



TREEmendous News

TreeMasters, Inc.

Summer, 2009

HEY, JEFF!

TreeMasters' Registered Consulting Arborist, Jeff Ling, recently sat down to give us an update on the EAB Status:



What is the Emerald Ash Borer? The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a recently-introduced, exotic, boring pest of ash trees. It was discovered in 2002 in the Detroit area. Most likely, it arrived on untreated wood packaging imported from China. Since 2002 it has spread to many other states killing millions of Ash.

The map below shows EAB exposure in Indiana as of February, 2009. This map will be updated and the quarantine expanded

in June. If you are living in NE Indiana, you are at imminent risk. The dark shaded areas on the map share this exposure as well.

I have a beautiful Ash tree in my yard. What can I do to save it? It is up to you to decide to have your high value trees protected. The good news is that ash trees can be protected. The annual treatment is applied to the soil near the base of the tree and is environmentally benign. The tree absorbs the product from the soil and it spreads throughout the canopy of the tree and lasts for the entire season. When the EAB begins to feed on the tree, it ingests the product and is killed.

Prevention is the key to success! The arborists at TreeMasters can help you decide if the tree is worth the annual cost of treatment. If the Ash tree is small and/or there are other trees that occupy the same space, you should consider removal and replacement with a different type of tree.

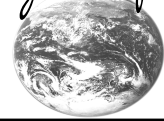
What other pests should I worry about?

The EAB gets a lot of press, but over 50 insects feed on and damage trees and shrubs.

One of the newest and most noticed pests is the **Bagworm**. This larva feeds on nearly all evergreens and is identified by the little pyramid bags they live in. High numbers can strip evergreens of all needles. Bagworms feed on deciduous trees, also. TreeMasters utilizes pyrethrin which offers full control with the lowest environmental impact.

The **Mimosa Webworm** is a pest focused almost exclusively on Honey Locust trees. They produce a small netted bag of leaves at the end of twigs. Many times the worms will dangle from silken threads, creating a distasteful landscape experience. The worms will attach a silken cocoon to trees, houses, and any other non-moving hardscapes adjacent to the tree; these become extremely difficult to remove. TreeMasters relies on systemic insecticides which have no environmental consequences outside the trees and only impact those insects feeding on the leaves.

creating better futures



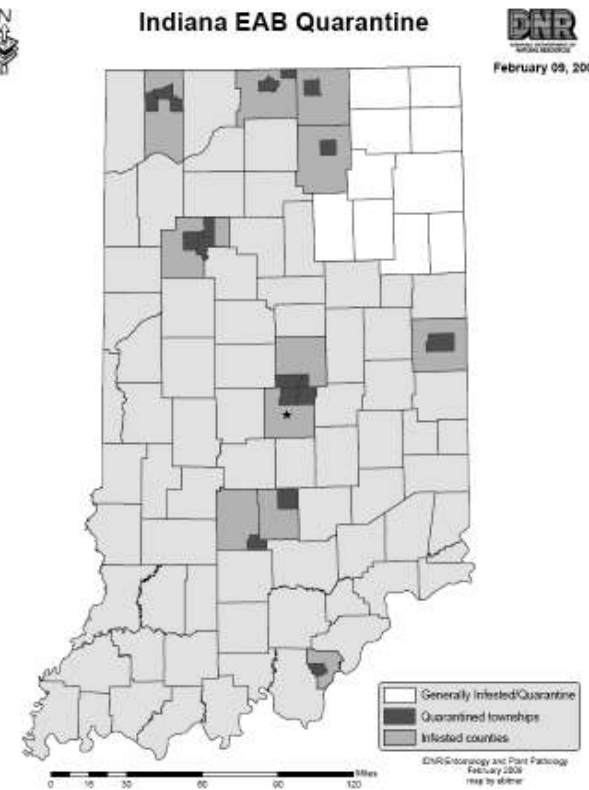
Celebrating Arbor Day

The first Arbor Day took place in 1872 in Nebraska. It was the brainchild of Julius Sterling Morton (1832-1902), a Nebraska journalist and politician. Throughout his long and productive career, Morton worked to improve agricultural techniques in his state and throughout the United States when he served as President Grover Cleveland's Secretary of Agriculture, but his most important legacy is Arbor Day, a special day to be dedicated to tree planting and increasing awareness of the importance of trees. The first Arbor Day was an amazing success: more than one million trees were planted.

Arbor Day is also now celebrated in other countries including Australia. Variations are celebrated as 'Greening Week' in Japan, 'The New Year's Days of Trees' in Israel, and 'The Tree-loving Week' of Korea. Julius Morton would be proud. Sometimes one good idea can make a real difference.

Arbor Day is an excellent opportunity to take stock of the trees on your property and plan for the future. Inspect your trees. Note any broken branches or evidence of disease or insect infestation. Planting new trees might improve the look of your property or provide wind or heat protection. Take a trip to your local nursery to see what's available and to get new ideas. Are there any areas where tree planting or tree maintenance might make a real difference in your area? And, oh yes, plant a tree.

Arbor Day is April 24th.



Around a flowering tree, one finds many insects. -Proverb from Guinea



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**SPRING IS THE BEST
TIME TO CREATE YOUR
TREE-CARE PLAN!**

Consequences of the Winter Ice Storm

One cannot appreciate the damage ice causes to trees until they've experienced a heavy ice storm. Fortunately, major ice storms do not occur on a regular basis. The trees that normally take the brunt of the damage - Chinese and Siberian elms, poplars, silver maples, birches and willows - are the predictable victims. All of these species have brittle wood and are easily damaged by ice and wind storms.

Homeowners often plant fast-growing species like the ones mentioned above for rapid shade. Fast-growing trees normally have brittle wood and develop weak, V-shaped crotches that easily split apart under added weight. Often, trees with extensive internal rot and decay that may not have been evident from the exterior receive severe damage.

Many times these trees overhang the house, driveway or power lines servicing the home. When large limbs or tree tops are broken in an ice storm, they can cause major damage and expense.

For homeowners with trees with major limb or top damage, the central question is: "Does the condition of the tree warrant efforts to save it or should it be removed?" Major tree repair can be expensive, but should be attempted if a large portion of the tree is still intact and efforts can be made to maintain its attractiveness and value to the property. While no one wants to remove a large, mature tree, the prudent decision may be to replace it with a young tree possessing desirable qualities. Have the professionals at TreeMasters, Inc. give an opinion regarding viability, future value, and consequences.

The second question to consider is: "Can you handle the damage repair yourself or should you seek professional help?" Power equipment should never be operated from a ladder or in the tree where firm footing is questionable. Removing hanging limbs should be left to a professional tree service like TreeMasters, Inc. Every year, hundreds of tree-owners are injured or killed as a result of trying to prune their trees. This is one reason why we give free estimates.

We are available to assist you with all your ice-damage questions and can help you preserve the life and beauty of your trees.