



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**EMERALD ASH BORER DETECTED**

*Trees Scheduled for Removal*

**May 5, 2017** – According to “Wisconsin’s Emerald Ash Borer Information Source,” The Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive, wood boring beetle that kills ash trees by eating the tissues under the bark. Unfortunately, it is estimated that 50 million ash trees are dead or dying in the Midwest because of this insect.

The presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Beloit has created the need for tree removal. While the Forestry Division has treated many of the Ash trees, it is cost prohibitive to treat them all, and treatment slows, but doesn’t stop, the progression of the EAB.

A contractor is currently removing ash trees on the City’s near East Side. Beginning the week of May 8, 2017, the contractor will begin removing approximately 50 trees in Riverside Park. Mike Ferger, Operations Forestry Supervisor assures the public that the reforestation of Riverside Park is a priority and, through careful planning, trees will be restocked over a period of time.

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