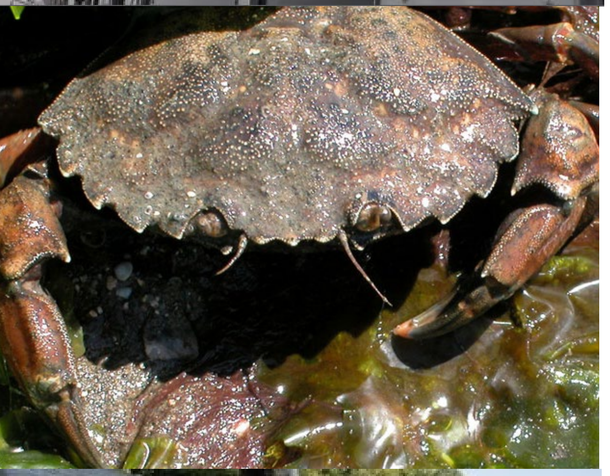
The Washington State Emerald Ash Borer Resources & Management Guide

Maria Marlin
Community Outreach & Environmental Education Specialist
Washington Invasive Species Council

29 October 2025
Updates on the Emerald Ash Borer in the Pacific Northwest Webinar

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive
Species Council



What is the Washington Invasive Species Council?

Established by the Legislature in 2006, extended in 2011, 2016, and 2020. Currently, the council exists until June 30, 2032.

Mission:

The council provides policy level direction, planning, and coordination that will:

- Empower those engaged in the prevention, detection, and eradication of invasive species.
- Include a strategic plan designed to build upon local, state, and regional efforts, while serving as a forum for invasive species education and communication.

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive
Species Council

Council Staff

New leadership coming soon!

Executive Coordinator

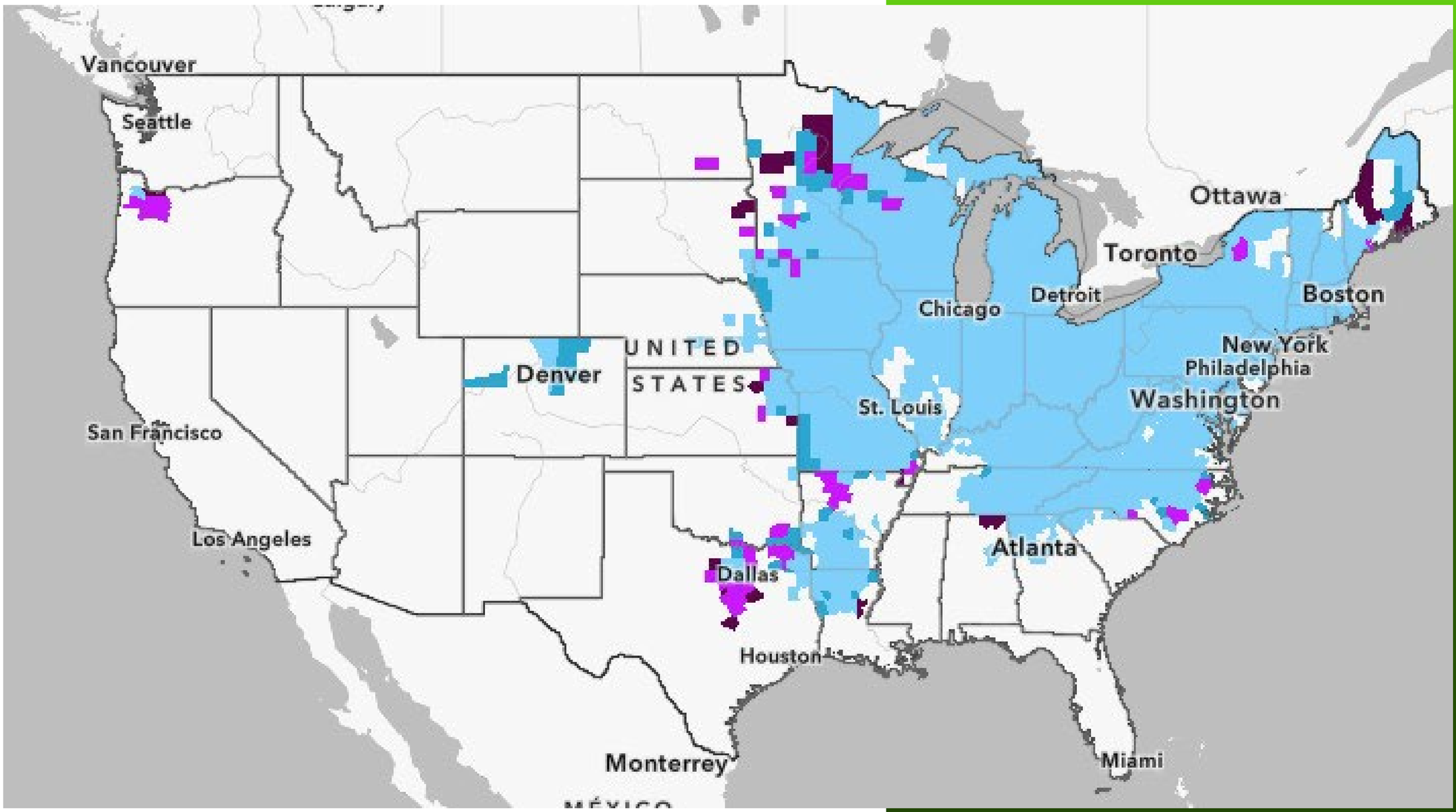
Maria Marlin

Community Outreach & Environmental Education Specialist

Jessica La Belle

Invasive Species Program Specialist

Current Spread

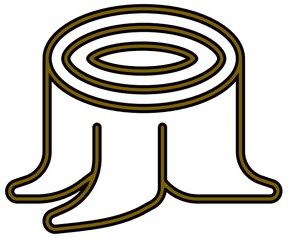


Note this map does not contain detections in British Columbia or Canada as a whole

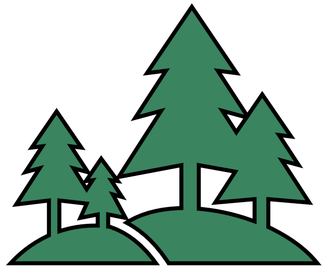
WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive Species Council

Updated distribution map can be found at [Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Known Infested Counties | Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service]

Why It Matters

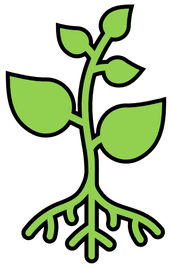


TIMBER
$3.06 billion



ENVIRONMENT
priceless

COMMUNITIES
priceless



CULTURAL RESOURCES
priceless

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive
Species Council

Challenges

- Federal de-regulation
  - Removed from United States Department of Agriculture Priority Pest List

- Lack of funding
  - No longer included in wood-boring insect surveys

- Multi-agency jurisdiction
  - Forest pest, not an agricultural pest
  - Reporting & Identification to WSDA, USDA
  - Firewood as a potential pathway

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive Species Council

Washington State Emerald Ash Borer Resources & Management Guide

Background

- Biology & Lifecyle
- Ash Trees in WA State
- Pest History & Pathways

Impacts

- Environmental Risk
- Economic Risk
- Street Trees & Community Impacts
- Cultural Resources

Readiness

- Preventative Measures
- Survey & Detection Protocols
- Reporting
- Trapping & Monitoring
- Ash Tree Mapping

Response Strategies

- Impacts of No Management
- Planning & Response Strategies

Management

- Treatments
- Wood Disposal & Reutilization
- Biological Control
- Ash Removal & Mitigation

Outreach & Education

- Communications Plan
- Targeted Outreach Efforts
- Education Management Plan

WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive Species Council

Washington State Emerald Ash Borer Interagency Working Group

State Partners

- Washington Invasive Species Council
- Washington State Department of Agriculture
- Washington State Department of Ecology
- Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Washington State Department of Natural Resources
- Washington State Parks
- Washington State University

Federal Partners

- United States Department of Agriculture
- US Forest Service

Other Stakeholders

- Samara Group LLC
- Oregon Invasive Species Council
- City of Seattle

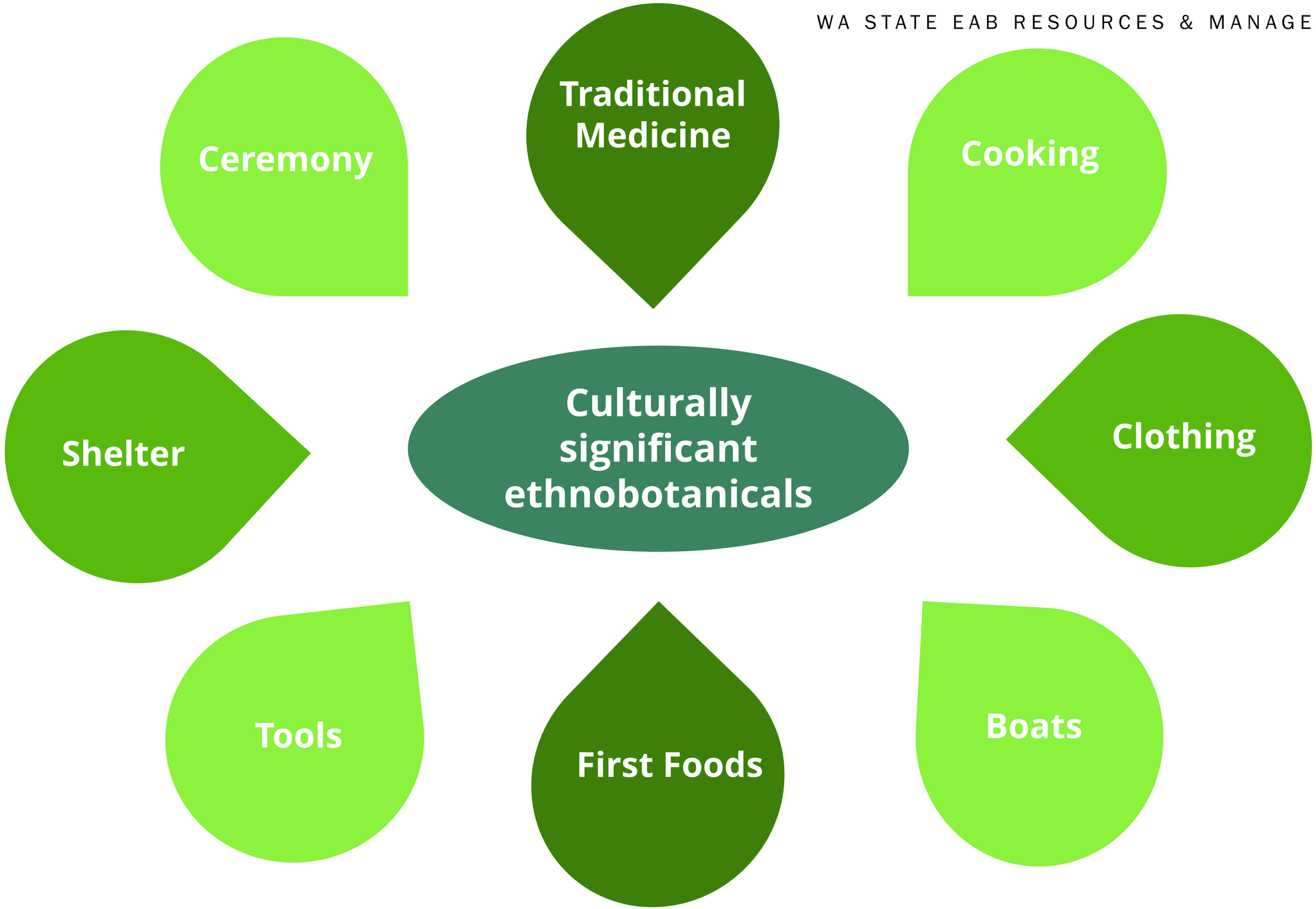
WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive
Species Council

Washington State Spotted Lanternfly Action Plan

- Short Term Management
- Monitoring and Outreach
- Early Detection
- Rapid Response
- Eradication
- Long Term Management
- Quarantine(s) and Rulemaking
- Tree-of-Heaven Control
- Cultural Impacts
- Potential Economic Impacts
- Best Practices

Learn more at agr.wa.gov/lanternfly

WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive
Species Council


Ceremony
Traditional Medicine
Cooking
Shelter
Culturally significant ethnobotanicals
Clothing
Tools
First Foods
Boats

Takeaways

- Culturally significant ethnobotanicals may be at risk from invasive insects
- It is critical to include Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities when preparing for or responding to a plant health emergency.

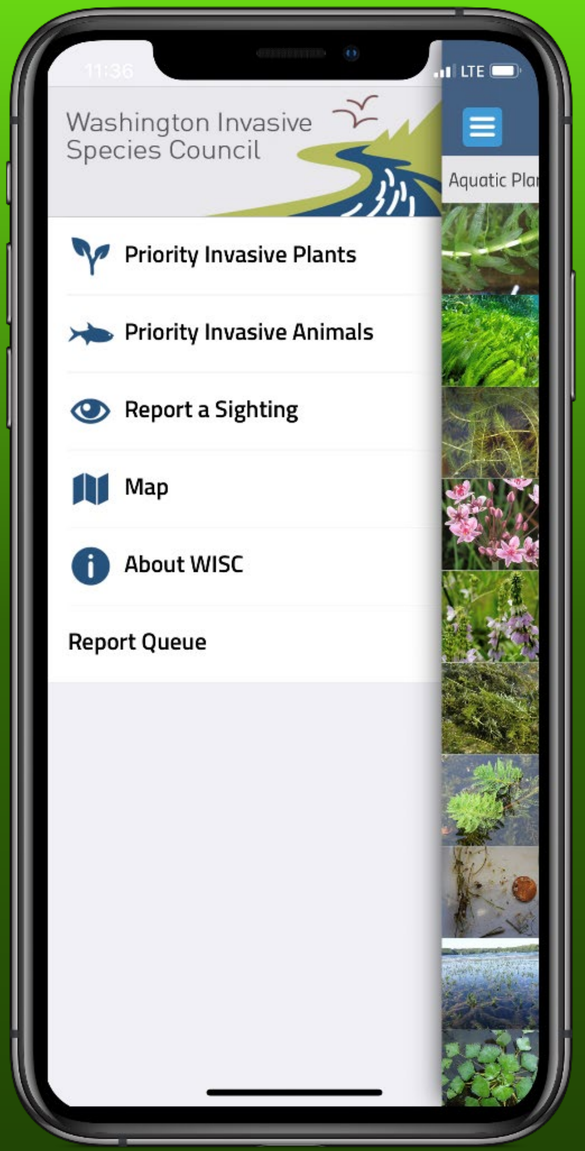
WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive
Species Council

SEE IT, SNAP IT, REPORT IT

Think you have seen an emerald ash borer in Washington?

Take a picture, note the location, and report it!

You can report 3 ways:
On your phone or tablet using the **WA Invasives app**
On our website:
invasivespecies.wa.gov/report-a-sighting/
Or email InvasiveSpecies@rco.wa.gov

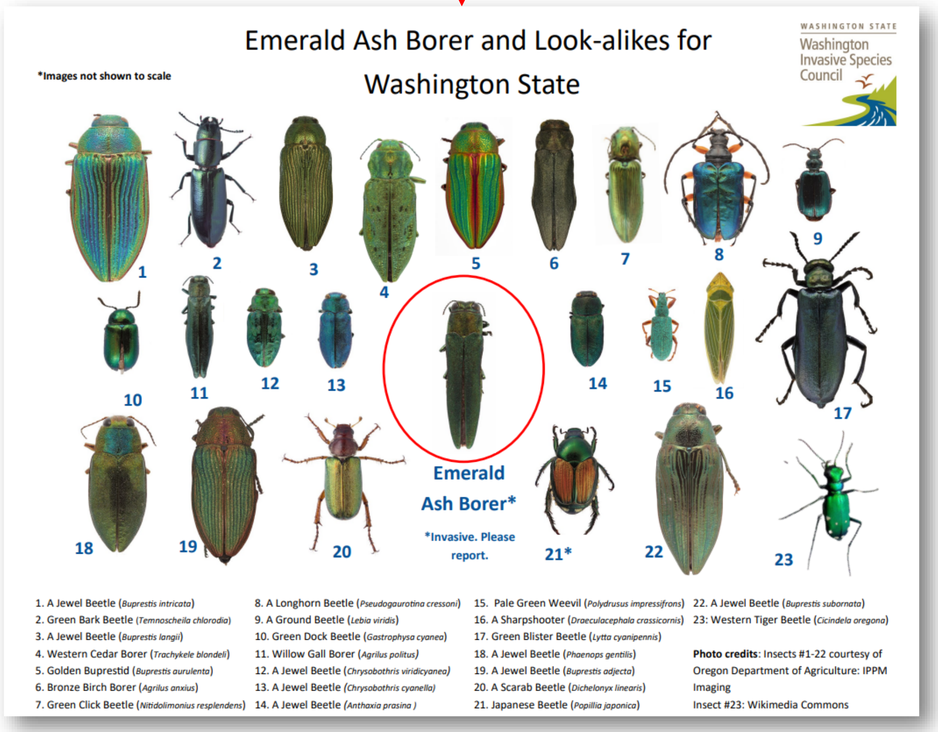


WASHINGTON STATE
RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive Species Council

SCOPE OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE RESOURCES!

Free printable factsheet

Emerald Ash Borer Look-alike Guide



Washington Invasive Species Council

Emerald Ash Borer

Trunk damage. Photo: Art Wagner

Adult beetle. Photo: David Cappaert

Report Sightings

Invasivespecies.wa.gov

What Is It?

The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is a small Asian, wood-boring beetle that may attack and kill ash trees. The larvae burrow under the tree's bark and eat the sapwood. These damaged layers of tissue below the bark are critical to transporting water and nutrients throughout the tree. Once damaged, the layers can't transport water and nutrients causing the leaves and tree to die gradually.

Is It Here Yet?

No, but it is very close. They are established elsewhere in North America. This invasive insect was recently detected in Oregon and British Columbia.

Why Should I Care?

The emerald ash borer has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees in North America and gradually is moving westward all the time. It could devastate Washington's forests and sensitive riparian areas. In addition, the potential costs of lengthy quarantines or replacing countless dead trees after could be hefty.

Emerald ash borer adult. Photo: Wikipedia

What Are Its Characteristics?

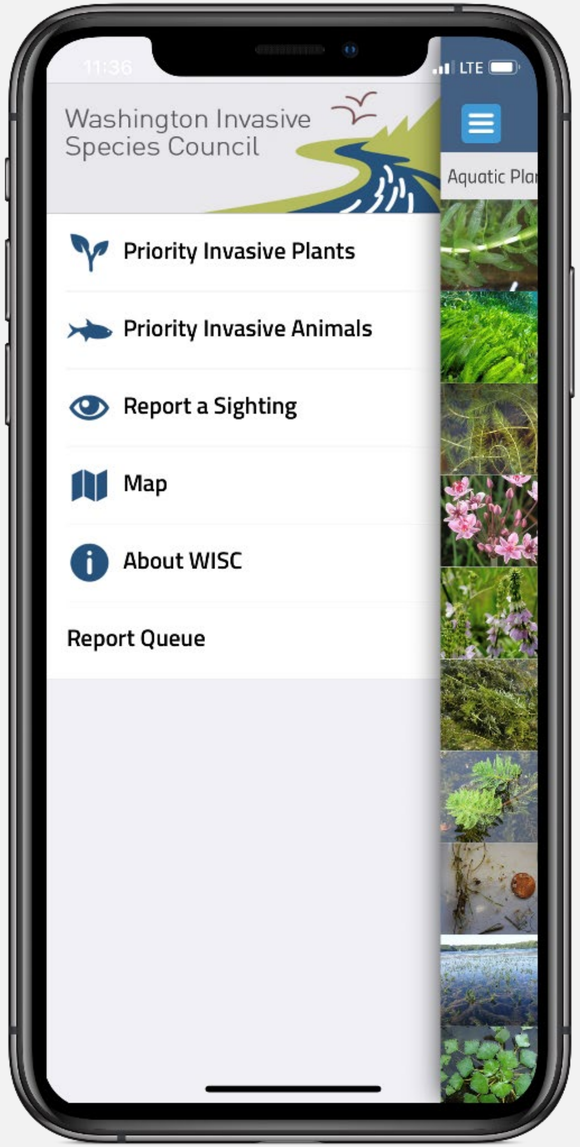
- Adults are a jewel-like metallic green.
- Elongated narrow shape, about a half-inch long.

QUESTIONS?

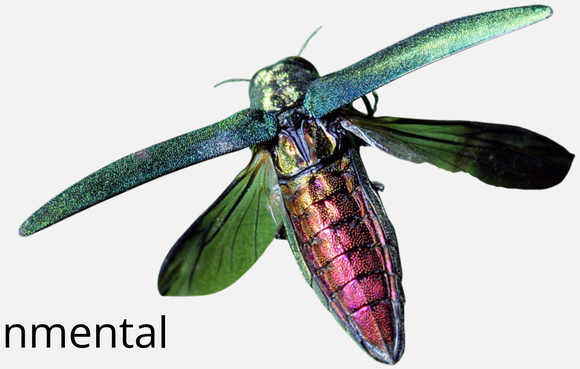
WA Invasives app

Find us on Facebook

Instagram



WASHINGTON STATE RECREATION AND CONSERVATION OFFICE
Washington Invasive Species Council



Maria Marlin
Community Outreach & Environmental Education Specialist
Washington Invasive Species Council
State of Washington
Recreation and Conservation Office
Email: Maria.Marlin@rco.wa.gov
Phone: 360-472-5552
Website: InvasiveSpecies.wa.gov

Scan me for EAB info!