

## Ash Tree Identification and Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Symptom Checklist

### Ash Tree ID

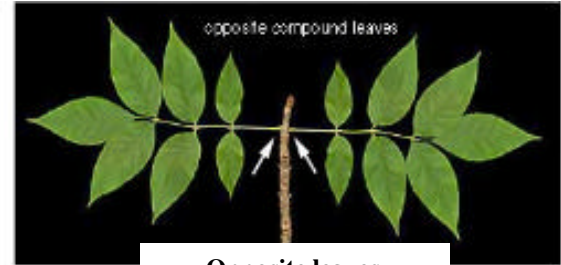
EAB attacks only members of the *Fraxinus* genus. Ash trees can be identified by looking at their foliage and bark. White ash (*Fraxinus americana*) and Green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*) are the common species found in Illinois. Mountain Ash is not a true ash and therefore is not threatened by EAB.

**Leaves** – oppositely arranged on twig, pinnately compound (several leaflets make up a leaf), and has 5 to 9 dark green leaflets.

**Leaflets** – either no stalk or very short stalks attached to the leaf stem; smooth or sometimes finely serrated (saw-toothed) on the upper half.

**Fall Color** – White ash – red and purple; Green ash – yellow and orange

**Bark** – young bark is usually flaky; light-gray to gray-brown, interlacing ridges and deep furrows forming diamond-shaped areas.



**Opposite leaves  
Pinnately Compound**

Photo: Univ. WI – Green Bay

For ID assistance visit UIPLANT at <http://wp.nres.uiuc.edu/plant/?g=Fraxinus>

### Check for Symptoms

After you have determined you have an ash tree, check for the following symptoms:

- \_\_\_ 1. Have you or your neighbors purchased or received firewood, landscape trees, logs, timbers or branches from Michigan since 2002, Ohio since 2003, or Indiana since 2003?
- \_\_\_ 2. Distinct, D-shaped exit holes in the bark. Small, about the size of a BB.
- \_\_\_ 3. Serpentine- shaped (snake-like) tunnels under the bark on the surface of the wood
- \_\_\_ 4. Young sprout growth clustered at the base of the tree
- \_\_\_ 5. Unusual activity by woodpeckers
- \_\_\_ 6. Die back on top third of tree
- \_\_\_ 7. Vertical splits in the bark



Emerald Ash Borer Adult



Emerald Ash Borer Larvae





**If you answered 'yes' to question #1** and your ash tree has two or more symptoms see list of contacts below.

**If you answered 'no' to question #1, but your ash tree has four of the symptoms (especially #2-4)** see list of contacts below.

Contact for assistance: You may be asked to submit samples and/or pictures.

- ✓ Call the national EAB hotline #866-EAB-4512
- ✓ Contact Illinois Dept of Agriculture #800-641-3934
- ✓ Take digital photos of tree and the symptoms it is expressing, email with your contact information to [AGR.EAB@illinois.gov](mailto:AGR.EAB@illinois.gov)
- ✓ Local University of Illinois Extension. To locate call #217-333-5900 or go to <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/state/index.html> and click on find an office.
- ✓ Certified arborist – to locate one in your area call #217-355-9411 or go to [www.isa-arbor.com/Arborist/findarborist.aspx](http://www.isa-arbor.com/Arborist/findarborist.aspx)
- ✓ Juliann Heminghouse, Illinois Department of Agriculture, EAB outreach Coordinator, #217-785-5575, [Juliann.Heminghouse@Illinois.gov](mailto:Juliann.Heminghouse@Illinois.gov)

**Due to the volume of contacts site visits will not be conducted by University of Illinois Extension**

<p>Distinct D-shaped exit holes in the bark. Small about the size of a BB</p>	
<p>Serpentine- shaped (snake-like) tunnels under the bark on the surface of the wood</p>	
<p>Die back on top third of tree</p>	
<p>Young sprout growth clustered at the base of the tree</p>	
<p>Vertical splits in the bark</p>	