

For questions or further information, contact:

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TEMPLATE ONLY: PLEASE MODIFY TO YOUR NEEDS

**Template Community Proclamation for
Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week
May 18-24, 2014**

WHEREAS, over (number) ash trees exist in the great state of (State's name) that contribute to air and water quality, property and land values, reduced heating and cooling costs, reduced soil erosion, temperature moderation, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats, manufacturing, commerce, and tourism, and

WHEREAS, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a destructive exotic beetle, was first discovered in North America in 2002, threatens the state's and the nation's valued ash tree resources, and

WHEREAS, by increasing public awareness and understanding of EAB, our community can assist in curtailing the artificial spread of the beetle through the movement of firewood and help better protect our ash trees, and

WHEREAS, employing a cooperative spirit and encouraging environmental stewardship in our community ultimately reduces the risk to (State's name) woodlands and landscapes, and

WHEREAS, Spring marks the beginning of the travel and tourism season in (States Name), kicking off camping season and more abundant firewood movement throughout the state, and

WHEREAS, Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the Village/City of _____ to join forces with state and federal agencies, township and county governments, business, industry, environmental groups, community organizations, and citizens to take action against the spread and introduction of EAB,

NOW THEREFORE, I, _____ Mayor, do hereby proclaim the week of May 18, 2014 as

Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week

in the Village/City of _____. I encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of EAB and its environmental, ecological, and economic impact on our community, the State of _____, and the United States of America.