > 99 percent. When additional trees were felled and debarked two years after the emamectin benzoate injection, there were still virtually no larvae in the treated trees, while adjacent, untreated trees at the same sites had hundreds of larvae.

In two OSU studies conducted in Toledo with street trees ranging in size from 15- to 25-inch DBH, a single application of emamectin benzoate also provided excellent control for two years. There was no sign of canopy decline in treated trees and very few emergence holes, while the canopies of adjacent, untreated trees exhibited severe decline and extremely high numbers of emergence holes.

One study suggests that a single injection of emamectin benzoate may even control EAB for three years. Additional studies to further evaluate the long-term effectiveness of emamectin benzoate are underway. To date, this is the only product that controls EAB for more than one year with a single application. In addition, in side-by-side comparisons with other systemic products (neonicotinoids), emamectin benzoate was more effective.

## Imidacloprid

Trunk injections with imidacloprid products have provided varying degrees of EAB control in trials conducted at different sites in Ohio and Michigan. In an MSU study, larval density in trees treated with Imicide® injections were reduced by 60 percent to 96 percent, compared to untreated controls. There was no apparent relationship between efficacy and trunk diameter or infestation pressure. In another MSU trial, imidacloprid trunk injections made in late May were more effective than those made in mid-July, and IMA-jet® injections provided higher levels of control than did Imicide®, perhaps because the IMA-jet® label calls for a greater amount of active ingredient to be applied on large trees. In an OSU study in Toledo, IMA-jet® provided excellent control of EAB on 15- to 25-inch trees under high pest pressure when trees were injected annually. However, trees that were injected every other year were not consistently protected.

In a discouraging study conducted in Michigan, ash trees continued to decline from one year to the next despite being treated in both years with either imidacloprid (Imicide®, Pointer™) or Bidrin (Inject-A-Cide B®) trunk injections. Imicide®, Pointer™ and Inject-A-Cide B® trunk injections all suppressed EAB infestation levels in both years, with Imicide® generally providing best control under high pest pressure in both small (six-inch DBH) and larger (16-inch DBH) caliper trees. However, larval density increased in treated and untreated trees from one year to the next. Furthermore, canopy dieback increased by at least 67 percent in all treated trees (although this was substantially less than the amount of dieback observed in untreated trees). Although untreated trees were more severely impacted, these results indicate that even consecutive years of treatment with these trunk-injection treatments may only slow or delay ash decline when pest pressure is severe.

In three other side-by-side comparisons, Imicide® consistently provided higher levels of control than did Pointer™. In another MSU study, ACECAP® trunk implants (active ingredient is acephate) were not effective under high pest pressure.

## Noninvasive Basal Trunk Sprays with Dinotefuran

Studies to date indicate that systemic basal trunk sprays with dinotefuran are about as effective as imidacloprid treatments. MSU and OSU studies have evaluated residues in leaves from trees treated with the basal trunk spray. Results show that the dinotefuran effectively moved into the trees and was translocated to the canopy at rates similar to those of other trunk-injected insecticides, and faster than other soil-applied neonicotinoid products.

As with imidacloprid treatments, control of EAB with dinotefuran has been variable in research trials. In an MSU study conducted in 2007 and 2008, dinotefuran trunk sprays reduced EAB larval density by approximately 30 percent to 60 percent compared to the heavily infested untreated trees. The treatment was effective for only one year and would have to be applied annually. In general, control is better and more consistent in smaller trees than in large trees, but more research is needed with larger trees. Studies to address the long-term effectiveness of annual dinotefuran applications for control of EAB are underway.

## Protective Cover Sprays

MSU studies have shown that applications of Onyx™, Tempo® and Sevin® SL provided good control of EAB, especially when the insecticides were applied in late May and again in early July. Acephate sprays were less effective. BotaniGard® (*Beauveria bassiana*) was also ineffective under high pest pressure. Astro® (permethrin) was not evaluated against EAB in these tests, but has been effective for controlling other species of wood borers and bark beetles.

In another MSU study, spraying Tempo® just on the foliage and upper branches or spraying the entire tree were more effective than simply spraying just the trunk and large branches. This suggests that some cover sprays may be especially effective for controlling EAB adults as they feed on leaves in the canopy. A single, well-timed spray was also found to provide good control of EAB, although two sprays may provide extra assurance given the long period of adult EAB activity.

It should be noted that spraying large trees is likely to result in a considerable amount of insecticide drift, even when conditions are ideal. Drift and potential effects of insecticides on non-target organisms should be considered when selecting options for EAB control.



## Key Points and Summary Recommendations

- Insecticides can effectively protect ash trees from EAB.
- Unnecessary insecticide applications waste money. If EAB has not been detected within 10-15 miles, your trees are at low risk. Be aware of the status of EAB in your location. Current maps of known EAB populations can be found at [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info). Remember, however, that once a county is quarantined, maps for that county are no longer updated.
- Trees that are already infested and showing signs of canopy decline when treatments are initiated may continue to decline in the first year after treatment, and then begin to show improvement in the second year due to time lag associated with vascular healing. Trees exhibiting more than 50 percent canopy decline are unlikely to recover even if treated.
- Emamectin benzoate is the only product tested to date that controls EAB for more than one year with a single application. It also provided a higher level of control than other products in side-by-side studies.
- Soil drenches and injections are most effective when made at the base of the trunk. Imidacloprid applications made in the spring or the fall have been shown to be equally effective.
- Soil injections should be no more than 2-4 inches deep, to avoid placing the insecticide beneath feeder roots.
- To facilitate uptake, systemic trunk and soil insecticides should be applied when the soil is moist but not saturated or excessively dry.
- Research and experience suggest that effectiveness of insecticides has been less consistent on larger trees. Research has not been conducted on trees larger than 25-inch DBH. When treating very large trees under high pest pressure, it may be necessary to consider combining two treatment strategies.
- Xytect™ soil treatments are labeled for application at a higher maximum rate than other imidacloprid formulations, and we recommend that trees larger than 15-inch DBH be treated using the highest labeled rate. Merit® imidacloprid formulations are not labeled for use at this higher rate. When treating larger trees with Merit® soil treatments, best results will be obtained with two applications per year. Imidacloprid formulations for homeowners (Bayer Advanced™ Tree & Shrub Insect Control and other generic formulations) can be applied only once per year.
- Homeowners wishing to protect trees larger than 15-inch DBH should consider having their trees professionally treated.
- All treatment programs must comply with label restrictions on the amount of insecticide that can be applied per acre in a given year.

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# BEFORE THE BUG COMES TO TOWN

Developing a State or Regional Readiness and Response Plan for Exotic Invasive Insects

## PLAN DEVELOPMENT

An invasive pest can be a huge threat to the balance of the urban ecosystem. Managing an infestation – all the essential education, administration, information, communication, and regulation issues that need to be coordinated – is a staggering task for any agency. The main purpose for undertaking readiness planning *before* the bug comes to town is to learn as much as possible ahead of time, collaborate to share resources and information, and create a network to strengthen a coordinated response. **The primary goal is to protect the resource** to the extent possible.

### **1. BUILDING A TEAM - *Bringing together stakeholders***

A team approach is essential to tackle the imposing threat of an exotic species invasion. A strong and diverse team can be much more effective through collaboration, than any one organization can be alone. Members of the team should bring useful and important knowledge and experience to the planning effort. The team itself creates a critical network for information sharing and dissemination and supports and energizes individual member organizations in preparedness activities. A team working to plan for protection of the urban and community forest should include the following partners:

#### Regulatory agencies

- USDA APHIS-PPQ\*
- State Department of Agriculture

#### Supporting agencies

- USDA\* Forest Service – State and Private Forestry
- State Department of Natural Resources

#### Researchers

- Universities/Colleges
- USDA Forest Service – Research
- State Natural History Survey

#### Educators

- Arboreta and Botanic Gardens
- Non-profit organizations related to tree/forest issues

#### Resource managers

- Municipal Foresters Associations
- Local, County, Regional, and State Park Agencies
- Parks and Recreation Associations
- Forest Preserves
- Consulting Foresters Associations

#### Industry

- Arborist Associations
- Landscape Contractors Associations
- Nursery/Growers Associations
- Wood Products Associations
- Forestry Councils
- Golf Course Superintendent Associations

#### Municipalities

- Regional Councils of Governments
- Mayors & Managers Associations
- Individual Municipalities
- County and Township Agencies

Organizations/Agencies involved in outbreaks in other states

## **2. WHAT IS AT RISK? - Calculating consequences of infestation**

In order to garner support, interest, and collaboration for readiness planning, it is important to determine the following:

- What is the extent of the resource at risk?  
(e.g. 6% of the forest cover is ash, 19% of all public trees are ash, and 35% of the public canopy cover is ash)
  - Research FIA\* data for rural forests
  - State natural resources department
  - Survey of city foresters for urban forest data
- What consequences could arise from the infestation?  
(e.g. loss of canopy and resulting economic and environmental impacts such as increase in stormwater runoff; expenses associated with removal and replanting; visual/aesthetic impacts; property loss, hazardous conditions with dead standing trees; private homeowner assistance needs – be specific!)
  - Readiness planning team members can contribute from various perspectives
  - Research consequences of infestation in other states

## **3. WHAT IS ALREADY BEING DONE? – Coordinate with existing plans**

APHIS\* is directing all states to develop “Plant Resource Emergency Response Guidelines.” These guidelines outline the legal authority, roles and responsibilities of various agencies and organizations, and a system for rapid response to an insect, disease, or weed that impacts plants. These general guidelines may be useful in developing a species-specific preparedness/response plan. For information about the status of your state’s guidelines, contact your State Plant Health Director or State Plant Regulatory Official (visit the following websites for directories by state):

- State Plant Regulatory Officials\_  
<http://nationalplantboard.org/member/index.html>
- State Plant Health Directors\_  
<http://ceris.purdue.edu/napis/names/sphdXstate.html>

Look to management plans from other state. APHIS PPQ develops manuals and guidelines for all kinds of introduced pests. Review relevant manuals (e.g. New Pest Response Guidelines Asian Longhorned Beetle) to glean ideas for regional readiness.

- APHIS manuals for introduced pests\_  
[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals/online\\_manuals.html](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/ppq/manuals/online_manuals.html)

Utilize the resources of the National Invasive Species Information Center, an interdepartmental coordinating council of federal agencies that compiles numerous model management and control plans into a Manager’s Toolkit.

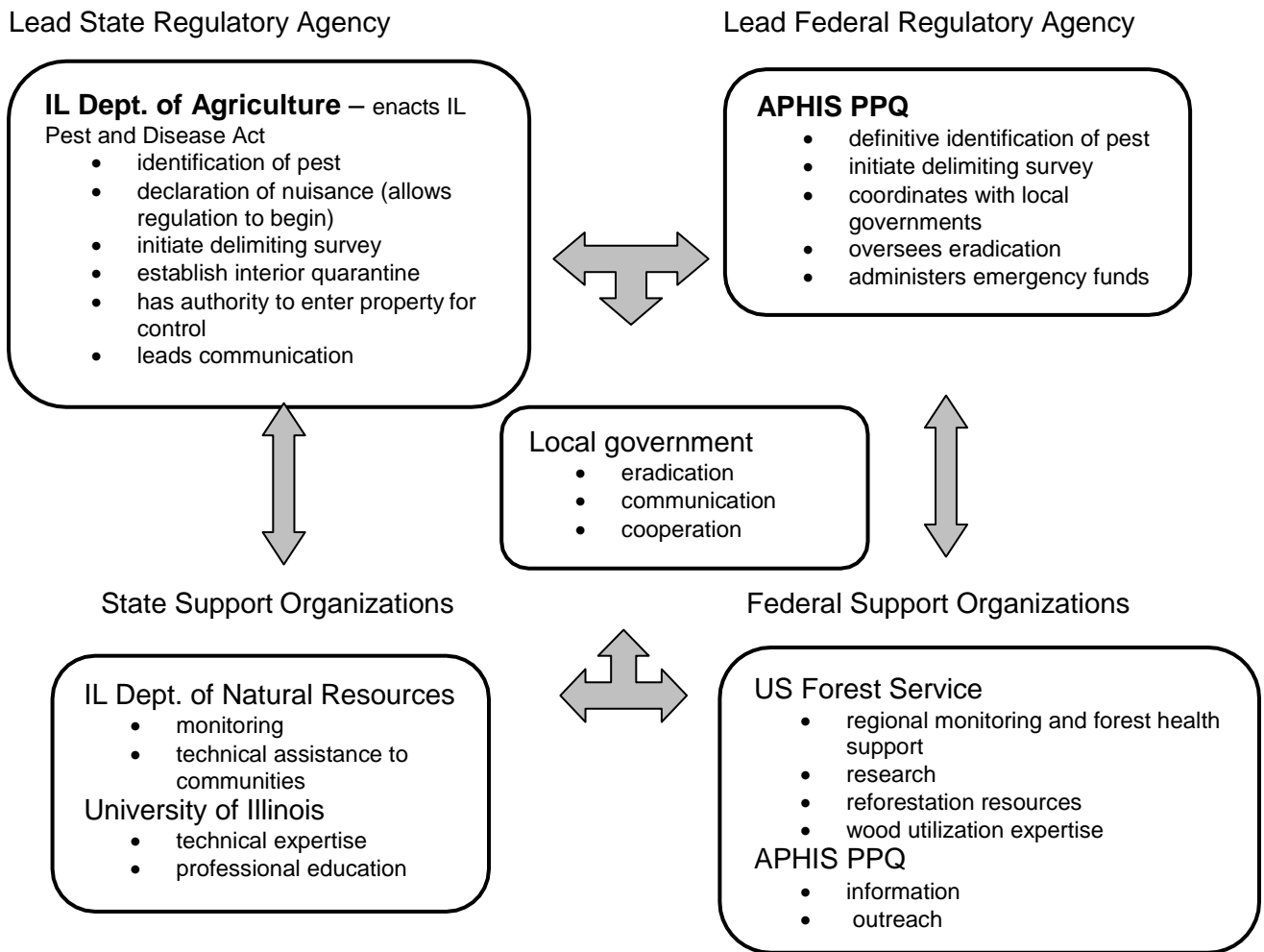
- Invasive Species Manager’s Toolkit\_  
<http://www.invasivespecies.gov/toolkit/main.shtml>

## **4. WHAT HAVE YOU GOT? Identifying strengths, capacity, resources, and programs**

- Determine who has authority and responsibility
- Inventory existing programs and efforts to educate, monitor and reduce risk

- Identify strengths  
(e.g. strong green industry professional networks to educate and disseminate information, previous ALB experience had success with public awareness and support)
- Find mechanisms to distribute information
- Locate expertise in team organizations  
(e.g. where are the entomologists, foresters, communications specialists, and lobbyists? )
- Look for sources of funds  
(e.g. US Forest Service Forest Health Program, APHIS, State Department of Agriculture, professional organizations, State Urban Forestry Grants, Councils of Governments, state and federal legislature)

**Example: Illinois Authorities and Resources**



**5. WHERE ARE THE GAPS? - Identifying needs, shortages, and hindrances**

- Are the public agencies adequately staffed and supported?
- Are all at-risk land managers engaged?
- What information do we need to know before we can plan?
- Are there any policies, attitudes or programs that would be obstacles to readiness?  
(e.g. Do state regulatory statutes allow for rapid response? Is there political support?)

**6. WILL IT HAPPEN TO YOU? - Determining vulnerability**

- What geographic area is at highest risk?

- (e.g. most of the ash forests are in the Northeast part of the state--Windham, Olmsted, Orleans, and Lawrence Counties, most of the public ash trees are located in the highly populous areas of the Chicago metro)
- Where is the most probable source of an infestation?  
(e.g. human movement such as nursery stock, wood products and firewood transfer from out-of-state infested site)
  - Where is the most probable port of entry into the state?  
(e.g. 1. urban areas with newly planted ash (from nursery stock),  
2. recreation areas like campgrounds from firewood transfer,  
3. Chicago due to its large population and proximity to Michigan and Indiana; because it is a major port for foreign shipments; there is a high concentration of industry and because there are multiple ports of entry via train, auto, and ship)

**7. DRAFT A PLAN. - With consensus from major stakeholders draft a plan to guide planning and prioritize action.**

**8. MAINTAIN READINESS.**

- Share evolving issues, actions, information and technology with team members.
- Collaborate with team member to act on key steps in the readiness plan.  
(e.g. Collaborate with land owners and universities to conduct a detection survey.)
- Inform stakeholders and constituents of plan and state of readiness.
- Communicate with the media about the plan and achievements to foster public cooperation and confidence.

## PLAN COMPONENTS

This is an example of a plan developed in Illinois to prepare for the emerald ash borer (EAB):

1. **Readiness-** reduce risk, minimize impact, and respond more effectively to a possible infestation and work towards overall health and sustainability of the urban forest in Illinois and northeast Indiana
  - A. Administrative Readiness
    - 1) Establish a network of agencies and organizations to be affected by EAB
      - a. Statutory Administrative Team – lead regulatory agencies
      - b. Technical and Administrative Team
      - b. Education and Communication Team
    - 2) Finalize Develop an EAB Readiness Plan
    - 3) Identify resources and needs
    - 4) Take proactive steps to speed administrative processes i.e., shorten time required to establish quarantine
    - 5) Educate the media and assure accuracy of information
  - B. Technical Readiness
    - 1) Review and distribute federal scientific guidelines to advise actions
    - 2) Advocate for continued research for greater understanding of EAB and management options
    - 3) Transfer technology

2. **Prevention infestation** – to assure that all means of introduction are known and blocked, whenever possible
  - A. Assess Risk
    - 1) Identify possible sources of EAB importation (i.e., firewood and nursery stock from Michigan)
    - 2) Assess the scope of the resource at risk (number of ash trees)
    - 3) Track spread of EAB and distribute to Readiness Team
  - B. Reduce Risk
    - 1) Advocate for appointment of vital vacant positions
    - 2) Raise public awareness about risk from firewood importation
    - 3) Track nursery stock, ash lumber and ash firewood importation in recent past
    - 4) Educate industries about risk of ash importation
    - 5) Assure plantings selections contribute to a diverse and sustainable urban forest
    - 6) Seek legislative support to reduce risk
- 3) **Identification** – minimize the spread and improve odds of containing an infestation
  - A. Survey urban ash populations to quickly find, or rule out the presence of EAB
  - B. Offer training and outreach to landscapers, arborists, nurserymen and other green industry workers to accurately identify EAB
  - C. Educate general public about ash health and EAB
  - D. Establish a hotline and a website
  - E. Support full staffing of IDA Inspectors to respond quickly to possible sightings
- 4) **Response** - contain infestation and manage the EAB population
  - A. Implement coordinated effort to contain the infestation
  - B. Provide accurate information to the media through EAB Teams
  - C. Communicate with public and industry professionals to foster cooperation to maximize effective response
  - D. Reforest

## **\*ACRONYMS**

### Federal Organizations:

APHIS – Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service  
PPQ – Plant Protection and Quarantine (Under APHIS)  
FEMA – Federal Emergency Management Agency  
USDA – United States Department of Agriculture  
FS – Forest Service

### State Organizations:

DNR – State Department of Natural Resources  
DA – State Department of Agriculture  
EMA – State Emergency Management Agency  
FHP – Forest Health Program

### Other:

FIA – Forest Inventory and Analysis (program of the USDA Forest Service)  
ALB – Asian longhorned beetle  
EAB - emerald ash borer





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