

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2016-63

September 30, 2016

Subject: APHIS Adds Dodge County and a Portion of St. Louis County in Minnesota to the Emerald Ash Borer (*Agilus planipennis*) Regulated Area

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is adding all of Dodge County and a portion of St. Louis County in Minnesota to the list of regulated areas for the emerald ash borer (EAB). APHIS is taking this action in response to the detection of EAB in Dodge and St. Louis Counties.

To prevent the spread of EAB to other states, the attached Federal Order outlines specific conditions for the interstate movement of EAB-regulated articles from the quarantined area in Minnesota. Specifically, the interstate movement of EAB-host wood and wood products from the quarantined areas in Minnesota is regulated, including firewood of all hardwood species, nursery stock, green lumber, waste, compost, and chips of ash species.

EAB is an invasive wood-boring beetle that is native to China and other areas of East Asia. The beetle is present in some portions of the United States, and because of its continuing spread, APHIS has established regulated areas that are designated in the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) at 7 CFR 301.53-3 and the Federal Orders located at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/eab_quarantine

The interstate movement of firewood from quarantined areas is an especially high-risk pathway for the spread of EAB. Therefore, APHIS works with state cooperators and foresters to prevent the human assisted movement of EAB, develop biological and other controls for EAB, and raise public awareness about this pest and the potential threats associated with the long-distance movement of firewood.

For more information about the EAB program and federal EAB regulations, please call EAB National Policy Manager Paul Chaloux at 301-851-2064.



Osama El-Lissy

Deputy Administrator

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

FEDERAL ORDER

Domestic Quarantine of Dodge County and a Portion of St. Louis County in Minnesota for Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)

DA-2016-63
September 30, 2016

This Federal Order expands the list of regulated areas for emerald ash borer (EAB) to include Dodge County and a portion of St. Louis County in Minnesota.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a). The Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States. This Federal Order is also issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) 301.53.

Effective immediately, this Federal Order quarantines Dodge County and a portion of St. Louis county in Minnesota for EAB. This action responds to the detection of EAB in Dodge and St. Louis Counties. Thus, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) finds it necessary to regulate this area to prevent the spread of EAB. Effective immediately, all interstate movement of EAB regulated articles from the quarantined areas in Minnesota must be done in accordance with any applicable provisions of this Federal Order and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53 et seq and the Federal Orders located at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/eab_quarantine

The expanded quarantined area in Minnesota includes all of Dodge County and the portion of St. Louis County that is bounded by a line starting at the intersection of the Carlton County line and Minnesota Highway 33; then north along Minnesota Highway 33 to the intersection of US Highway 53, then continuing north to the intersection with Three Lakes Road; then east along Three Lakes Road to the intersection of Vermillion Trail; then continuing east along the northern edge of Gnesen, North Star, and Alden Townships to the border of Lake County; then south along the border of Lake County; then southwest along the Wisconsin state line to Carlton County; then north and east along the border of Carlton County to the point of beginning.

Section 7 CFR 301.53-3(a) allows the designation of less than an entire state as an EAB quarantined area only when the APHIS Administrator has determined—as in this case—that the designation of less than an entire state as a quarantined EAB area is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of

infestations of EAB. In addition, 7 CFR 301.53-3(a) requires that the state enforce an intrastate EAB quarantine that is equivalent to the federal EAB regulations. The state plant regulatory official for Minnesota has confirmed the establishment of an intrastate quarantine for the regulated area that mirrors the federal regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.53.

Section 7 CFR 301.53-3 (b) provides for the temporary designation of new quarantined areas pending publication of a rule to add counties to the list shown in 7 CFR 301.53-3(c). Section 7 CFR 301.53-3 (b) further requires written notification to the owner or person who possesses a newly quarantined area. This is the responsibility of the federal and/or state regulatory personnel who are responsible for the EAB program in the affected state.

Previous Federal Orders pertaining to the expansion of quarantined areas in the EAB domestic regulations have been necessary due to the continuing spread of EAB. This Federal Order further expands the quarantined areas as described in the previous EAB Federal Orders.

If you wish more details on the federal EAB regulatory program, you may call EAB National Policy Manager Paul Chaloux at 301-851-2064. For information on the regulatory requirements to move articles out of quarantined areas in Minnesota, please call APHIS State Plant Health Director Erin Stiers at 952-814-1071.

We continue to appreciate the cooperative relationship with Minnesota in our effort to prevent the spread of EAB.