

Public Notice of Pesticide Use for Control of Emerald Ash Borer *Agrilus planipennis*

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive beetle, not native to North America, that has been present in Toronto since 2007. EAB is an aggressive, invasive insect that has killed more than 800,000 ash trees in Toronto and millions of ash trees throughout Ontario. There are currently no native, natural controls to keep EAB populations low enough to avoid tree mortality.

To protect vulnerable ash trees from EAB, the City has been injecting select, City-owned ash trees with TreeAzin Systemic Insecticide (**Pest Control Products # 30559**) since 2011. TreeAzin, derived from Neem tree seeds, contains the active ingredient **Azadirachtin**, which acts as a growth inhibitor for insects when ingested. TreeAzin is registered by Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) for control of EAB and is considered a class C pesticide. TreeAzin is listed by the Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) for organic use and is allowed for use under Ontario's cosmetic pesticide ban.

Approximately 5,300 City-owned ash trees are scheduled to be injected from **June 1 to August 31, 2025**. TreeAzin is injected into the trunk of the tree using EcoJect injection canisters that are inserted into drilled holes. TreeAzin is pushed into the tree's vascular tissue and transported throughout the tree underneath the bark. EAB larvae that feed upon tissue that contains TreeAzin will be affected and will not reach maturity.

To find out which ash trees will be injected, visit the City of Toronto's interactive EAB map available at: toronto.ca/EAB

If you have any further questions regarding the EAB injection program, please connect with 311 to get in touch with City staff who will answer your questions.

Connect with 311 toronto.ca/311

311@toronto.ca

Phone: 311 TTY: <u>Use 711</u>