



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EMERALD ASH BORER DETECTED IN BELOIT, WI**

**Beloit, Wisconsin (April 25, 2013)** – On Wednesday, April 24, 2013 officials from the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture confirmed that the emerald ash borer (EAB) was found in Beloit. Mike Ferger, Forestry Operations Supervisor said the infested tree was located on LaSalle Street and was identified by the city's forestry crew during a scheduled removal of the tree. The crew observed 1/8 inch wide D-shaped holes, wood pecker damage and split bark.

As a reminder, Rock County is under quarantine for the EAB. Residents are encouraged to continue to follow the quarantine guidelines as set by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection. Materials regulated under Wisconsin's EAB quarantine include all hardwood firewood; ash products such as timber, pallets, mulch and trimmings; and ash nursery stock. Businesses that deal with these products can apply for a variety of certificates or exemptions that are not available to the general public.

In addition to the quarantine in Rock County, the following counties also remain regulated: Brown, Crawford, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, La Crosse, Milwaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Ozaukee, Trempealeau, Vernon, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha. Updates to this list can be found at [www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov/](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov/).

The emerald ash borer was initially discovered near Detroit, Michigan in 2002. It was likely transported to North America accidentally in wooden shipping crates from China. The EAB has destroyed millions of ash trees since being detected in North America. It is the beetle's larvae that actually kill the host ash tree by tunneling through the soft wood just under the bark that supplies the tree with food and water. Large, healthy trees can succumb to EAB within three to five years.

Beloit residents concerned about the health of their ash trees should consult a local professional arborist, tree care specialist or call the Department of Public Works at (608) 364-2929. There are a variety of treatments available for homeowners with varying levels of efficacy that can be found in local garden centers and hardware stores. Professionals can help assess the status of a tree and offer advice on whether it is worth considering treatments.

For additional information about emerald ash borer please visit the Wisconsin EAB Website at [www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov) or the City of Beloit's website, <http://bit.ly/11GLbSe>.

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