

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE NOVEMBER 17, 2008

ASIAN LONG-HORNED BEETLE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE COMMUNICATIONS PLAN AND INVASIVE SPECIES ENVIRONMENTAL SUMMIT

Recommendation

The Asian Long-Horned Beetle Intergovernmental Task Force recommends:

- 1) That Corporate Communications work with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to produce a communications plan for the Emerald Ash Borer, after the issuance of the Ministerial Order;
- 2) That Corporate Communications assist with the organization of an Invasive Species Environmental Summit of area municipalities affected by the Asian Long-Horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer; and
- 3) That the report of the Director of Corporate Communications, dated October 22, 2008, be received (Attachment 1).

Economic Impact

To be determined.

Communications Plan

Upon approval of the Task Force recommendation, the Corporate Communications Department will develop a plan for the Invasive Species Environmental Summit and a public information plan for the Emerald Ash Borer.

Purpose

This report is before Council for consideration regarding an Invasive Species Environmental Summit of municipalities affected by invasive species and the development of a communications plan for the Emerald Ash Borer after the issuance of the Ministerial Order.

Background - Analysis and Options

Asian Long-Horned Beetle

The Asian Long-Horned Beetle Intergovernmental Task Force was established in March 2004, following the discovery in the summer of 2003, of the infestation of the Asian Long-Horned Beetle north of Steeles Avenue, west of Highway 400. The Canadian Food Inspection Agency is recognized as the federal agency responsible for regulating invasive pests and develops strategies to control and prevent the spread of these pests to other parts of Canada. The Task Force is comprised of representatives from the City of Toronto, York Region, the federal government, the provincial government, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority. Its objectives are to enhance and develop communication strategies, support the planning and implementation of strategies for the eradication of the Asian Long-Horned Beetle, and strategies for the replanting of urban forests. Vaughan's communications efforts regarding the Asian Long-Horned Beetle have been extensive and are currently on-going.

Emerald Ash Borer

At the meeting of October 22, 2008, discussion ensued regarding the confirmed presence of the Emerald Ash Borer in various areas of the GTA, including the area of Highway 7 and Weston Road in the City of Vaughan. This pest was first discovered in Canada in 2003 in the Windsor area and has been steadily moving west towards the GTA. This wood boring beetle is a native to China, Japan, Korea, Russia, and Taiwan, and can attack and kill all species of ash trees. It was noted that the Emerald Ash Borer is most commonly spread when people move materials which it has infested. It is anticipated that the CFIA will receive a ministerial order from the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food to expand the current quarantine zone from the City of Toronto to the infested area in the City of Vaughan. The quarantine zone restricts the movement of ash trees, nursery stock, logs, lumber, wood chips, bark, and firewood of all species from the area.

The Task Force agreed that once CFIA receives the ministerial order addressing the infestation in Vaughan, the City's Corporate Communications department would be required to commence an extensive public information communications program for the Emerald Ash Borer, similar to that developed for the Asian Long-Horned Beetle.

Invasive Species Environmental Summit

Municipalities across Ontario are faced with many of the similar problems with respect to these highly destructive pests. Although the CFIA is collaborating with government agencies to develop strategies to control and prevent the spread of invasive species to other areas of Canada, municipalities affected by these destructive aliens have not had an opportunity to meet to discuss and share ideas, experiences, and knowledge.

At the Asian Long-Horned Beetle Intergovernmental Task Force meeting of October 22, 2008, the following motion was made incorporating the discussion of the Task Force:

MOVED by Regional Councillor Ferri
seconded by Mayor Jackson

- 1) That Corporate Communications work with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to produce a communications plan for the Emerald Ash Borer, after the issuance of the Ministerial Order;
- 2) That Corporate Communications assist with the organization of an Invasive Species Environmental Summit of area municipalities affected by the Asian Long-Horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer; and
- 3) That the report of the Director of Corporate Communications, dated October 22, 2008, be received (Attachment 1).

CARRIED

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the priorities previously set by Council as it provides services excellence in leading and promoting environmental sustainability.

Regional Implications

N/A

Conclusion

The recommendation of the Task Force on Democratic Participation and Renewal is before Council for consideration.

Attachments

1. Report of the Director of Corporate Communications, dated October 22, 2008
2. Report No. 34, Item 66 "Report Regarding Municipalities Affected by Invasive Species
3. CFIA News Release August 28, 2008 "Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Vaughan"

Respectfully submitted,



Councillor Bernie DeVona, Chair
Asian Long-Horned Beetle Intergovernmental Task Force

Attachment 1

ASIAN LONG-HORNED BEETLE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCE – OCTOBER 22, 2008

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE REPORT ON INVASIVE SPECIES IN THE CITY OF VAUGHAN

Recommendation

The Director of Corporate Communications recommends:

That the Task Force receive for information purposes this report regarding communications support for the issue of invasive species in Vaughan.

Economic Impact

None.

Communications Plan

There is an ongoing public information effort for the Asian Long-Horned Beetle. A communications plan could be produced for the Emerald Ash Borer, pending developments.

Purpose

This report provides an update on the communications activities relating to the Asian Long-Horned Beetle and other invasive species.

Background - Analysis and Options

The federal government's Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is the lead authority on invasive alien species. It is responsible for developing and managing regulatory programs that protect Canada's wild and cultured plant resources from invasive alien plants and plant pests. This includes the Asian Long-Horned Beetle and the Emerald Ash Borer.

Asian Long-Horned Beetle

The infestation of the Asian Long-Horned beetle was first discovered in Toronto and Vaughan in September, 2003. The formation of the Asian Long-Horned Beetle Intergovernmental Task Force was approved by Vaughan Council on March 29, 2004.

In cooperation with the CFIA, Vaughan held several public information meetings in the fall of 2003. In addition, the extensive communications program undertaken by the City included news releases, website content, Public Service Announcements in local newspapers, public information meetings, and the distribution at City facilities of information brochures and related materials supplied by the CFIA. Corporate Communications facilitated media requests, including special broadcast coverage. There was a concerted effort to produce materials in several languages.

As a result of this successful communications program, the City of Vaughan and its Corporate Communications Department received the 2004 Leadership Through Collaboration Award from the Ontario Federal Council for its contribution to the Emerald Ash Borer & Asian Long-Horned Beetle Emergency Response Teams.

The communications effort on the ALHB issue is ongoing. As required, this includes news releases, website updates, the distribution of information materials, and media monitoring (Attachment #1).

Other invasive species

On April 2, 2007, Council directed the Director of Corporate Communications, in consultation with the Director of Parks Operations and Forestry, to provide a report identifying all municipalities affected by invasive species and particularly by the Asian Long-Horned Beetle.

This was provided as Item 66, Report No. 34, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 25, 2007 (Attachment #2).

The report highlighted Canadian municipalities impacted by the Asian Long-Horned Beetle, the Brown Spruce Long-Horned Beetle, and the Emerald Ash Borer. Since the June, 2007 report, new surveys have been launched by the CFIA in several Ontario municipalities.

Emerald Ash Borer

On August 28, 2008, the CFIA confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in the City of Vaughan in the Highway 7 and Weston Road area. According to the CFIA Survey Update of October 10, 2008:

The CFIA will be surveying in the immediate areas where this invasive beetle has been found to determine the extent of this infestation. Regulatory decisions on appropriate control measures will be made once more information is available from these surveys.

EAB surveys also are being conducted in the City of Sault Ste. Marie, City of Ottawa, City of Mississauga, Town of Oakville, City of Brampton, and the Monteregie region of Quebec. In addition, the City of Toronto is regulated by the Government of Canada under the City of Toronto Emerald Ash Borer Infested Places Declaration and Order (2008).

There has been media coverage of the EAB in Vaughan (Attachment #1). Corporate Communications is now monitoring the media for EAB coverage, collecting background information, and preparing draft key messages (Attachment #3).

Pending further developments and Council approval, a more extensive communications program, similar to the AHLB program, could be developed.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2020

This report is consistent with the priorities set forth in Vaughan Vision 2020 and the necessary resources have been allocated and approved.

Regional Implications

Not applicable.

Conclusion

This report provides an update on the communications activities relating to the Asian Long-Horned Beetle and other invasive species.

Attachments

1. Index of media coverage in Vaughan for 2008 and 2007

2. Report Regarding Municipalities Affected By Invasive Species, Committee Of The Whole, June 18, 2007
3. Key messages developed for Asian Long-Horned Beetle and Emerald Ash Borer (draft)

Report prepared by:

Madeline Zito, Director of Corporate Communications
Ted Hallas, Manager of Corporate Communications

Respectfully submitted,

Madeline Zito
Director of Corporate Communications

*Asian Long-Horned Beetle Intergovernmental Task Force – October 22, 2008
Communications Update Report On Invasive Species In The City Of Vaughan*

List of Media Coverage, 2008

Little green beetles in Vaughan – Vaughan Citizen, September 6, 2008

Insect invades – Vaughan Today, September 5, 2008

Vaughan adds another invasive pest to list – Vaughan Weekly, September 3, 2008

Emerald Ash Borer found in Vaughan – Vaughan Today, August 29, 2008

Long-horned beetle still putting up a fight – Toronto Star, July 16, 2008

Small victory in beetle battle – Vaughan Perspectives, July/August 2008

Vaughan plants trees at ALHB sites – SNAP Newspaper, January 1, 2008

List of Media Coverage, 2007

Volunteers plant 1,000 trees – Snap, December, 1, 2007

Emerald Ash Borer confirmed in Toronto – CFIA, December 4, 2007

Council plants trees in fight against ALHB – Vaughan Weekly, December 5, 2007

Emerald ash borer may hide in firewood – Vaughan Citizen, December 22, 2007

Tree by tree beetle's damage repaired – Vaughan Perspectives, November 8, 2007

Beetles posing threat to forests – Vaughan Today, October 19, 2007

Tree eating critters in two new sites in GTA and Toronto – Vaughan Weekly, October 24, 2007

Vaughan on alert for long-horned beetle outbreak – Vaughan Citizen, October 25, 2007

Need to remain vigilant against invasion of ALHB – OnVaughan, August 8, 2007

Need to remain vigilant against invasion of ALHB – Vaughan Today, July 27, 2007

Asian beetles still a concern – Vaughan Today, June 15, 2007

ALHB claims another 800 trees – Globe and Mail, March 2, 2007

ALHB spotted in Toronto – Vaughan Weekly, March 7, 2007

Hungry bug eating Toronto trees – 680 News, February 28, 2007

Additional ALHB infestation found in Toronto – CFIA, February 28, 2007

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, Report No. 34, of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on June 25, 2007.

66 REPORT REGARDING MUNICIPALITIES AFFECTED BY INVASIVE SPECIES

The Committee of the Whole recommends approval of the recommendation contained in the following report of the Commissioner of Economic/Technology Development and Communication, dated June 18, 2007:

Recommendation

The Commissioner of Economic/Technology Development and Communication, in consultation with the Commissioner of Community Services, the Director of Corporate Communications and the Director of Parks Operations and Forestry, recommend:

That Council receive this information regarding municipalities affected by invasive species.

Economic Impact

None.

Communications Plan

Not applicable.

Purpose

This report addresses Item 51, Report No. 15 of the Committee of the Whole, which was adopted without amendment by the Council of the City of Vaughan on April 2, 2007, as follows:

That the Director of Corporate Communications, in consultation with the Director of Parks Operations and Forestry, provide a report identifying all municipalities affected by invasive species and particularly by the Asian Long-Horned Beetle.

Background - Analysis and Options

The federal government's Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is the lead authority on invasive alien species. It is responsible for developing and managing regulatory programs that protect Canada's wild and cultured plant resources from invasive alien plants and plant pests.

The CFIA identifies the following as "Invasive species in Canada" under the category of Invasive Alien Terrestrial Plants and Plant Pests:

- Asian Long-Horned Beetle;
- Brown Spruce Long-Horned Beetle; and
- Emerald Ash Borer.

Under the authority of the Plant Protection Act, a ministerial order has been issued establishing a regulated area for the invasive species noted above. This report lists the municipalities with regulated areas for these invasive species.

Asian Long-Horned Beetle

The infestation of the Asian long-horned beetle was first discovered in Toronto and Vaughan in 2003. Since September 2003, 16,000 trees have been removed due to the infestation.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, CW Report No. 34 – Page 2

The Asian long-horned beetle does not pose a threat to public health. However, it attacks and kills living broadleaf hardwood trees, including maple, horse chestnut, poplar, willow, birch, elm, hackberry, mountain ash, silk tree and sycamore.

The female beetle lays individual eggs into oval egg-laying sites, which often leak sap. The eggs hatch after 10 days and the larvae begin feeding on the living tissue inside the tree. In early spring, mature larvae pupates in the wood just below the bark. Signs of infestation include exit holes and sawdust on branches or at the tree base from larvae feeding inside.

According to the United States Department of Agriculture, ALHB infestations have been found in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, and Toronto. In July 2006, the quarantine in Illinois was lifted since no more ALHB beetles were found in the area. In order to eradicate this pest, quarantines have been established around infested areas in New York, New Jersey and Illinois in the United States, as well as in Toronto, where beetles or their damage have been found.

Brown Spruce Long-Horned Beetle

The Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle (BSLB) has been identified by scientists with the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) to be the causal agent of spruce tree mortality in Point Pleasant Park in the Halifax Regional Municipality.

Point Pleasant Park is 75 hectares in size and is located in the heart of Halifax. This is the first known occurrence of this invasive forest pest in North America. It is believed that this pest arrived in Canada in solid wood packing material brought through the port of Halifax. BSLB is an exotic pest of quarantine significance and a threat to trade in Canadian forest commodities and directly to the forests of North America.

The CFIA has established a multiple agency task force and is working closely with Natural Resources Canada-Canadian Forest Service, the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and the Halifax Regional Municipality. The task force is responsible for providing recommendations to the CFIA and to develop a response plan for control and eradication of BSLB.

Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a highly destructive insect which kills ash trees. There are currently three regulated areas by Ministerial Order in southwestern Ontario for EAB. Elgin and Lambton counties are regulated separately. Essex County and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, which were separately regulated in 2004, were combined into one regulated area in June 2006.

Some properties within Lambton, Elgin and Middlesex counties are also under specific quarantine measures. Those property owners have been notified that they cannot remove regulated materials from their properties without CFIA permission.

Regulated materials for EAB include nursery stock, trees, logs, wood, rough lumber including pallets and other wood packaging materials, bark, wood chips or bark chips from ash (*Fraxinus* species), and firewood of all tree species.

There are currently four regions in southwestern Ontario that are designated as regulated areas for EAB under three separate Ministerial Orders: The County of Essex and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent Emerald Ash Borer Infested Places Declaration and Order identifies the area encompassing the County of Essex and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent as being a regulated quarantine area. The County of Elgin Emerald Ash Borer Infested Places Declaration and Order identifies Elgin County as being a regulated quarantine area. The County of Lambton Emerald Ash Borer Infested Places Declaration and Order identifies Lambton County as being a regulated quarantine area.

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, CW Report No. 34 – Page 3

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) confirmed in December 2006 that three ash trees in London, Ontario, were infested with the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Movement restrictions have been implemented on the properties where EAB was found and all properties in a five-kilometre radius. These restrictions are necessary to stop the movement of firewood or other potentially-infested materials which may harbour the insect.

Municipalities with regulated areas to prevent the spread of invasive alien species:

ASIAN LONG-HORNED BEETLE

AREA	MUNICIPALITY	CONTACT
Greater Toronto Area	City of Vaughan	City of Vaughan, 2141 Major Mackenzie Drive, Vaughan, ON L6A 1T1 City Clerk John Leach, 905-832-8585 ext. 8281, john.leach@vaughan.ca
	City of Toronto	City of Toronto, Toronto City Hall, 100 Queen Street West, Toronto, ON M5H 2N2 City Clerk Ulli S. Watkiss, 416-392-8010, uwatkis@toronto.ca

BROWN SPRUCE LONGHORN BEETLE

AREA	MUNICIPALITY	CONTACT
Nova Scotia	Halifax Regional Municipality	Halifax Regional Municipality, City Hall, 1841 Argyle Street, Main Floor, PO Box 1749, Halifax, NS B3J 3A5 Office of the Municipal Clerk, Jan Gibson, 902-490-4210 Clerks@halifax.ca

EMERALD ASH BORER

AREA	MUNICIPALITY	CONTACT
Southwestern Ontario – Lambton County	County of Lambton	County of Lambton, PO Box 3000, 789 Broadway Street Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0 519-845-0801 administration@county-lambton.on.ca
	Township of Brooke-Alvinston	Township of Brooke-Alvinston, PO Box 28, 3236 River Street, Alvinston, ON N0N 1A0 Clerk-Treasurer: Cathy Case, 519-898-2173 toba@brktel.on.ca
	Township of Dawn Euphemia	Township of Dawn Euphemia, 4591 Lambton Line, R.R. 4, Dresden, ON N0P 1M0 Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer: R Scott. Gawley, 519-692-5148 sgawley@dawneuphemia.on.ca

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, CW Report No. 34 – Page 4

EMERALD ASH BORER con't

AREA	MUNICIPALITY	CONTACT
Southwestern Ontario – Lambton County (con't)	Township of Enniskillen	Township of Enniskillen, 4465 Rokeby Line, R.R. 1 Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0 Clerk-Treasurer: Duncan McTavish, 519-882-2490 enniskill@xcelco.on.ca
	Municipality of Lambton Shores	Municipality of Lambton Shores, P.O. Box 610, 19 Ann Street, Forest, ON N0N 1J0 Clerk: Carol McKenzie, 519-786-2335 administration@lambtonshores.ca
	Village of Oil Springs	Village of Oil Springs, P.O. Box 22, 4591 Oil Springs Line Oil Springs, ON N0N 1P0 Clerk/Treasurer: Christine Poland, 519-834-2939 oilsprings@ciaccess.com
	Town of Petrolia	Town of Petrolia, P.O. Box 1270, 411 Greenfield Street Petrolia, ON N0N 1R0 519-882-2350 Petrolia@town.petrolia.on.ca
	Town of Plympton-Wyoming	Town of Plympton-Wyoming, P.O. Box 250, 546 Niagara Street, Wyoming, ON N0N 1T0 Administrator/Clerk: Caroline DeSchutter, 519-845-3939 choskin@plympton-wyoming.com
	Village of Point Edward	Village of Point Edward, 135 Kendall Street Point Edward, ON N7V 4G6 Clerk-Treasurer: Peggy Cramp, 519-337-3021 info@villageofpointedward.com
	City of Sarnia	City of Sarnia, P.O.Box 3018, 255 North Christina Street Sarnia, ON N7T 7N2 519-332-0330 clerks@city.sarnia.on.ca
	Township of St. Clair	Township of St. Clair, 1155 Emily Street, Mooretown, ON N0N 1M0 Clerk: John DeMars, 519-867-2021 webmaster@twp.stclair.on.ca
	Township of Warwick	Township of Warwick, 6332 Nauvoo Road, R.R. 8 Watford, ON N0M 2S0 519-849-3926 warwick@wwdc.com

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, CW Report No. 34 – Page 5

EMERALD ASH BORER con't

AREA	MUNICIPALITY	CONTACT
Southwestern Ontario – London	Parts of the City of London	City of London, P.O. Box 5035, City Hall, 300 Dufferin Avenue, London, ON N6A 4L9 Clerk: Kevin Bain, 519-661-4500 webmaster@london.ca
Southwestern Ontario – Essex County	County of Essex	County of Essex, 360 Fairview Avenue West, Essex, ON N8M 1Y6 Clerk: Mary S. Brennan, 519-776-6441 mbrennan@countyofofessex.on.ca
	Town of Amherstburg	Town of Amherstburg, 271 Sandwich Street South, Amherstburg, ON N9V 2A5 Clerk: David Mailloux, 519-736-0012 hpayne@amherstburg.ca
	Town of Essex	Town of Essex, 33 Talbot Strret South, Essex, ON N8M 1A8 Clerk: Jerry Marion, 519-776-7336 jmarion@townofessex.on.ca
	Town of Kingsville	Town of Kingsville, 2021 Division Road North, Kingsville, ON N9Y 2Y9 Clerk: Linda Burling, 519-733-2305 lburling@town.kingsville.on.ca
	Town of Lakeshore	Town of Lakeshore, 419 Notre Dame Road, Belle River, ON N0R 1A0 Clerk: Mary Masse, 519-728-2700 mmasse@lakeshore.ca
	Town of LaSalle	Town of LaSalle, 5950 Malden Road, LaSalle, ON N9H 1S4 Clerk: Kevin Miller, 519-969-7770 info@town.lasalle.on.ca
	Municipality of Leamington	Municipality of Leamington, 38 Erie Street North, Leamington, ON N8H 2Z3 Clerk: Brian R. Sweet, 519-326-5761 info@leamington.ca

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, CW Report No. 34 – Page 6

EMERALD ASH BORER con't

AREA	MUNICIPALITY	CONTACT
Southwestern Ontario – Essex County (con't)	Township of Pelee	Township of Pelee, 1045 West Shore Road, Pelee Island, ON N0R 1M0 Clerk: Mike Galloway, 519-724-2931 info@pelee.ca
	Town of Tecumseh	Town of Tecumseh, 917 Lesperance Road, Tecumseh, ON N8N 1W9 Clerk: Laura Moy, 519-735-2184 info@tecumseh.ca
	City of Windsor	City of Windsor, P.O. Box 1607, 350 City Hall Square Windsor, ON N9A 6S1 Clerk: Brenda Andreatta, 519-255-6100 clerks@city.windsor.on.ca
	Municipality of Chatham-Kent	Municipality of Chatham-Kent, P.O Box 640, Civic Centre 315 King Street West, Chatham, ON N7M 5K8 Clerk: Elinor Mifflin, 519-360-1998 elinorm@chatham-kent.ca
Southwestern Ontario – Elgin County	County of Elgin	County of Elgin, 450 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, ON N5R 5V1 519-631-1460 admin2@elgin-county.on.ca
	Town of Aylmer	Town of Aylmer, 46 Talbot Street West, Aylmer, ON N5H 1J7 Clerk: Nancie Irving, 519-765-3164 birwin@town.aylmer.ca
	Municipality of Bayham	Municipality of Bayham, P.O Box 160, 9344 Plank Road Straffordville, ON N0J 1Y0 Clerk: Linda Millard, 519-866-5521 bayham@bayham.on.ca
	Municipality of Central Elgin	Municipality of Central Elgin, 450 Sunset Drive, St. Thomas, ON N5R 5V1 Clerk: Donald N. Leitch, 519-631-4860 dwilson@centralelgin.org

CITY OF VAUGHAN

EXTRACT FROM COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25, 2007

Item 66, CW Report No. 34 – Page 8

Conclusion

This report identifies those municipalities affected by invasive species under the category of Invasive Alien Terrestrial Plants and Plant Pests, as requested by Council.

Attachments

None.

Report prepared by:

Madeline Zito, Director of Corporate Communications
Marjie Fraser, Director of Parks Operations and Forestry
Ted Hallas, Manager of Corporate Communications

Attachment 3



Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

Canada

Newsroom > News Releases / Information Bulletins

EMERALD ASH BORER CONFIRMED IN VAUGHAN, ONTARIO

OTTAWA, August 28, 2008 – The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed the presence of the emerald ash borer (EAB) in Vaughan, Ontario. The infested trees are located in the Highway 7 and Weston Road area.

This invasive beetle does not spread quickly on its own. In fact, it is most commonly spread when people move materials which it has infested. Moving these materials even just a few kilometres away can spread the emerald ash borer to new areas.

We all have a responsibility to protect Canada's forests and area residents can play a key part in helping to control the spread of EAB by not moving firewood, logs, branches, nursery stock, chips or other ash wood. The Government of Canada launched a "Don't Move Firewood" campaign in June to limit the spread of invasive species by Canadians. Canadians are encouraged to buy firewood locally, burn it on site and never bring it back home.

The Government is also working hard with provinces and municipalities to limit the spread of the emerald ash borer and safeguard our valuable forests.

The CFIA will be carrying out increased surveying of trees in the area to determine the extent of the infestation and affected property owners will be notified. Regulatory measures to control this pest will be taken based on information obtained through the surveys. The CFIA continues to work with its partners and stakeholders toward the goal of slowing the spread of this destructive pest.

Additional information is available on the CFIA web site at www.inspection.gc.ca or by calling 1-866-463-6017.

-30-

Canadian Food Inspection Agency
Media Relations: 613-228-6682

- [Background](#)
- [Main Page - Emerald Ash Borer](#)

Background

The emerald ash borer is highly destructive to ash trees and was first discovered in Canada in Ontario in the summer of 2002. It already affects ash trees in the United States and Canada and poses an economic and environmental threat to urban and forested areas across both countries. EAB does not pose a risk to human health.

This invasive beetle has previously been confirmed in Ontario in the city of Toronto, the municipality of Chatham-Kent as well as Essex, Elgin, Lambton, Middlesex and Norfolk counties. Regulatory restrictions have been put in place in these areas to control the movement of potentially infested materials and to slow the spread of the pest to new areas. It has also been recently confirmed in the Montérégie Region in Quebec, as well as in the City of Mississauga, the Town of Oakville and the City of Ottawa in Ontario.

Date modified: 2008-08-28