

NOTICE

Emerald Ash Borer Beetle (EAB) Confirmed on Georgina Island

The Emerald Ash Borer Beetle has been detected on the east side of Georgina Island at Loon Road. Several Ash displayed symptoms of stress typical of EAB infestation: bark peel, dead/declining limbs, woodpecker and nuthatch feeding. Upon removal and closer examination, EAB larvae and associated serpentine galleries were evident.

The Emerald Ash Borer Beetle is an invasive insect from Asia, most likely transported in wooden shipping containers. Like most Invasives it doesn't have any natural predators in its new environment and is quick to adapt and spread. **This means the ash trees in our forests can be killed, affecting our air and water quality, as well as our economy and cultural practices. Plant pests can also deprive animals of their habitat and damage private property.**

It is for this reason we have had the **Firewood Transport Ban** in place, to assist in the mitigation of invasive pests and plants that will put our forests at further risk. Tens of millions of ash trees in forest, rural, and urban areas have already been killed or are heavily infested by this pest.

It is hoped that the infestation can be contained and eliminated through recommended actions as per the GIFN Ash Tree Management and Monitoring Plan.

EAB Survey Traps will be installed by the First Nation as in previous years to assist in further detection of EAB and as well as to determine the extent of the infestation.

Inspections of Ash trees will continue on Band Lands. If you are a Landowner and suspect that your Ash may be showing signs of infestation please report at your earliest convenience.

Your cooperation is greatly appreciated – ChMiiigwetch!

For more information contact:

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