

Threat of the Emerald Ash Borer



Hunterdon County Division of Parks and Recreation

Ash Trees—threatened with extinction



- ▶ The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive flying beetle from China, Korea & Japan.
- ▶ Adult beetles are an emerald green, brighter than any other beetle in North America
- ▶ Its length is equal to the diameter of a penny
- ▶ Larvae are approximately 30mm, cream colored, and have a 10-segmented abdomen.
- ▶ The adult form feeds on the edge of the leaves of an ash tree.
- ▶ Eggs are laid in the cracks of the bark. When the larvae hatch, they burrow into tree bark and begin feeding on the sapwood.

Do you have an ash tree?

Opposite Branching



Compound leaves 5-9



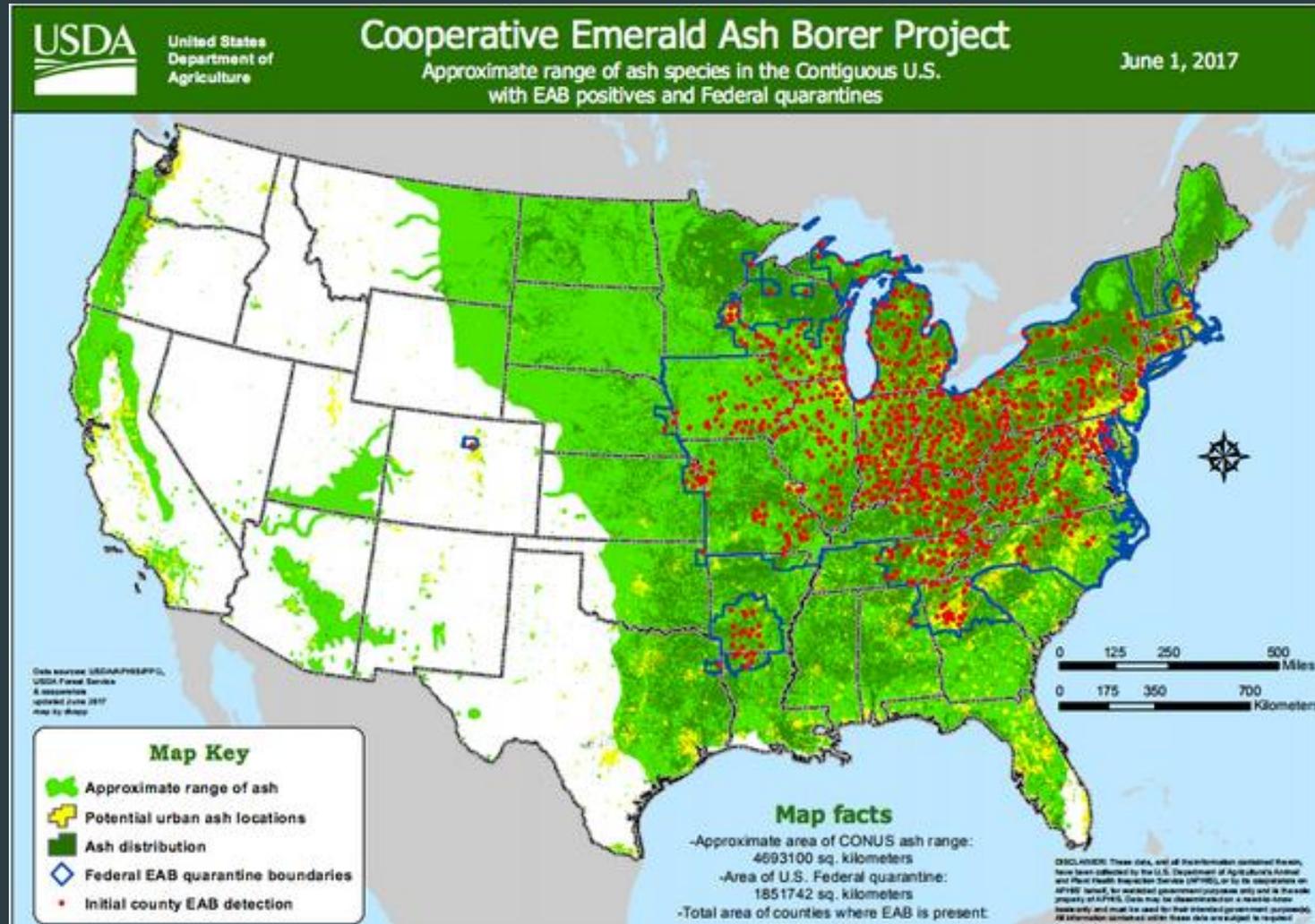
Diamond-patterned bark



White ash trees grow up to 80 feet tall and have a crown spread of about 50 feet. The white ash is famous for one of its basic wood products—the baseball bat. No other wood has the pliant, strong, yet light qualities of ash wood.

Where is the EAB now?

Emerald Ash Borer began its infestation in Michigan around 2002 and has been spreading ever since.



New Jersey

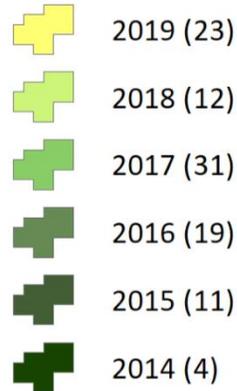
First detection in New Jersey occurred in 2014 and has since spread throughout the State.

EAB Detections in New Jersey

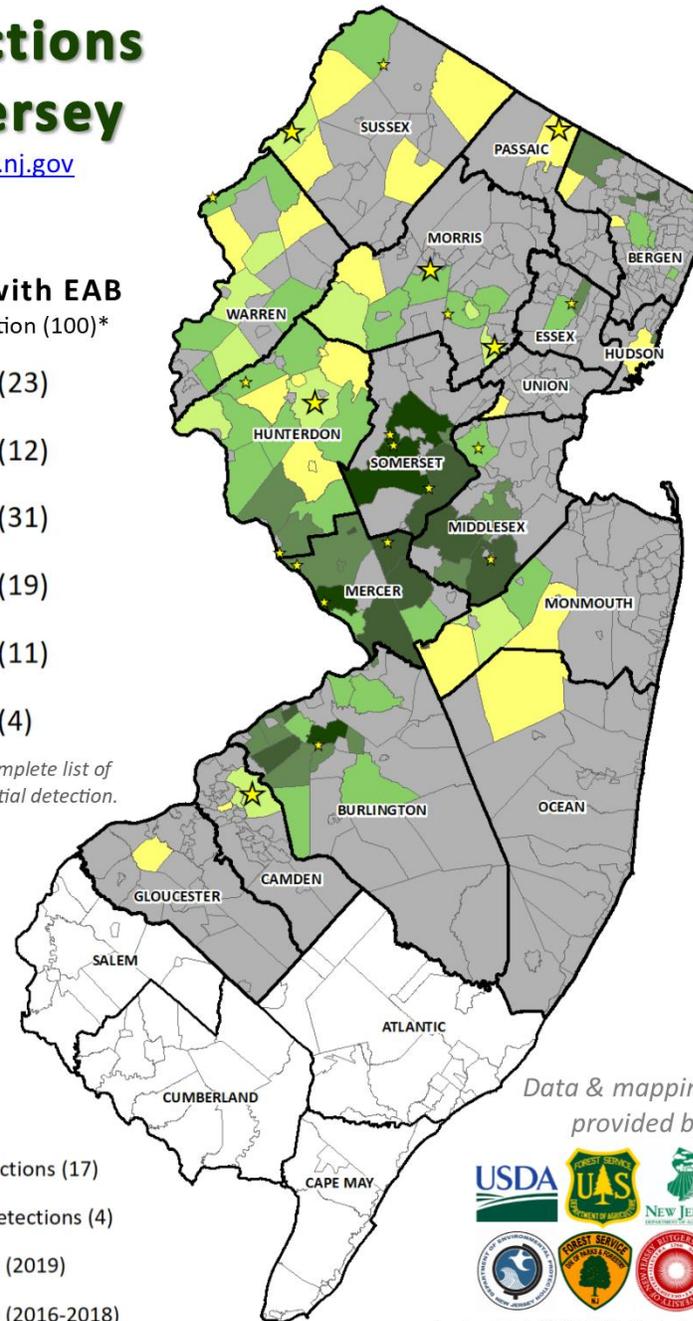
emeraldashborer.nj.gov

Municipalities with EAB

by Year of Initial Detection (100)*



*See following page for complete list of municipalities by year of initial detection.



- Counties with EAB Detections (17)
- Counties with no EAB Detections (4)
- Bio-control release sites (2019)
- Bio-control release sites (2016-2018)

Data & mapping provided by:



Last updated: 12/9/2019, Marie Cook

What does Emerald Ash Borer Do?

Emerald Ash Borer adults emerge in May or early June by creating D-shaped exit holes in the ash trees on the branches and trunks of infested trees. The female adult EAB feeds on the margins of the ash leaf. After feeding, the female EAB deposits eggs in bark crevices or under bark flaps on the trunk or bark. The adult beetle stays active until August. After the egg matures, larvae burrow under the bark and feed on the sapwood - the water and nutrient transporting layer of the tree. When enough of this layer is eaten the infected trees starve and begin to die. The larvae become adult beetles in April or May and start the process again.

Signs of the EAB

Signs that ash trees are dying or infested:

- Woodpecker activity
- Lack of leaf growth
- Broken branches, bark splits and other damage on the trees
- Exit holes
- Massive flecking of the bark



What to do if you have an affected tree?

- ▶ Any trees determined to be a high safety risk should be removed immediately.
- ▶ One should be conscious of their presence and remain a safe distance from any infected tree until a decision and arrangement for its removal can be made.
- ▶ In wooded areas, the decision to “do nothing” is an option, but it should be a conscious decision with the understanding that the ash trees will become infested if not already infested, and then die and fall. This should only be done in secluded areas where there is no/minimal risk associated with these trees when they die.

For additional information, recommendations, and updates from the State, please use the following link:

<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/emeraldashborer.html>

Click on these links for further information

- ▶ <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php>
- ▶ https://www.invasiveinsects.ca/eab/why_m.html
- ▶ <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/EAB/PersonalSafety.html>
- ▶ <https://www.na.fs.fed.us>