



OFFICIAL NOTICE AND AGENDA

Notice is hereby given that the Tree Commission of the City of Stoughton, Wisconsin will hold a regular or special meeting as indicated on the date, time and location given below.

Meeting of the:

Date /Time:

Location:

Members:

TREE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF STOUGHTON

Wednesday, February 12, 2014 @ 6:30 p.m.

Hall of Fame Room/City Hall (381 E Main St, Stoughton WI 53589)

Jay Schotzko, Kevin Short, Dave Moyer, John Archer, Alderperson Tom Selsor, Urban Forester Randy Nelson, Street Department Foreman Rick Gullickson, Stoughton Utilities Director Bob Kardasz and May Donna Olson

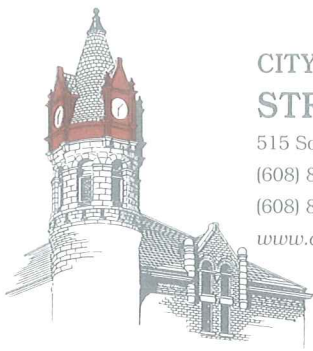
Item #	CALL TO ORDER
1	Communications
2	Reports
Item #	OLD BUSINESS
3	Heggestad Crabapple Arboretum (McKay Nursery) – Brochure & Map
4	Emerald Ash Borer Plan
5	
Item #	NEW BUSINESS
6	Approve January 8, 2014 Minutes
7	Wood Carving Event for Syttende Mai Discussion
8	Future Agenda Items
ADJOURNMENT	

cc:

Mayor Donna Olson (Packet) - email
Council Members
Leadership Teams
City Clerk (Packet) - email
Sarah Monette (e-mail)
Matthew Dregne, City Attorney (e-mail)
Robert Kardasz (e-mail)
Maria Hougan (e-mail)
Sean Grady (email)
Deb Blaney
Bill Livick (email)
Stoughton Newspaper
WI State Journal / Capital Times
Eric Seidel, McKay Nursery

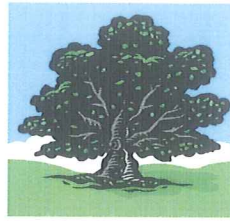
NOTE: AN EXPANDED MEETING MAY CONSTITUTE A QUORUM OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NOTE: For security reasons, the front doors of the City Hall Building (including the elevator door) will be locked after 4:30 p.m. If you need to enter City Hall after that time, please use the Fifth Street entrance or if you are physically challenged and are in need of assistance, please call 873-6677 prior to 4:30 p.m.



CITY OF STOUGHTON
STREET DEPARTMENT

515 South Fourth Street, Stoughton, WI 53589
(608) 873-6303 Ext. 622
(608) 877-8387 Fax
www.cityofstoughton.com



KARL D. MANTHE
Street Superintendent
kmanthe@ci.stoughton.wi.us

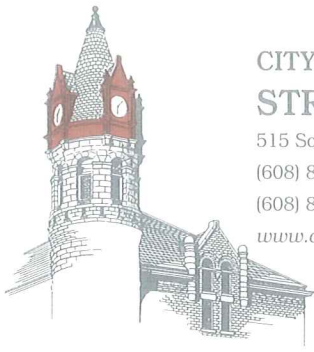
Street Department Forestry Report

2014

	<u>January</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>	<u>Remaining</u>
New Tree Inquiries:	0	0	N/A
Tree Removals:	0	0	N/A
Tree Trimming:	101	101	N/A
Tree Plantings:	0	0	0
Stump Removals:	0	0	18

The Street Department was busy during January trimming trees. Staff has also been working out the details of ash trees to be injected (125) for EAB, and trees to be removed by contractor or city staff. Currently have 22 Ash trees that will be contracted out for removal and 20 trees to be removed by Street Department crews. Staff has been updating inventory, and correcting problems they find in inventory.





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KARL D. MANTHE
Street Superintendent
kmanthe@ci.stoughton.wi.us

M E M O

DATE: February 6, 2014
TO: Stoughton Tree Commission
FROM: Randy Nelson, Stoughton Urban Forester
SUBJECT: WAA 50th Annual Conference

On January 26, 2014 I traveled to Green Bay for the 50th anniversary WAA Conference & Trade Show.

There were a variety of sessions that covered a vast array of educational information from EAB info to invasive worms of Wisconsin.

The Climbers Corner also had some world class arborists with emphasis on rigging.

I was also able to attend the Tree Fund report and Wisconsin's arborists are leading in donations with almost \$250,000 to the Bob Skieva Fund. Parts of these monies were raised at this year's FermenTreEvent. With the proper authorizations I have volunteered to organize this event at the ISA World Conference in Milwaukee in early August. Anyone else care to volunteer or attend?



HEGGESTAD'S LEGACY TO STOUGHTON

Background about doc.....

In late spring of 2012, many of the crabapples that you see before you were transplanted from the original arboretum location along industrial drive. These trees serve as an homage to Dr. Heggstad's hard work and as a reminder of the challenges these trees have overcome in order to stand with us today. You will notice many of these trees have a slight lean to them. This condition is a result of the heavy winds and tornado that struck the site in 2005.



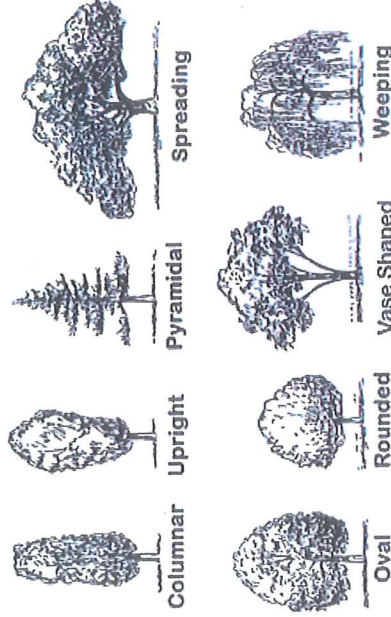
WHY CRABAPPLES?

There are few trees that offer the range in size and shape and provide year round interest, like the crabapple. Spring emerges with a spectacular display of color and fragrance. The awesome array of variety provides almost every tone of red to green imaginable.

As autumn approaches, the trees are met with a delicate mix of fall hues and the fruit transforms the tree into a mix of vibrant colors. There's nothing more majestic than the way a snow accents the fruits, branches and the silhouette of the tree in the winter landscape.

It was for these reasons that Dr. Heggstad chose a palette of crabapples as a tool so that we can better understand the variation of form, beauty and disease resistance.

WHAT TO OBSERVE



In addition to its beauty, crabapple trees come in a variety of shapes and sizes. Crabapples are usually smaller in stature, and are available in a variety of forms, from more upright to weeping and even multi-stemmed shrub forms. Use this guide to decipher the many forms on display here in the arboretum.



CHOOSING THE RIGHT CRABAPPLE

Not all crabapples offer the best features, and some older varieties can even come with drawbacks. Before investing in a crabapple, learn about the most important characteristics of different varieties and plant the right one for your yard.

Consider disease resistance first. Some of the specimens planted before us today are known for great resistance to fire blight and apple scab (listed with xx). These are here as an example to help show you what the disease look like and how they affect the trees (listed with yy). Once you select a healthy variety, think about size, form and the features that make these trees unique- the blossoms, fragrance and berries.

To help support the Heggstad Arboretum or for more information on this or other City of Stoughton Parks call xxx or visit our website



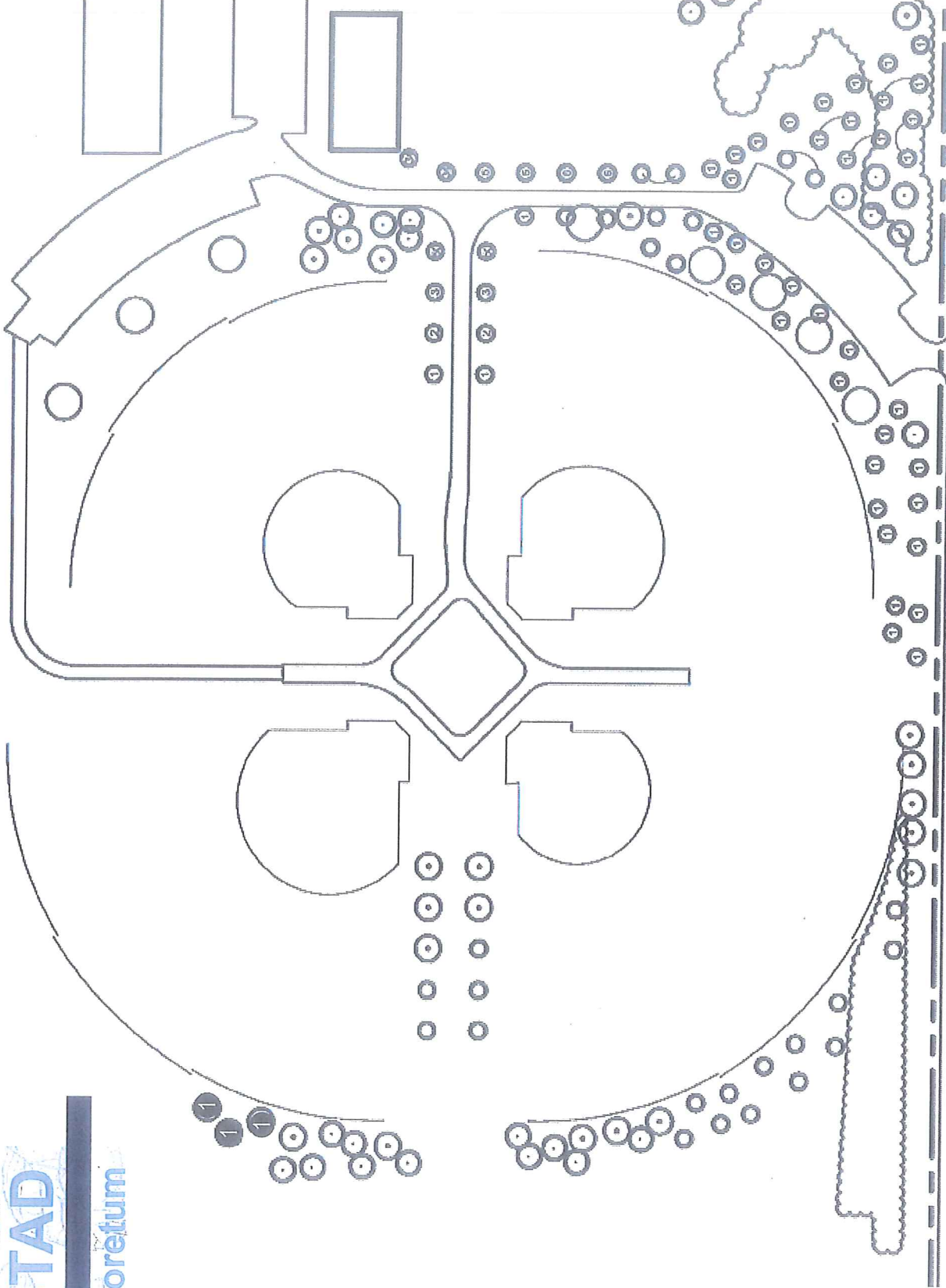
Find us on Facebook Twitter



HEGESTAD

Crabapple Arboretum

- ① Walters
- ① Profesor Sprenger
- Ormiston Roy
- Unidentified
- Royal Raindrops
- Winter Gold
- Purple Rain
- Royalty
- Strawberry Parfait
- Tschnoski
- Doubloons
- Indian Summer
- Prairie Rose
- Red Splendor
- Beverly
- White Angel
- Radiant
- David
- Pink Spires
- Indian Magic
- Velvit Pillar
- Thunderchild
- Firebird
- Jewel Berry
- Lollipop
- Candymint
- Pink Princess
- Tina
- Guinevera
- Lancelot
- Sargent
- Camelot
- Coral Cascades
- Louisa
- Red Swan
- Red Peacock
- Anne E
- Luwick-Weeper
- Royal Fountain
- White Cascade
- Mary Potter
- Molton Lava
- Liset
- Harvest Gold
- Centurian
- Coralburst
- Red Jewel
- Adams
- Calocarpa Redbud-
- zium
- Adirondack
- Cardinal
- Nargansette
- Donald Wyman
- Profusion
- Red Barron
- Sugartyme
- Floribunda Japanese
- Orange Crush
- Prairiefire
- Radiant
- Golden Raindrops
- Jackii



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- Anne E
- Luwick-Weeper
- Royal Fountain
- White Cascade
- Mary Potter
- Molton Lava
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City of Stoughton EAB Response Plan

Executive Summary

Wisconsin's urban ash resources consist of 5.2 million trees lining our streets and in our parks and natural areas. About 20% of all trees in Wisconsin's communities are ash. They have an estimated value of over \$1.5 billion and also provide millions of dollars of environmental, social and economic benefits annually. This valuable resource is seriously threatened by a tiny, metallic green beetle known as the emerald ash borer. The larvae of this insect are responsible for the trees' decline and eventual death. Since its discovery in 2002 in Detroit Michigan, the emerald ash borer has spread its destruction to over 19 states in the U.S. and Canada. As of November 2013, 21 counties in Wisconsin are under quarantines.

The City of Stoughton, in cooperation with Dane County and Wisconsin DNR, has developed an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) response plan. An inventory was begun in the spring of 2013. This inventory was completed in the fall of 2013. It will serve as the lead information document on the ash resource located within the City limits. After further review of the tree inventory, the City acknowledges the economic value of its ash resource and its importance to residents' quality of life. The purposes of this plan are to educate residents, preserve City resources, and minimize the fiscal impact on City operating budgets and to maintain public safety.

The City formally recognizes the following major aspects of this plan:

- The City endorses a pro-active approach with education and outreach in an effort to manage the urban forest while serving the best interests of its citizens and its environment.
- The City will work cooperatively with Dane County, WI DNR and DATCAP to slow the spread of EAB.
- A tree inventory was completed in 2013. The City had 5130 trees located in the public right of way and parks; 12.4% of these are ash. Neither conservancy areas nor private property were included in the inventory.
- The estimated value of these trees in Stoughton is \$7,557,499.52 (ash is \$1,056,090)
- The City recommends near complete removal of ash trees on public lands in the next 5 to 10 years at a potential cost of \$500,000.
- After careful consideration, the City does not endorse wide spread use of chemical treatments to preserve the ash population.
- The City does recognize the need to preserve certain high value ash trees within the community through chemical treatment.
- The City Acknowledges the need for additional resources to accomplish this project whether through City budget, grants or cooperative agreements with other units of local government.
- This plan will be reviewed and updated as further research and facts are developed about EAB infestations and management.

Mission Statement

The City of Stoughton is developing a living document to create a strategic plan to help in the prioritization, development and implementation of actions related to the threat and damage to Stoughton's urban forest caused by the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). This plan will attempt to use the most recent scientific advice and try to identify the lowest cost for the community in order to maintain and enhance the urban forest's maximum long term benefits to the community.

Glossary of terms in regards to
E A B Community Readiness Plan Definitions

- 1) **Condition rating** – defined in Inventory pg 25
- 2) **DATCP** – Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & consumer Protection
- 3) **Dbh** – diameter at breast height; represents the diameter in inches of a trunk cross-section measured at 4 ½ ' above ground level; a basis for estimating or identifying tree volume, value, management needs and costs, utilization options, etc.
- 4) **Delimit** – to establish geographic limits or boundaries; emerald ash borer quarantine areas are determined after *delimiting* an area of infestation
- 5) **EAB** – the emerald ash borer insect
- 6) **EAB readiness team** – a group of people responsible for all aspects of preparing for emerald ash borer within a particular jurisdiction/municipality; team member have specific roles and tasks
- 7) **EAB readiness plan** - a document delineating local EAB readiness activities and processes; includes scope & purpose, authority, responsibility, policies & procedures, actions/tasks, available resources, forms & contracts, technical references & support information (such as surveying and reporting protocols), and similar content
- 8) **Eradication** – total elimination; according to national science panel recommendations, Wisconsin's planned response to a positive emerald ash borer find will be *eradication*; this involves removing all ash trees within the EAB infested area as well as all ash trees within ½ mile of the outer edge of the known infested area.
- 9) **Infestation** – an area where the ash trees have been positively identified as having a sustained population of EAB
- 10) **Marshalling yard** – a fenced in location within a quarantine area where infested or quarantine-area trees are collected and held for further handling
- 11) **Phloem** – living tissue directly under tree's bark where EAB larvae feed impairing the trees circulatory function
- 12) **Preemptive** – removing trees prior to infestation; based on condition rating Ash trees, may be removed
- 13) **Quarantine area** – a defined geographic area from which goods may not be transported; *quarantines* will be established by federal or state agencies to restrict ash wood movement out

of infested areas to avoid emerald ash borer infestation of new areas; *quarantines* can be applied to an individual property; township; county or entire state

14) **Removal** – rather than pruned as a means to lessen the burden (physical & financial) at a later date

15) **WDNR** – Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES FOR SUSPECT EAB SAMPLES & REPORTS

The general principle is for people to use existing channels of pest reporting and querying, wherever possible. All insect samples should be forwarded to the DATCP identifier, Krista Hamilton, (608) 224-4594 or the UW identifier, Phil Pellitteri, (608) 262-6510, for screening and forwarding to the USDA.

General public should contact the DATCP EAB hotline at 1-800-462-2803 or email eab@datcp.state.wi.us

DNR staff should contact their Regional forest health specialist.

DATCP staff should contact Adrian Barta, (608) 224-4592 or (608) 516-0506.

UW-Extension agents and basin educators should contact UW Extension entomologists Phil Pellitteri (608) 262-6510 or Chris Williamson (608) 262-4608

Federal land managers should contact: USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection, St. Paul, MN (615) 649-6264

Arborists, municipal forestry staff and utility foresters should contact either their county Extension agent or the appropriate Urban Forestry Regional Coordinator listed in section 1 of the toolkit.

*John R. Dick Rickert
608-267-0843*

Nursery & landscape personnel should contact the DATCP Nursery Program at (608) 224-4572 or their county Extension agent.

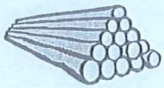
Insect samples will be examined by DATCP or UW for preliminary identification. Suspect *Agrilus planipennis* samples will be sent to the USDA Emerald Ash Borer identifier (Dr. James Zablonksy, APHIS-PPQ in Michigan) by next-day air; confirmation of Wisconsin samples will be given high priority. The first state record and subsequent first county records will be confirmed by USDA.

Easy Guide for Emerald Ash Borer Regulations



Nurseries

Ash nursery stock is prohibited from being distributed outside of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) quarantine area.



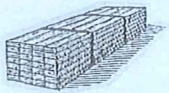
Mills & Loggers

Ash logs cannot be moved out of the quarantine area during the adult flight period (roughly April 1 through September 30) unless fumigated or debarked. From October 1 through March 31, ash logs may be allowed to be moved to an approved mill outside of the quarantine area for processing by March 31. Bark and wood waste must be processed by March 31. These processes must be approved by state or federal agriculture agencies. Contact officials for further information.



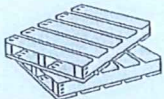
Firewood Producers & Users

All hardwood firewood is prohibited from distribution outside the EAB quarantine area unless it has been heat treated, fumigated or debarked (plus removal of ½ inch of wood). These processes must be approved by state or federal agriculture agencies. Firewood not for commercial sale (homeowner use) may be moved within the quarantine area but users should avoid moving firewood any distance from the area the wood originated from to reduce further spread of EAB.



Green Lumber Manufacturers

Ash lumber will need to be processed in an approved manner, such as complete removal of bark (plus ½ inch of wood), kiln drying by approved standards, or fumigation prior to distribution out of the quarantine area. All processes will need approval by state or federal agencies. Contact officials for further information.



Pallet Producers

Ash lumber (generated from ash from the quarantine area) used to make pallets will need to be processed in a manner approved by state or federal agencies. Contact officials for further information.



Wood Waste

Wood waste from pruning, storm damage, or removals should not be moved from the point of action in order to reduce the spread of EAB. Locations for wood waste drop-off may be established in the near future. Contact officials for more information.

Official Contact Information

Bob Dahl, Regulatory Supervisor
Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection
608-224-4573 or Robert.dahl@wisconsin.gov

JoAnn Cruse, State Plant Health Director
USDA, APHIS, Plant Protection & Quarantine
608-231-9545 or Joann.m.cruse@aphis.usda.gov

QUARANTINE INFORMATION

Confirmation of an *Agilus planipennis* infestation will result in quarantine regulations covering resources which may spread EAB, including: **ash trees, limbs, branches or roots; ash logs, slabs or untreated ash lumber with bark attached; cut firewood of all non-coniferous species; ash chips and ash bark fragments larger than one inch in two diameters; or any other item which could harbor any living stage of EAB and could transmit an infestation.**

Two levels of quarantine are possible, federal and state. A federal quarantine will regulate **interstate** (between states, i.e., Michigan to Wisconsin) movement of covered materials; a state quarantine will regulate **intrastate** (within the state, i.e., Waukesha to Wausaukee) movement. Both quarantines may be imposed concurrently—federal quarantines imposed on a statewide level while the state quarantines other geographical units. In almost all cases in Wisconsin, quarantines will be established at the county level. State regulation may be more stringent than federal regulation on movement of materials. Enforcement of quarantines falls to state and federal agency staff. Financial penalties for violation of quarantines can be substantial.

USDA and DATCP staff will work with affected industries and communities to minimize the impact of quarantines. Compliance agreements are a common tool to allow companies to conduct business while protecting areas of the state not yet infested by the emerald ash borer.

COMMUNITY READINESS TEAM

Local Readiness Team Leader

- Karl Manthe, Street Superintendent 873-6303
- Randy Nelson, Urban Forester 209-7884
- Rick Gullickson, Street Foreman 873-6303
- Vickie Erdahl, Administrative Asst. 873-6303

Communications/Public Relations Officer

- Pat Conlin, Police Lieutenant 876-3374

Business Relations Expert

- Dean Tangeman 877-0944

Media Relations Expert

- Christina Dollhausen / Bill Brehm 646-0433

Fiscal Manager

- Laurie Sullivan 873-6691

DNR Liaison

- Elizabeth Dierickx 275-3227

Executive Summary

Readiness & Response Plan for Stoughton (RRPS)

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) will be infesting Stoughton's urban forest in the very near future. Management of EAB within Stoughton and surrounding areas will vary month to month, year to year. This will all depend on location of early infestation, safety factors and budget constraints. Other components such as wood waste areas, private trees, and treatment options, to name a few will have to be addressed as well. This RRPS will serve as a template for management of the EAB but will change as circumstances arise. Being prepared for these changes and knowing the options that are currently available will hopefully allow the City of Stoughton to make decisions for the residents in regards to safety, cost effectiveness, while serving the greater good of our urban forests.

In this RRPS we will address:

- definitions
- authority
- Reporting protocol
- Stoughton's urban forest executive summary
- contacts
- assessments
- communications
- information section

Assessment

A. Inventory Summary

Objective 1: Emerald Ash Borer Resources

While nobody can determine when the emerald ash borer will arrive in Stoughton, it is generally assumed that the insect *will* arrive in Stoughton in the near future. Currently, the insect has been positively located in 21 of the 72 Wisconsin counties, including most recently added Dane County. Since EAB's first detection eleven years ago, it has spread to 13 additional states and Canada. By all appearances it is unstoppable and is spreading quickly. The City of Stoughton should take proactive measures before an infestation occurs to prevent a crisis in public safety, budgeting and staffing.

Stoughton currently has 642 ash trees on its street right-of-way. However, after the most recent tree inventory completed in 2013, it is figured to be several times that number likely exist in public woodlands and private property. This is approximately 12.4% of the total population **of the municipal owned urban forest**. While this is a large number of trees, it is a manageable number and the average diameter is only 12". Most communities are not removing healthy ash in anticipation of EAB, but they are removing ash in poor or very poor condition. Stoughton has 89 ash that are already on the removal list for reasons "unrelated " to EAB and an additional 119 in poor condition. It is advisable to remove these ash trees prior to EAB because they are already high-risk or declining.

It is safe to assume that when EAB arrives in Stoughton, tree removal will become a major priority within the street department. Forestry activities will be reviewed to best handle routine activities and EAB removals. Using private contractors for removals of invested trees will need to be considered so other tree pruning or removals get addressed.

After the removals of ash, tree planting will be in full swing to replace the ash and it is important to continue focusing on diversity. The City currently works with contractors to plant trees in new developments and it would be beneficial to discuss the increase in tree planting with responsible contractors so that Stoughton can be assured a timely replanting program.

STAFFING

Maintenance and removals of trees occurs year round, with most pruning being performed during the winter. On an annual basis, the city prunes 600 trees, removes 45-50 trees and replants between 70-90 trees. Trees of all sizes should receive beneficial pruning including trees less than 6" that are designated as 'training prunes.'

The city uses a zone system of maintenance for snowplowing that can be used for tree maintenance also. Adjacent snowplowing routes can be combined to make five zones for forestry purposes. The first areas that should be addressed include an area between E Milwaukee and W Wilson from Van Buren to the railroad tracks. These two zones should receive forestry services first due to the high density of large diameter trees located there.

Stoughton does not have a designated forestry department; however they have a forestry program within the Street Department that is under the direction of a Street Superintendent. Stoughton hired a forester that is an ISA Certified Arborist and his duties include responding to public requests, planning, preparing, and completing work orders for the streets department.

The Street Department crew and forester perform a wide variety of tasks, including urban forestry. The Stoughton Utility performs work under power lines including pruning and removing tree to the trunk. The city is responsible for removing the trunk and stump grinding at that point. The Street Department crews perform nearly all tree removal/maintenance work, with some removals being contracted out. The city forester is dedicated to forestry, but also assists with other street department tasks. Most pruning work is scheduled during the winter months when trees are dormant and is completed by forester and street crews.

A schedule of activities (attachment 1) has been developed based on inventory findings and is broken into two categories. The first two years of the program include one-time only activities such as removals and high priority pruning's identified during the inventory. Beginning in the third year, the city will begin its routine maintenance program in earnest. All three years have similar time and monetary investments, but the routine activities will occur annually in perpetuity and so will be the focus of this discussion.

While the city prunes a portion of its trees yearly, it is not pruning all of its trees as frequently as recommended. To achieve maximum health and tree longevity, each tree should receive a pruning/inspection once every five years. The budgets discussed in this plan are based on this five-year cycle. However, some communities have extended their pruning cycle to seven years as a means to lower annual budgets. While the five year cycle is ideal, it is acceptable to prune on a seven year basis.

All trees under 6" in diameter should receive a pruning once every third year until it can no longer be pruned from the ground. The following chart pinpoints the current level of maintenance and the recommended level of maintenance.

Routine Activities		
<i>Activity</i>	<i>Current</i>	<i>Projected</i>
Routine Removals	83	100
Safety Pruning	200	355
Routine/Training Pruning	400	500
Tree Planting	217	200
Tree Monitoring	varies	250

The Street Department works with limited staffing levels to perform all aspects of its necessary forestry operations. It is recommended to hire at least one additional staff member to adequately perform the actual work duties identified in this plan. The forester will still be staffed to answer customer calls, meet with residents, perform special inspections, and be part of tree removal/pruning crew.

Typically, forestry work is performed periodically throughout the year with busy seasons including winter pruning/removals, and plantings in spring and fall. Additionally, for safety and effectiveness most activities necessitate a minimum three person crew. While the additional employee should have forestry qualifications, they will most likely be used during the off-season for other street department activities. Hiring an additional employee will allow additional and necessary forestry work to be completed and will also assist with routine street department activities. Additional duties identified in the plan that will need to be completed annually include increased amount of the following forestry activities: planting at least 200 trees, routine/training/safety pruning 855 trees (6 year cycle), removing 100 trees and monitoring 250 trees. When EAB arrives, at least 642 trees will need to be either removed or treated with chemicals. The Street Department will be short staffed to deal with this and may want to consider hiring additional limited time employees or contract out removals so that they will be able to deal with the additional workload generated by EAB.

With a tree population of well over 5,000 and the additional work duties and tree removals identified, Stoughton should allow the urban forester at least 16 hours of work weekly. The demand on his time will increase greatly as work begins to occur more rapidly and in a more timely fashion.

A category exists that identifies trees that need additional monitoring. These are trees that are declining or are beginning to exhibit progressive defects such as decay and dieback. There were 240 trees that need monitoring. This activity should be completed by an ISA Certified Arborist.

Additionally, any employee that will be completing forestry work should receive consistent training on proper procedures. As well as equipment training these employees should receive training on: removals, proper pruning procedures, construction damage and proper tree planting techniques so that they can supervise contracted tree planting and construction crews. Sources of training include: WAA (Wisconsin Arborist Association) workshops (held annually in fall), WAA annual conference (held annually in late January), WI DNR annual workshops (held annually in late summer) or thru private instruction by an experienced consulting forester.

7 Emerald Ash Borer

7.1 Introduction

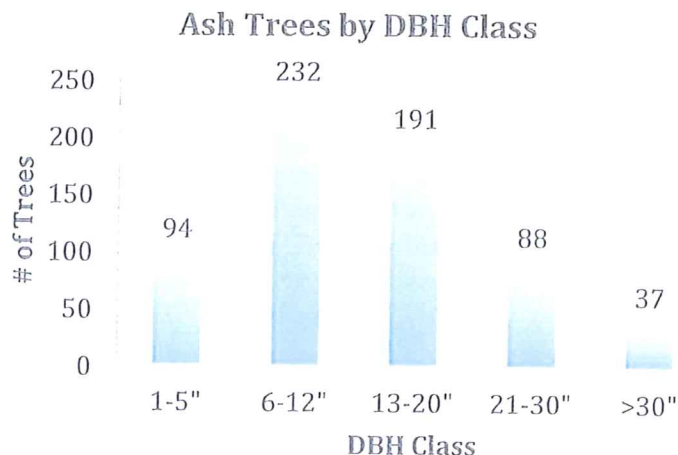
The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is an invasive wood-boring beetle that feeds on the cambium layer of native ash (*Fraxinus*) species. As the larvae feed on the tree's cambium, they interrupt the vascular system, essentially girdling the tree. No ash trees in the United States have demonstrated resistance to this pest and damage has been devastating in infested areas.

The beetle is native to Eastern Russia and Northeast China, but was first found in the Detroit area in 2002 and has since spread to over a dozen states throughout the Midwest, East, and several Canadian Provinces. EAB was first detected in Newburg, WI in 2008, now one of several active infestations within the state. As of July 2012, the nearest confirmed case of emerald ash borer to Stoughton is Janesville, WI.

7.2 Susceptible Trees

Southern Wisconsin and the City of Stoughton are home to two susceptible ash species: green ash and white ash. There are 642 trees of these two species included in Stoughton's tree inventory, while several

times that number likely exist in public woodlands and on private property. The chart above illustrates the number of these 642 trees in each of 5 DBH classes.



7.3 Readiness and Response

Most communities that experience EAB feel underprepared for its arrival and consequences. Being proactive in preparing for EAB will help Stoughton respond more quickly and effectively when the beetle does arrive. Some of the things the city has already done in preparation include:

- Inventorying all of the ash along city streets and in public parks.
- Preemptively removed unhealthy, declining, or over-mature ash.
- Writing an EAB response plan.
- Under planting ash with non-susceptible species.

Some suggestions for future actions include:

- Develop an ash preservation program that allows city residents to treat public trees at their expense.
- Identify high value ash specimens to preserve with insecticide treatment.
- Continue to replant with greater tree diversity.

8 Additional Management Areas

8.1 Stoughton River Trail

The river trail traverses the City of Stoughton, following the Yahara River through woodlands, parks, and along rail corridors. There are a wide variety of tree species along the trail including box elder, eastern cottonwood, red oak, bur oak, black cherry, and green ash. This area was only inventoried for hazard trees, of which there were many. Many large oaks—and other species of trees—have never been pruned and contain significant deadwood or other hazards that could harm someone walking or bicycling along the trail. Future maintenance should address the hazardous situations identified in the tree inventory. Moving forward, monthly visual inspections by the city forester are recommended.

8.2 Frisbee Golf Course

The Kiwanis disc golf course is located in Amundson Park. A large portion of the course is situated in a wooded lowland along the Yahara River, composed primarily of box elder (*Acer negundo*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), black cherry, (*Prunus serotina*) and quaking aspen (*Populus tremuloides*).

Equipment

The City's equipment includes: a 55' aerial truck, nine (9) dump trucks, three (3) pick-up trucks, three (3) one-ton dump trucks two (2) front end loaders, one (1) backhoe, one (1) Skidsteer (with grapple and stump grinder attachments), Toolcat, five (5) chainsaws, chipper, three (3) pole saws, four (4) hand saws, hard hats, ear protection, safety glasses, chaps, gloves and ropes. City crew members complete the bulk of equipment repair in-house. Stoughton's street department crew has previously completed all tree work, excepting work under utility lines.

The current amount of equipment is sufficient to complete all aspects of a forestry operation. The City has a Fleet Replacement Fund to schedule replacement/additional equipment.

Assessment

D. Debris Handling

Debris Handling Locations:

Stoughton's current wood residue policy is to:

- Chip suitable branches and provide chips to residents
- Offer bales/trunks for firewood

The city stores wood chips at the North West corner of Race Track Park. These chips are available to interested parties who may remove them at their convenience.

The city removes wood from public areas and places it in a holding yard. The wood is available to interested parties who may remove the wood at their convenience.

Emerald ash borer will require a much broader and ambitious wood residue policy. As of January 2013 the city has approximately 175 yards of wood chips and over 730 cubic yards of solid wood waste. Stoughton should identify immediately larger suitable sites for wood waste storage areas. The city may also want to begin negotiating agreements with wood mills and firewood suppliers to remove some of the wood from the holding yard.

Other actions may include recycling programs with multiple partners thru out the municipal government, private businesses, schools, clubs, etc. This could help reduce some wood waste. Also more avenues for wood chip residue need to be identified. i.e. (nurseries, landscapers, bio fuel etc.)

Assessment – Funding

If Stoughton removes and replaces all municipal trees, prior to being dead, the total cost could be approximately \$900,000.00. Using other municipalities' findings a multiplier of 2.5 has been derived from their experiences. This could cost Stoughton \$1,575,000.00 for removal and replacement if the trees are dead when removal starts.

- Wisconsin DNR Urban Forestry Grants

At current funding levels these grants will not be able to provide funds for control. The limited funds will be best used to improve urban forest management and EAB readiness plans.

- Community Development Block Grants
- Transportation funds. Funds to help with road help, EAB in Row and replanting
<http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/localgov/aid/tr.htm>
- Utility Companies:
 - Provide assistance with removals
 - Subsidize tree planting programs that encourage energy conservation
- Revenue from wood waste
 - Develop relationships internal and external i.e. lumber, furniture, mulch, fuel and other products.
- Reallocate funds
 - Consider where these resources could best come from with the least impact on existing services
- Raise Taxes
- Seek additional support
 - Community leaders enlist aid of their state & federal elected officials to increase funding for EAB
- Loans

Ash Trees & EAB Treatment Guide

- 1) Is your tree a Fraxinus (Ash) tree?
 - Yes: go to # 2
 - No: Done. Plant a tree!
- 2) Is your Fraxinus tree in good health and possesses good structure?
 - Yes: go to # 3 See website: Treesaregood.com
 - No: Possible corrective treatment or trimming or removal. Replace with non Fraxinus species
 - Not Sure: Retain professional help
- 3) Do you intend to provide preventive treatments / maintenance for the life of your Fraxinus's life?
 - Yes: go to # 4
 - No: Possibly treat until replacement tree is of desired size or remove/replant
 - Not sure: Retain professional help
- 4) Would you provide preventative treatments yourself?
 - Yes: Read the label! Follow the directions.
 - No: Contact reputable certified arborist to set up a maintenance program
 - Not sure: Retain professional help
- 5) Is your Fraxinus a manageable size for you?
 - Yes: See Treesaregood.com for help in proper care of your trees
 - No: Contact reputable certified arborist to discuss a maintenance plan

Permit Application

Pesticide applications permit for municipally owned trees in R. O. W.

Please complete and return to the City of Stoughton Street Dept. for consideration. Incomplete applications will not be processed – all info is required. Please print legibly.

Company: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Applicator License No: _____

Tree address: _____

Adjacent Property Owner: _____ Phone: _____

Type of tree(s): (species) _____ DBH: _____

Type of Treatment: _____ or circumference in inches

Product, Chemical: _____

EPA No: _____ Application Type/Rate: _____

Date/Time of Application: _____

Signature (Home Owner): _____ Comments: _____

Signature (applicator): _____

*Approval based on city inspection

*Attach certified Arborist report & photos (if available)

*Trees must exhibit structural soundness

*Pesticide permit may be revoked at any time

*Homeowner must renew the permit **EVERY** two years

Authorization: _____ Date: _____

Permit Expires on: _____

(Permit may be renewed by the City Forester at their discretion)

NOTE: If tree is found positive for infection(s) this permit may be voided and tree removed.

Submit application to: City of Stoughton
515 South Fourth Street, Stoughton WI 53589
608.873.6303

I agree to comply with City of Stoughton Street Trees Removal and Maintenance Policy (m) Public tree care (3) regarding trees and shrubbery. I agree to hold harmless the City of Stoughton, its agents, officers, and employees for any damage or injury caused by reason of pesticide treatment of street trees. I understand that treating trees is not a guarantee of their survival and that any street tree that fails, even though it has been treated, will be removed.

S:/Tree Commission/EAB Folder/Permit

Tree Commission Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 8, 2014 at 6:30 PM

Hall of Fame Room at City Hall, 381 E Main, Stoughton, WI

Members Present: Tom Selsor, Jay Schotzko, Kevin Short, John Archer, Randy Nelson and Bob Kardasz

Absent & Excused: Bonnie Kennedy and Dave Moyer

Guest: Karl Manthe, Street Superintendent and Eric Seidel – McKay's

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Schotzko

- 1) **Communications:** *Nelson* discussed a letter he received from the Syttende Mai Committee regarding a chain sawing event the Commission was thinking of doing again on a larger scale during Syttende Mai. This item will be placed on the February agenda.

Nelson also reported on a cold weather study of the Emerald Ash Borer. This report will be posted online for all to see and read if interested.

- 2) **Reports:** *NONE* – *Manthe* stated crews were busy with snow / ice events. Tree trimming will begin as the weather gets warmer.

- 3) **Heggestad Crabapple Arboretum Update & Brochure:** *Eric Seidel* from McKay's Nursery reported the fall planting of crabapple trees and the upcoming spring planting. Seven species were unavailable and Mr. Seidel is working with Moyer on replacements for them with the final list being available at the February meeting. When the spring planting is finalized, *Seidel* asked that mulch and water is available.

Seidel requested: Better T.C. logo file and bio/picture of Dr. Heggestad {*Moyer* actually worked on the original project with Dr. Heggestad} to be incorporated into the brochure. Some suggestions made from *Mr. Seidel* was an insert to use for training purposes (i.e. kids on a field trip) or posting the brochure to website if people interested in donating to the arboretum. The committee requested the support text with twitter and face book be removed. McKay will print 100 copies in color of the approved brochure and then send us the file to use in the future.

Kardasz suggested checking into the Arbor Day Foundation for grants and such things that are available to apply for to help with tree projects.

- 4) **Emerald Ash Borer Plan Update & Discussion:** An original proposal was introduced by *Selsor* at the December meeting which included a six year plan for removal of 25% of the total ash population and treatment of 25% of the ashes that meet the required health stipulations. The total estimated cost is \$156,000 with \$72,000 needed for the year 2014.

Nelson distributed a report with cost analysis from the current tree inventory for tree removal and treatment for the ash trees in the City of Stoughton for the next several years beginning with the "high priority" trees. The goal is to remove 25% of the ash trees in 2014. This work may be contracted out as the commission would like to be pro-active in this situation as EAB has surrounded the city. Also, included in the report was the same information of all the other trees removals in Stoughton lumped under the category non-ash trees.

Treatment cost information was provided, if done in-house, or contracted out using the count of 75 trees per year to reach the goal of 25% of the ash trees that are rated as excellent or good with an average dbh of 12 inches. *Short* also provided an analysis from the tree inventory which provided a count of ash trees that qualify with the following breakdown – 80 White Ash and 70 Green Ash. Weather is a critical factor when treating the trees and lower doses can be used if done in advance before the borer is found. Generally when the bug is found the determination after investigating is that the bug has been around for 3-5 years.

Stump grinding and tree replacement will be dealt with at a later time as the focus is on removing the trees so the bug cannot spread the disease.

Discussion from the committee : 1) This problem needs to be addressed and should be forwarded to the Public Works Committee to request extra funds and include a timeline for the work with a reassessment in the fall to determine the needs for the following year. 2) A question was asked regarding what is being done on determining where a marshalling yard will be if the plan is put into action, what if the bug is found then there will be even more wood and what about private trees? 3) Any consideration of using the requested funds for hiring someone in Stoughton and keep the monies in the community instead of contracting to companies outside of Stoughton. 4) The current budget amount for tree removal should be used for non-ash trees.

Motion by Selsor, seconded by Archer to forward the request to approve the six year plan for the proactive removal and treatment of 25% of Stoughton's ash trees to the Public Works Committee and for the Public Works Committee to find a way to fund the request of \$72,000 for the 2014 project. Motion carried 4-0

- 5) **Approval of minutes from December 11 & 18, 2013 Meetings:** Motion by Selsor, seconded by Short to approve the minutes. Carried 4-0.
- 6) **Future Agenda Items:** Crabapple Arboretum Report / Brochure / Map, EAB Plan, Wood Carving Event (Syttende Mai)

**Motion by Selsor seconded by Short to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Respectfully submitted 1/--/14, Vickie Erdahl
- Staff**