



**City of Dallas**

# **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Environmental and Sustainability**

**November 1, 2021**

**Urban Forest Task Force-Executive Team**

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# Presentation Overview

- Action Plan
- Monitoring Efforts
- Site Visit
- Next Steps



# EAB Overview

- The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a destructive non-native wood-boring pest of ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.). Native to Asia, the emerald ash borer beetle (EAB) was unknown in North America until its discovery in southeast Michigan in 2002. All native ash species are susceptible to attack. Ash trees with low population densities of EAB often have few or no external symptoms of infestation. EAB is a significant threat to urban, suburban, and rural forests as it kills both stressed and healthy ash trees. EAB is very aggressive and ash trees may die within two or three years after they become infested.





# Action Plan

- COD Forestry Technical Team partnering with state and federal agencies to develop comprehensive proactive and reactive plan for all forested areas
- Combines existing monitoring efforts with action steps to implement additional activities





# Action Plan

- Includes management strategies and will rely on best management practices for public and private partners to:
  - Assess and monitor forested areas across the City
  - Explore existing canopies and fuel loads for safety of adjacent neighborhoods
  - Increase biodiversity through supplemental plantings of trees to encourage additional flora and fauna
- Anticipated completion Spring 2022
  - Drafts to be provided for public comment





# Monitoring Efforts

- Working with Texas A&M Forest Service to provide constant updates on EAB status
- 8 traps were strategically placed within Dallas city limits in 2021 (additional in the County)
- Traps removed with no sign of EAB in August 2021
- Adults most active early summer





# Monitoring Efforts

- Ash Tree Inventory
  - Compared 2014 Park Tree Inventory in 43 Parks to current ash populations at same locations
  - Found increased ash populations along creeks and waterways
  - Equal or less ash trees found in other parks
  - Additional inventories throughout 2022 and 2023



## Active Site Visit

- Opportunity to visit an active site that will show effects of EAB activity
- Friday, June 3, 2022
- Camp Broadway, Lake



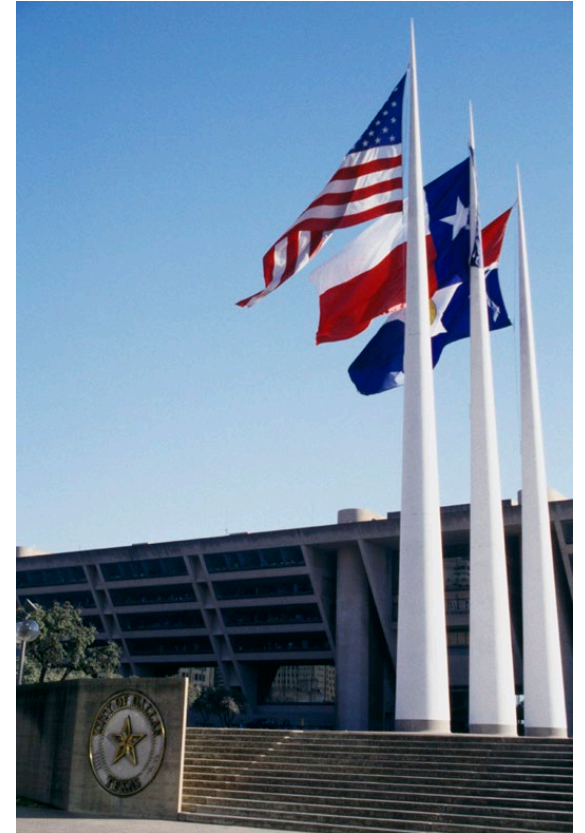


## Next Steps

- Continue working with Texas A&M Forest Service on monitoring movement of the beetle in the region
- Continue public education efforts through ongoing meetings, field assessments and interactive updates to the Urban Forestry website  
(<https://dallascityhall.com/projects/forestry/Pages/home.aspx>)
- Continue inventory efforts and targeted actions (“SLAM”)

# Questions?

Urban Forest Task Force-Technical Team  
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@DallasWaterUtilities



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