Emerald Ash Borer is Coming to Town
Exotics we have known
ALB vs EAB  How serious?

ALB destroyed 1500 trees in Chicagoland

EAB destroyed 15,000,000 ash trees in Michigan so far, 20,000,000 all together

ALB is big, slow and stupid

EAB a good flier, is prolific and ravenous

ALB was found shortly after arrival

EAB was likely present in Michigan and Canada for 10 or more years before detection
ALB vs. EAB

- Huge exit holes
- “D” shaped, 1/8 inch
Meet the emerald ash borer

1/2” long
1/8” wide
Biology

- From China, though not a pest there
- Believed to affects all ash, and a few obscure species
- Beetles emerge in May through June, feed on ash foliage
Biology

- Females can lay 65 – 90 eggs in its lifetime, laid in bark crevices
- Hatch in 7 –10 days, larvae chew through bark
- First instar (larva) feeds on phloem and causes the damage
- Insect over winters in the phloem
- Emerges as an adult the following May - June
Diagnosing EAB

Resembles common ash problems

- Ash decline and native ash borers

- Similarity delayed identification in MI for 5–10 years
EAB Damage

Cuts off flow of water and nutrients
EAB damage
EAB damage
What is at risk?
The urban forest in the Chicago area is 20% ash!
Northeast IL at Risk from:

- Firewood! –
  - not regulated in IL (nor other states)
- Wood processors & mills
- Nurseries
- Recent ash plantings
- Shipping hubs
The infestation

- First identified in Detroit area in July 2002
- Found in Windsor, Canada October 2002
- Michigan quarantined 6 counties in 2002, estimated that 6,000,000 ash trees were killed
- Michigan added 7 more counties in August 2003, estimated 12,000,000 trees were killed
The infestation

- Found in 3 counties in Ohio in 2003
- One limited infestation occurred in Maryland in September 2003
- Found in St. Joseph, MI in January 2004
- Found in eastern Indiana in 2004
- 34 counties in Michigan have EAB in 2005
- Found near Indianapolis, IN in January 2006
- FOUND in a subdivision west of St. Charles Illinois, June 8, and Wilmette, July 13, 2006
Where is EAB?

Wilmette
Lily Lake/ St. Charles
June 8, 2006

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Magnitude of Infestation

- Michigan has 30 counties affected
  - almost 15,000 sq miles under quarantine
  - Lost 15,000,000 trees

- Ohio has 14 counties affected
  - had (2004) 460 sq miles in under quarantine
  - lost 29,000 trees (August 2004)

- Indiana has 7 counties affected
  - had about 100 sq miles under quarantine

- Maryland had 1 contained infestation and lost 900 trees
Regional Response

- Ontario – Ash-Free Zone
- Michigan – Containment Zones
- Virginia – 1 contained infestation!
- Indiana – impact of decision not to eradicate
- Regional Firewood Forum – May 2006

- Federal funding request 2006 - $60 million
- Federal appropriation $8 million
EAB is inevitable in Illinois

- Magnitude of Devastation in Midwest
- Proximity to Michigan
- Prevalence of Ash

But we have the advantage of:

- ALB Experience
- 2 ½ years of Planning & Collaboration

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Readiness Planning Since 2003

- Assembled Readiness Planning Team - 36 organizations
- Established network for communication
- Assessed resources and needs
- Drafted Readiness Plan
- Now implementing plan

- Cooperation, surveys, outreach, education, risk analysis, firewood policy,

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Who is in Charge?

- **Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA)** is *the* lead agency for all regulatory action.

- **USDA APHIS PPQ** will assist with regulatory and control action at the request of the state.

- **US Forest Service (USFS)** provides support through research, administrative coordination, and possibly funding.

- **Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR)** is the state level supportive agency, no regulatory authority.
Illinois’ Response - APHIS Recommends:

- **Detection**
  - Trap trees best – dissect trees when possible
  - Visual surveys not effective

- **Regulation**
  - Quarantine – at full county level, federal and state

- **Control**
  - Eradication is only proven control – all infested trees and ½ to 1 ½ miles beyond is suggested
  - Pesticides not endorsed

- **Research**
- **Operations**
- **Outreach**
What happens when it is found?

- Delimiting survey by APHIS and IDA agriculture
- IDA to ‘declare EAB a nuisance’, set quarantine zones, may also be federal quarantine
- Public hearing held at all stages of regulation
- Actual Eradication efforts to be determined, dependent upon resources, public input
- Plan is to follow federal guidelines, cut all infested ash and ½ to 1 ½ miles beyond, after adult flight season (fall)
IDNR has prepared a detailed Community Readiness Plan based on National Incident Mgmt. System to guide planning & response.
What do we do?

- Educate Public & Respond to possible sitings
- Be Aware of Firewood Operations
- Cooperate with Detection Survey
- Inventory tree population
- Manage for future ash loss
- Be calm and prepared
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