

FOR INFORMATION
DA-2007-29
August 08, 2007

SUBJECT: Quarantine of four counties in Pennsylvania for Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is establishing a quarantine on Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties in Pennsylvania for emerald ash borer (EAB). Attached is the Federal Domestic Quarantine Order for the subject action. This Federal quarantine parallels the EAB quarantine imposed on the same counties by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture (PDA). Under the Federal order, the interstate movement of wood and wood products that could be infested with EAB is regulated. This includes firewood of all hardwood species, nursery stock, lumber, green waste, compost, and chips of ash species.

On June 26, 2007, APHIS confirmed the detection of two EAB adults in the Cranberry Township of Butler County, Pennsylvania, which is located 10 miles north of Pittsburgh. APHIS and PDA initiated an immediate delimiting survey over approximately 98 square miles surrounding this initial detection. By June 28, 2007, another adult EAB was collected and confirmed positive from the Marshall Township of Allegheny County. Since then, APHIS and PDA have expanded cooperative EAB survey efforts within Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties, as well as along major interstate transportation corridors. APHIS and PDA are also following up on calls received from the public regarding suspect EAB detections.

EAB is present in some parts of the United States. Currently, the entire States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois are quarantined for EAB, as is Michigan's Lower Peninsula and Prince George's County, Maryland. EAB is an invasive wood boring beetle that is native to China and eastern Asia. EAB probably arrived in North America hidden in wood packing materials commonly used to ship consumer and other goods. It was first detected in the United States in southeastern Michigan. Since then, EAB has been responsible for the death and decline of more than 25 million ash trees in the United States. The interstate movement of firewood from quarantined areas is an especially high risk pathway for spreading EAB, and APHIS is working with State cooperators and foresters to raise awareness about this threat among the public.

The attached [Federal Domestic Quarantine Order](#) is effective immediately.

For additional details on the Federal response to the detection of EAB in Pennsylvania and other affected States, you may contact Deborah McPartlan, Staff Officer, at (301) 734-5356.

/s/ Richard L. Dunkle

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