

Ash Tree Identification and Emerald Ash Borer Symptom Checklist

Identify Your Tree

Ash trees are easiest to identify when leaves are on the trees; however, it can be identified by looking at the bark in the wintertime.

Leaves – oppositely arranged on twig, pinnately compound (leaf is made up of several leaflets attached to a leaf stem), and has 5 to 9 dark green leaflets (usually 7 or 9)

Leaflets – either no stalks or very short stalks attached to the leaf stem; smooth or sometimes finely serrated on the upper half

Autumn color – green ash – yellow and orange; white ash – red and purple

Bark – young bark is usually flaky; forms tall, interlacing ridges and deep furrows with age

For more information, visit the Ohio Department of Natural Resources web site at www.dnr.state.oh.us.

Check for Symptoms

After you have determined that you have an ash tree, check for the following symptoms:

_____ Have you or your neighbors purchased or received firewood, landscape trees, logs, timber, or branches from Michigan in the last 5 years? (At this time, all EAB finds in Ohio are believed to be directly related to importation of ash tree material from Michigan.)

_____ Distinct, D-shaped exit holes in the bark

_____ Serpentine-shaped tunnels under the bark on the surface of the wood

_____ Young sprout growth clustered at the base of the tree

_____ Unusual activity by woodpeckers

_____ Die-back on the top third of the tree

_____ Vertical splits in the bark

If you answered “yes” to the first question **and** your tree has two or more symptoms, contact the Ohio Department of Agriculture at 888-OHIO-EAB or go to www.ohioagriculture.gov.

If the answer to the first question is “no,” but your ash tree has four of the symptoms (especially the first 3 or 4 listed), you should also contact ODA.

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