

EMERALD ASH BORER PLAN FOR THE VILLAGE OF GRANVILLE NOVEMBER, 2006

PURPOSE:

By implementing the provisions of this management plan, the Village is attempting to mitigate the disruption of the urban forest caused by the pending infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Taking a proactive approach to the invasion will enable the Village to address public and private needs in an efficient and effective manner.

The EAB is an introduced pest that is killing ash trees in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana and Ontario, Canada. Since its discovery in Detroit, Michigan, the EAB has been responsible for killing all ash trees in its path. The Village of Granville must prepare to manage this pest on three fronts; street trees, park trees and trees on private property. Therefore this plan will apply throughout the Village on all public properties where ash trees are currently growing as well as on private property where ash trees may create a hazardous condition for public rights-of-way or other public properties (parks).

While no one can predict when the insect will arrive in Granville it has already been detected in several Delaware County and Franklin County locations. The Tree & Landscape Commission, working in conjunction with the Granville Service Department, will be responsible for implementing the plan and feel some early measures should be in place before infestation occurs to prevent a problem with public safety, budgeting and logistics.

As of the January 2002 survey, ash trees represent about nine (9)% of Granville's urban forest of 1600 (+/-). Including park trees may increase the total to about the 10 to 12% range. Of those trees, all public right-of-way trees would be considered in 'good' condition.

The T&L recommends that existing ash trees be left standing as long as the tree canopy displays no significant evidence of distress or die back. Since it is unlikely that all ash trees would be infected at the same time and / or die at the same rate, by allowing the trees to continue to flourish and provide beauty and shade in the Village, removals can be more easily handled by the Service Department over a prolonged period of time.

STREET TREES:

1. The Village will remove dead ash trees on street rights-of-way. Those presenting a public hazard will be removed first.

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NOTE: All adjacent property owners will be notified of planned removals and subsequent replacement plantings.

2. Resident requests reporting a dead ash tree on a right-of-way in front of their property, will be honored as soon as possible.

3. The Village does not intend to apply pesticide treatments . At this time, such treatments have not proven effective in deterring the infestation of the EAB.

4. As the budget permits, ash trees will be replaced with other species which will enhance the site and add to the diversity of the urban forest. Plantings will be in the 1 ¾ to 2” caliper range to comply with ordinance 40-05. Section 909.11. The T&L will determine which replacement specie will best suit the site of the removed tree.

5. Diseased wood will be handled by the Village within the guidelines established by the Ohio Department of Agriculture.

PARK TREES:

1. At this time, no inventory exists of the ash trees in Village parks. It is not our intent to inventory these trees.

2. Ash trees in a wooded park will be left alone. These trees will die once infested by the EAB. They will be left in the woods to decompose unless they represent a hazard to public safety to park users, in which case they will be felled and left.

TREES ON PRIVATE PROPERTIES:

1. We acknowledge there are numerous ash trees on private properties in Granville. No reliable inventory exists and the density varies with the size of the property.

2. The Village will enforce the relevant section of Ordinance 40-05, Section 909-03. Basically, trees on private property that threaten public safety, pedestrian or vehicular traffic, will be inspected and if found to fall under the terms of the Ordinance, will be handled by the Village. All other ash trees on private property are the responsibility of the property owners.

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3. Property owners are urged to monitor the EAB movement. The decision to remove or otherwise maintain ash trees on their property rests with the owners. The Village encourages residents to replace trees lost with a tree appropriate for the site. Local garden centers as well as the T&L, would be willing to offer specie suggestions if requested to do so.

4. To assist the residents, the Village will offer curbside pickup, chipping and disposal of infected trees.

COMMUNICATION:

1. The mayor, Village manager, Assistant Village manager, and Village Council will receive periodic briefings through normal channels.

2. All media relations will follow normal Village protocol.

3. Communication with the public will be by means of;
a. Village web page
b. Mailed flyers or brochures at the Village Office desk.

BUDGET:

1. Average cost (estimated) for removal of one tree (developed by the Service Department):

\$ 625.00

(includes chipping/stump grinding)

2. Replacement cost:

Based on average tree cost of \$250.00

Based on 40 trees per year

\$10,000