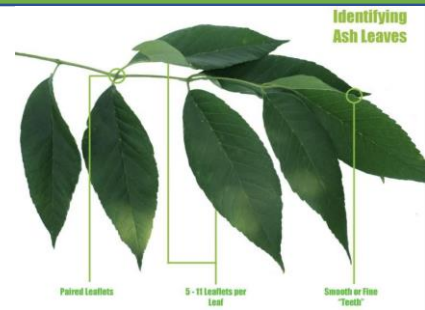


## SWCD Ash Tree Management Recommendations:



Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive wood-boring beetle that infests all species of Ash trees. It's responsible for the loss of millions of ash trees in North America, including Manitowoc County. This guide is a common-sense approach to dealing with EAB and removing dead Ash trees from your landscape.



### Symptoms & Signs of EAB:



Dieback

Epicormic Branching

Woodpecker Damage

Bark Splits

### If you own land on:

#### 1) City streets, rural lots and small acreages

- a) Treat healthy, non-infested trees with approved insecticides to save a few trees. A yearly dose is usually needed. Seek professional help from a forester, arborist or certified landscaper. Once trained and with proper equipment, landowners can do it themselves. [Homeowner Guide to Emerald Ash Borer Insecticide Treatments – Wisconsin Horticulture](#)
- b) Cut them down and replant a new tree, shrub or design new landscapes with other species to restore the space. Hire professionals to remove trees in yards and contact your city, town or village for any trees in right-of-way or under municipal jurisdiction. They will have removal, replanting plans and requirements for these areas.

#### 2) Large rural lots, farms and large acreages

- a) See 1(a) above for treating trees on a small scale, you may be able to save a few in the yard.
- b) If the trees are located away from buildings, other valued trees, and regularly traveled paths, consider leaving the dead trees to fall on their own and let nature take its course.
- c) Cut them down. Use professional foresters, arborists and loggers to help with large areas and to develop plans for removal and replanting. There may be some timber and forest product value if the pest has not gotten to all of the trees. Some may be used for lumber, firewood or ground into wood chips for processing. If you have the skills, knowledge, equipment and safety gear you will have to decide if you're comfortable and physically able to tackle this project. Be careful, ash trees get weak and brittle soon after dying and limbs and tops breaking off during felling can come back hitting you or bystanders creating a life threatening situation. Don't transport your trees or firewood to other areas. [Conducting a Successful Timber Sale — The Learning Store \(wisc.edu\)](#)
- d) In an existing lawn you can replant areas with shrubs, EAB resistant tree varieties, prairie plant gardens or create prairie pollinator plots. In non-manicured areas, forests and swamps you can replant with species not affected by EAB or just let nature take over with natural succession where grasses, shrubs, existing saplings and other native species will begin to grow with the increased sunlight exposure. Trees that will show up will be ash! Yes, the existing seeds and saplings will sprout and grow. As the younger ash mature they may too also die if attacked by the beetle. Trees that may show up in their place may be willows, cottonwoods, aspen, boxelder, red maple and many various native shrubs.

## Ash Tree Replacement Options:

When replanting on good, well drained soils, just about any native tree species, shrub grouping, native prairie grass mix or pollinator prairie planting can work if the site is prepared properly.

However, when replanting in lowland, wetter sites and/or in wetlands you may have to stick with a few species known and adapted to wet areas:

### Lowlands:

*White Cedar*                      *Swamp White Oak*   *Red or Silver Maple*                      *Hackberry*  
*River & Yellow Birch*                      *Black Spruce*                      *Red Osier Dogwood*                      *Tamarack*

### Waterlogged Sites:

*Red or Silver Maple*                      *Red Osier Dogwood*                      *Black Spruce*                      *Cedar*  
*Tamarack*

For Additional Recommendations Visit: [Short list ash alternatives \(wisc.edu\)](#)

## Purchasing Replacement Trees & Creating Restoration Plans:



On certain sites combined with a good restoration plan and hard work, it's possible to create a better more diverse wildlife habitat area than you had before in your backyard or forested area.

- **WI DNR Nursery:** [Ordering tree and shrub seedlings | | Wisconsin DNR](#)
- **Private, Bare Root Reforestation Nurseries:** [Bare root reforestation nurseries | | Wisconsin DNR](#)
- **Camp Tapawingo Tree Sale:** [Home | Friends of Wisconsin Camp Tapawingo Corporation \(camptapawingowi.org\)](#)
- **Van Der Brohe Arboretum Tree Sale:** [Van der Brohe Arboretum & Bird Sanctuary](#)

**Landowner Assistance:** Conservation programs may be available to landowners to help with restorative efforts in rural and agricultural areas through agencies like:

- **USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service Local Office:** 920-683-5119 [Service Center Locator | Natural Resources Conservation Service \(usda.gov\)](#)
- **WDNR Local Office:** 920-901-6272 [Professional Forestry Assistance | | Wisconsin DNR](#)
- **US Fish & Wildlife:** 920-866-1717 [Green Bay Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office | U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service \(fws.gov\)](#)
- **Manitowoc County Soil & Water Conservation Department:** 920-683-4183 [Manitowoc County - Soil and Water Conservation \(manitowoccountywi.gov\)](#)
- **Contact your local municipality to learn how they are implementing removal and restoration plans**

## Weed & Invasive Plant Control after Ash Tree Removal:

After cutting, monitor and watch for non-native or invasive plant infestations like phragmites, garlic mustard, buckthorn, wild parsnip and Japanese knotweed to name a few.



Phragmites

Garlic Mustard

Buckthorn

Wild Parsnip

Japanese Knotweed

If you recognize any of these invasive plants contact one of the agencies below to get help before an invasive becomes established.



**Glacierland RC&D:** 906-284-0533 [Forestry-Wildlife-Water | Glacierland RC&D \(glacierlandrcd.org\)](#)

**WDNR Forester:** 920-901-6272 [Forestry Assistance Locator - WI Department of Natural Resources](#)

**WDNR Biologist:** 920-662-5162 [Invasive Species Contacts | | Wisconsin DNR](#)

**SWCD:** 920-683-4183 [Manitowoc County - Soil and Water Conservation \(manitowocountywi.gov\)](#)

Many on the shelf chemicals sold at local stores are available for use to remove small areas or individual invasive plants when used with caution and following manufacturers labels. Use chemicals wisely and in conjunction with on-line bulletins from accredited sources (See Additional Resources, Below)

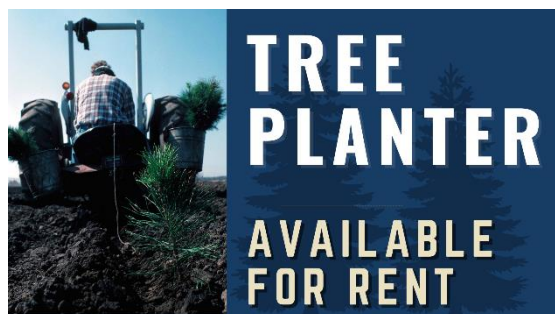
## Additional Invasive Plant & Animal and Forestry Resources:

**UW Extension:** [Weed Control – Wisconsin Horticulture](#)

**WI DNR Invasive Species:** [Invasives | Wisconsin DNR](#)

**Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)** [USDA APHIS | Emerald Ash Borer](#)

**Department of Agriculture Trade & Consumer Protection:** [Emerald Ash Borer Resource Guide - Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection \(wisconsin.gov\)](#)



**Manitowoc County Soil & Water** has two tree planters available for rent to accommodate large-scale plantings. Contact the SWCD for details and to reserve the planter: 920-683-4183 [Manitowoc County - Soil and Water Conservation \(manitowocountywi.gov\)](#)