



City of
BELOIT, Wisconsin
Public Works Operations



CITY OF JANESVILLE
Wisconsin's Park Place

2351 Springbrook Court • Beloit, WI 53511
Office: (608) 364-2929 • Fax: (608) 364-2930

www.ci.beloit.wi.us

Equal Opportunity Employer

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:

Mike Ferger, Forestry Operations Supervisor
City of Beloit, Department of Public Works
608-364-2929

Tom Presney, Parks Director
City of Janesville
608-755-3025

Mike Birkholz, Highway Superintendent
Town of Turtle
608-289-4571

COMMUNITIES UNITE TO MANAGE THE EMERALD ASH BORER

Rock County, WI (March 19, 2013 – The City of Beloit, the City of Janesville, and the Town of Turtle are collaborating for the detection, control and suppression of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). This partnership will help each community handle the potential devastation which could be caused by the EAB. The following activities will be managed jointly: ash tree wood waste utilization, education, sharing of equipment and knowledge, joint chemical treatment plans, and procurement of supplies. Mike Ferger, City of Beloit Forestry Operations Supervisor stated, “It is important for everyone in Rock County to work together on this topic, including the private landscape companies. Each agency should provide the same information to local residents, so everyone is hearing the same message.” Neighboring Public Works Departments are also invited to join this partnership. Municipalities across the county are striving to work together as funding, manpower, supplies and equipment are decreasing. “This is a great example of partnership that occurs with the Public Works Departments in the surrounding communities for the betterment of our communities,” stated Tom Presney, Parks Director at the City of Janesville.

These partners will host an informational booth at the City of Beloit’s Farmers’ Market on May 18, 2013. Residents are encouraged to stop by and pick up educational materials about EAB.

The City of Janesville had an initial outbreak of EAB and Rock County is under quarantine. The quarantine means that no one is allowed to transport wood into or out of Rock County. Mike Birkholz, Highway Superintendent stated “the Town of Turtle is dedicated to this partnership because staff from each community feels that resident have heard about EAB, but we want to take the next step to mitigate this green menace.”

If you have questions, you may contact any of the three municipalities listed to inquire or see if you have an infected ash tree in your area.