

## HIRE A PROFESSIONAL TO PROPERLY ASSESS YOUR OPTIONS

### Treatment

If your ash tree shows no signs of damage, have it treated with a biopesticide to protect it from the emerald ash borer. Montréal uses TreeAzin, a low-impact biopesticide which is safe for human health and presents low risk to the environment. That way you will be able to continue enjoying your tree and the value it adds to your property.

The sooner you begin the treatment, the more likely you will be able to save your ash tree.

The cost of such treatments can vary considerably from one supplier to another. Get several bids and ask your neighbours to go in with you to get a better price.

Remember that your ash will have to be treated every two years for the rest of its life, but the cost of these treatments could be the same as having it cut down and replaced.



### Diagnosis

If your ash does show any signs of damage, only an expert will be able to tell you whether it is caused by emerald ash borer and whether anything can be done to save the tree. To get an unbiased opinion on the likelihood of saving it with treatments, contact a professional who does not sell pesticides.

### Removal and replacement

An ash tree that shows 30% or more dieback is generally considered too heavily infested to be saved. In such case, it must be cut down quickly, **between October 1 and March 15**, to prevent the emerald ash borer from spreading. The problem will only get worse if you decide to wait. A dead tree quickly becomes a hazard and may cost more to have removed.

Before asking for bids, don't forget apply for a municipal tree cutting permit. Space permitting, quickly replace it with another tree of a different species that will offer the same benefits.

### Pruning

Avoid pruning your ash tree between **March 15th and October 1st**. Fresh cuts during that period can attract emerald ash borer females looking for suitable sites to lay their eggs.

### Ash tree wood disposal

To avoid spreading the infestation, make sure that whoever you hire follows city rules for disposing of ash wood residues. To get more information, call **311** or visit our Web site.

For more information, visit:  
[ville.montreal.qc.ca/agrile](http://ville.montreal.qc.ca/agrile)

# THE EMERALD ASH BORER WAS HERE!



## A TINY INSECT BUT A HUGE THREAT

Thousands of ash trees on the Island of Montréal are at risk of being destroyed by an exotic insect pest called the emerald ash borer (EAB). It's important to take action now!

Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is native to Southeast Asia. This tiny, metallic green insect pest attacks only ash trees. It has destroyed more than 75 million of them since it was first discovered in North America in 2002. Now it's in your yard and this year may be your last chance to save your ash.

Emerald ash borer larvae kill trees by feeding under the bark. As they do so, they form galleries that cut off the tree's sap circulation. This means that an ash tree may appear healthy, even though it is being seriously damaged under its bark. When signs of EAB become apparent, it is usually too late to save the tree.



## CHECK YOUR YARD TODAY

Do you have an ash tree?

Look for the following identifying features:

- **Opposite branches and leaves:** Each branch is paired with another one, on the opposite side. (figure 1)
- **Special bark:** It is also easy to recognize an ash by its bark. On a young tree, it is often smooth and reddish. On larger trunks, the intersecting ridges form a regular diamond pattern. (figure 2)
- **Compound leaves:** Ash leaves have an uneven number of leaflets (5 to 11). (figure 3)



Check to see whether your ash shows any symptoms of infestation

Emerald ash borer is difficult to detect. The following symptoms may indicate that your tree has been attacked:

- **Shoots growing from the trunk:** the tree's response to losing leaves. (figure 1)
- **Thinning crown:** because the sap is blocked and cannot reach to the top of the tree. (figure 2)
- **Woodpecker holes on the branches and trunk:** these birds like to feed on the emerald ash borer larvae hidden under the bark. Once they find an infested ash, they will visit it frequently. (figure 3)

**Note:** these symptoms are not unique to emerald ash borer and could be caused by other insect pests or diseases.

