

SAVE-AN-ASH FORM

Please return this form, **with your payment, by May 15** to be considered for the spring EAB treatment period.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to keep up-to-date on this project by email

Please choose one or more of the following options and complete the table on back:

ADOPT AN ASH

I would like to adopt _____ public ash tree(s) in Fitchburg along the city street at the following address:

I would like to adopt _____ public ash tree(s) in a park:

DONATE TO SAVE-AN-ASH FUND

I would like to make a donation to the Fitchburg Save-an-Ash fund. The City will choose the tree(s) to treat. A tree with a 30" circumference (~10 inch diameter) will cost roughly \$50 to protect for 2 years.

\$100 \$50 \$25

\$15 Other amount: _____

TREE ASSESSMENT

The city forester will assess adopted trees to ensure they're healthy and large enough (+13" circumference) for treatment.

Ed.Bartell@city.fitchburg.wi.us | Phone: 608-270-4289



*Brought to you by the
Fitchburg Tree Advisory Committee*

03/13



*Green ash trees in
Tower Hill Park*

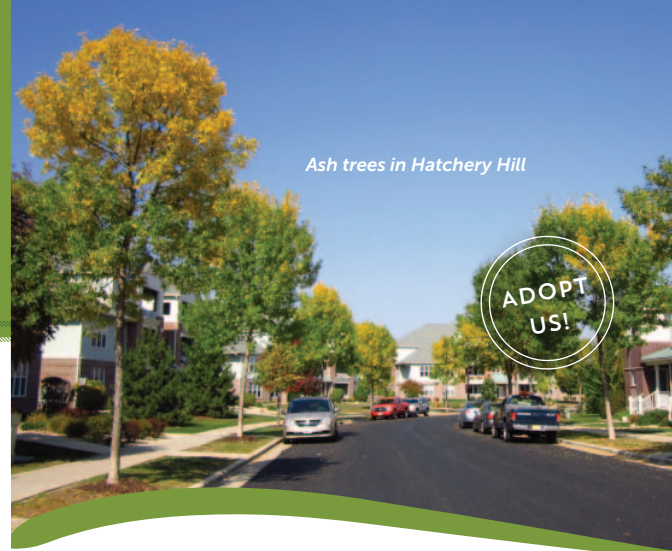


*White ash tree
near Agora*

Friends of Fitchburg Forests Present: SAVE-AN-ASH

Emerald ash borer (EAB) is spreading throughout Wisconsin and threatening our ash trees. It takes several years and is 100% lethal if the tree is not treated with the appropriate insecticide. To prevent this devastation to our ash population, the City of Fitchburg has purchased special equipment to inject insecticide into the city-owned ash trees in parks and along streets.

However, due to costs, the city budget allows us to save only 80 of our approximately 800 public ash trees. These 80 are our largest ash trees and the majority of them are located in parks. **Help save one or more other public ash trees!**



Ash trees in Hatchery Hill

HERE IS WHERE YOU COME IN:

You can select a specific tree to adopt or make a general contribution toward the Save-an-Ash program. Think about saving a street tree in front of your house or a tree in your neighborhood park. Encourage your neighbors to adopt their street tree! **With your donation, the City will apply a 2-year insecticide treatment** and tag the tree(s) that you helped save from EAB.

**More information about
Friends of Fitchburg Forests' program**

SAVE-AN-ASH

Visit the website: <http://bit.ly/save-an-ash>

FAQS

What is Emerald Ash Borer? As an adult, this pest is a long, metallic green insect. Its larva bore into ash trees to feed, interrupting the flow of nutrients and water and killing the tree.



More questions continued inside...



Treatment for Emerald Ash Borer

Green ash trees in McKee Farms Park



FAQS CONTINUED

Why? Saving our ash trees makes sense. Trees absorb carbon dioxide and produce oxygen. They provide shade for homes and surrounding areas. Trees create habitat for birds, bats and other animals. They enhance property values, providing beauty to homes. **A 10-inch diameter white ash tree provides about \$97 in overall benefits every year.** If the tree continues to grow to 15 inches, it will provide \$181 in annual benefits (National Tree Benefit Calculator). In addition, **the cost to save an ash from emerald ash borer destruction can be less than the \$500-1,000 cost to cut down an infested or dead tree, remove the wood and replant a new tree** in its spot. And, most likely, the new tree would be much smaller than the original ash.

How do I know if an ash on the street terrace in front of my house is one of the 80 scheduled to be treated by the city? You would have received a letter from the city letting you know if your street tree is targeted for treatment. If not, please consider sponsoring it for treatment.

When? The best time will be this spring. The insecticide works best when applied in **May and June**, but can be applied in September, depending on temperature and rainfall. The emerald ash borers' known location is within reach of Dane County (less than 25 miles) and might already be here. Once the borer has burrowed into a tree, it is harder to protect the tree from dying, though it is possible to save a tree with less than 50% canopy dieback. We need to take preventative measures now.

If you can't make the May 15 application deadline, a second round of treatments will be offered in early fall. Applications will need to be submitted by September 1.

How much will it cost to Save-an-Ash? A tree that has a 10" diameter at breast height (dbh) or about a 30" circumference will cost approximately \$50.00. **The treatment will last 2 years.** That is a cost of only \$25.00 per year. Every two years, participants will be notified that they can opt to re-treat the tree(s) they adopted for an additional cost.

What if the ash I adopted becomes infested with EAB?

Studies show that the chemical (emamectin benzoate) we will use for treatment is 99% effective for at least 2 years. In the case that a treated tree declines in health or dies due to EAB or another cause, the city will remove and replace the tree.

How do I know my ash tree is infested? Typically, the tree starts to die at the top and it may start to sprout around the base or along the trunk. Borer emergence holes are D-shaped but are hard to detect when they are at the top of the tree.

Who is responsible for the ash trees if they die? On city land, the city will remove trees. These areas include the street terrace, boulevards and parks. In your yard, you are responsible for its removal and proper disposal of the debris.

Can I treat an ash tree myself? No, if the tree is on public property, including the street terrace. Contact city forester Ed Bartell for permission. **Yes, if the tree is on your own private property.** A professional arborist might use an insecticide injection system like the city or s/he might use a soil drench. Consider which type of application you would like. The injection system goes directly into the tree and does not affect the surrounding soil and plants. With the soil drench, the insecticide is poured onto the soil around the base of the tree. It is then taken up by the roots of the tree. Note that the soil drench is an annual application. **If your tree is greater than 50 inches in circumference, professional treatment is recommended.**

- If using a professional service, we recommend using an insured, certified arborist. Search "Fitchburg Forestry" for referral list.
- If doing it yourself, please refer to the UW Extension web page <http://labs.russell.wisc.edu/eab/> for Homeowner Guide to EAB Insecticide Treatment.

SAVE-AN-ASH FORM

SAVE-AN-ASH Donation	Address/Park	Tree Size (circumference inches)	Cost* (per inch)	Total Cost (Tree Size x Cost)
Adopted Tree #1			\$1.60	
Adopted Tree #2			\$1.60	
Adopted Tree #3			\$1.60	
General Donation for Save-An-Ash Program				
			Total Donation	

*Cost: \$1.60 per inch circumference (measured at 4.5 feet above ground). Note: Each application is good for two years.

METHOD OF PAYMENT: Cash Check (Make payable to "City of Fitchburg")

Credit Card (VISA/Mastercard/American Express) **Credit Card #:** _____ **Expires:** _____ / _____

Credit card payment may also be made online at www.city.fitchburg.wi.us.

Drop off or send in this form with cash or check payment by May 15 (or Sept 1 for fall application):

City of Fitchburg, 5520 Lacy Rd, Fitchburg, WI 53711