

Emerald Ash Borer: What you can do

With the highly destructive emerald ash borer (EAB)



now confirmed in Colorado, many homeowners have questions about their ash trees and the risks presented by the invasive tree insect.

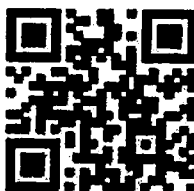
Late last year EAB, already responsible for the death or decline of tens of millions of ash trees in more than 20 states, was detected in Boulder. It poses a serious threat to Colorado's urban forests, where ash species comprise an estimated 15-20-percent of all trees.

To help homeowners and communities make decisions about dealing with the pest, this week the Colorado State Forest Service is releasing a new Quick Guide about EAB in Colorado. Primary recommendations for Colorado communities include:

Determine now if you have any ash trees. The first step to dealing with the possible future arrival of EAB is identifying susceptible host trees on the landscape, which include virtually any species and varieties of ash (genus *Fraxinus*). Ash trees have diamond-shaped bark ridges, compound leaves with 5 to 11 leaflets, and their leaflets, buds and branches grow directly opposite from one another.

Avoid planting ash trees anywhere in Colorado. Ash trees have been widely planted here, but due to the risk of EAB, future plantings are not recommended. However, this spring is a good time to consider planting diverse tree species where ash trees growing now could be lost in the future.

Recognize signs of EAB



infestation.

Homeowners with ash trees should be on the lookout for signs of

EAB infestation, which include: thinning of upper branches and twigs, loss of leaves, D-shaped 1/8-inch holes on the bark, vertical bark splitting or increased woodpecker activity. Any suspect trees should be reported to the Colorado Dept. of Agriculture at 888-248-5535 or email CAPS.program@state.co.us.

Be aware of EAB imposters. Other insects like lilac/ash borer, ash bark beetle and flat-headed appletree borer may look like EAB or cause similar tree symptoms. For more information, see the new EAB guide at www.csfs.colostate.edu.

Know that treatments now aren't a good option. Treatments to protect high-value ash trees are not recommended more than 5 miles from a positive detection. Currently, with the only confirmed in-state detection in the City of Boulder, homeowners outside this 5 mile radius need not apply chemical treatments to protect ash trees from EAB.

Prevent further spread of EAB. Don't ever transport ash firewood, or any untreated ash products, to other locations.

For more information about EAB infestation and ash tree identification, view the guide online at www.csfs.colostate.edu or pick up a free copy at the nearest CSFS district. For current information about the status of EAB in Colorado, go to www.eabcolorado.com.

— **Source: Colorado State Forest Service**

to 6:30 p.m. 1630 Hawthorn Ave., Boulder, 303-443-9952, growinggardens.org

Happy Transplants Garden Club

May 10: Plant Sale with perennials, annuals, vegetables and herbs, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. or until sold out. Rain date: May 11. *Parking lot of Vectra Bank, 3300 W. 72nd Ave., 303-526-0359*

EarthLinks

May 10: Second annual "Mother's Day Plant & Garden Sale" offering flowers, vegetables, herbs and transplants from members along with handmade gifts including candles, planters, vases, skin care products and more, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. A flower arranging workshop is also scheduled. *2828 Larimer St., earthlinks-colorado.org*

The University of Colorado Museum of Natural History

May 12-13: Presents two "Spring Tree Walks" led by Facilities Operations Arborist Vince Aquino, 5 p.m. Aquino will share the historical significance of the trees on the CU-Boulder campus. Free, no reservations required. *Meet at the south entrance of the museum at 15th Street and Broadway, Boulder, 303-492-6892, cumuseum.colorado.edu*

CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

Aurora Water Conservation

May 17: "Xeriscape Start to Finish"; May 22: "Xeriscape Basics." Times and locations vary. Call or visit the website for more information and to register. *720-859-4407, apps.auroragov.org/eventregistration*

Denver Botanic Gardens

May 9-10: Plant Sale with annuals, perennials, herbs, succulents and more, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; May 14: "Growing Food in Raised Vegetable Garden Beds," 6-7:30 p.m. \$24, \$20 members; May 17: "Fragrant Roses for Your Garden" with the Denver Rose Society, 10 a.m.-noon, \$33, \$26 members; "Getting the Most Out of Your Home Garden," 2-5 p.m. \$35; Reservations required *1007 York St., 720-865-3501, botanicgardens.org*

Hudson Gardens

May 17: "Meet the Beekeeper," 9:30-11:30 a.m. Free. *6115 S. Santa Fe Drive, Littleton, 303-797-8565 ext. 306, shop.hudsongardens.org*

Shelly's Garden Country

May 13, 20 and 27: "Flowers After Hours: Winning Container Combos," 7-9 p.m. *4181 W. 120th Ave., Broomfield, 303-466-6761, shellysgardencountry.com*

Tagawa Gardens

May 9: Container garden demos, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; May 10-11: 32nd annual Mother's Day Spring Open House with live music, refreshments and discounts, 8 a.m.-7 p.m. May 10 and 9 a.m.-5 p.m. May 11; May 16: Container Garden demos, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; May 17: "Design Your Own Landscape — Part 2: Tips for Design & How to Self Install," 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; May 18: Container Garden demos, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. *7711 S. Parker Road, Centennial, 303-690-4722, tagawagardens.com*

Timberline Gardens

May 10: "Build Your Own Worm Compost Box," 9-11 a.m. \$50, includes materials; "The Grass Class," 1-3 p.m. \$10; May 17: "DIY Patio Container," 9-11 a.m. \$10 (this class is also offered May 24); "Walls and Walkways," 1-3 p.m. \$10; May 18: "Xeriscape ... A Practical Way to Garden," 1-2 p.m. \$10. Reservations required. *11700 W. 58th Ave., Arvada, 303-420-4060, timberlinegardens.com*

May 3: "Vegetable Garden Design or What to Plant Where," 10 a.m. \$10. Reservations required. *711 E. County Line Road, Littleton, 303-795-5339, wilmorenurseries.com*

EXHIBITS

Denver Botanic Gardens

Through Aug. 3: "Signs of Life: Photograms by Robert Buellteman." in the Gates Garden Court Gallery; May 12-18: "Alan Hills Bonsai Show" in the Bill Hosokawa Bonsai Pavilion with an artist talk at 6:30 p.m. Artist talk: 6 p.m. May 13. \$20, \$15 members. Exhibits included with admission. *1007 York St., 720-865-3580, botanicgardens.org*

SAVE THE DATE

Denver Master Gardeners

May 17-18: Presents its ninth annual Spring Plant Sale with vegetables including heirloom tomatoes, chilies, flowers, garden containers, books, tools, decorations and more, 8 a.m.-3 p.m. May 17 and 10 a.m.-3 p.m. May 18. Cash only. *CSU Denver Extension, Harvard Gulch Park, 888 E. Iliff Ave., 720-913-5270*

Denver Parks and Recreation

May 17: The department is warning residents to remove myrtle spurge in a program called the "Purge the Spurge." The noxious weed can harm people (it contains a topical toxin) and natural areas (it chokes out native vegetation). Bring in bags of spurge or photos of it being removed to receive native free plants, 9 a.m. to noon at CSU Extension's Plant Sale at Harvard Gulch Park, 888 E. Iliff Ave. *720-913-0644, colorado.gov/ag, search for "myrtle spurge"*

Fairmount Cemetery

Heritage Rose Sale

May 17: Old garden, heirloom, hybrid tea, floribunda, miniatures, climbing, shrub, rugosa, species and Fairmount Cemetery roses, 8 a.m. until sold out. *Fairmount Cemetery, 430 S. Quebec St., 303-322-3895, fairmountheritagefoundation.org*

Front Range Organic Gardeners/Herb Society of America Rocky Mountain Unit

May 17: Has partnered for the 13th annual Organic Plant Sale offering vegetables, herbs and other organic plants, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cash only. Proceeds provide small grants to Denver organizations that teach and practice organic gardening. *Denver Presbytery, 1710 S. Grant St., 303-744-7871, gardenfrog.org*

Horticulture Art Society

May 16-18: The Gigantic Annual Plant Sale supporting gardens in Colorado Springs offers native plants, ornamental grasses, perennials, rock garden plants, shrubs, vines and organic vegetables and herbs, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. May 16-17, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. May 18. *222 Mesa Road and Glen Avenue, 719-357-9427, hasgardens.org*

Mail info 10-14 days in advance to Garden Calendar, The Denver Post, 101 W. Colfax Ave., Suite 600, Denver, CO 80202; fax 303-954-1679; e-mail living@denverpost.com.