

For questions or further information, contact:

Sharon Lucik

EAB Program, USDA APHIS

810-844-2713

[Sharon.E.Lucik@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:Sharon.E.Lucik@aphis.usda.gov)

TEMPLATE ONLY: PLEASE MODIFY TO YOUR NEEDS

**Template Governor's Proclamation for  
Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week  
May 18-24, 2014**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, more than \_\_\_\_ million ash trees exist in the forests of (State name), enhancing our state's air and water quality, natural landscapes, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats, property values and local economies; and,

**WHEREAS**, an average of \_\_ percent of urban street trees in (State Name) are ash, helping residents reduce heating and cooling costs, reducing air pollution and storm water runoff, increasing property values and making our towns and cities some of the most beautiful in the country; and,

**WHEREAS**, EAB has not been found infesting ash trees in (your State); and

**WHEREAS**, increasing public awareness and understanding of the emerald ash borer (EAB), a destructive exotic beetle, benefits the state of (state Name) by curtailing the artificial spread of the beetle through the movement of firewood; and,

**WHEREAS**, employing a cooperative spirit and encouraging environmental stewardship throughout these states and partnerships ultimately reduces the risk to the nation's ash resources; and,

**WHEREAS**, it is the desired goal of the State of (State Name) that citizens and visitors alike increase their understanding and awareness of EAB and its environmental, ecological, and economic impact on (State Name) and the nation; and,

**WHEREAS**, spring marks the beginning of the travel and tourism season in (State Name); and more abundant firewood movement through the state; and

**WHEREAS**, Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the government to join forces with schools, businesses, industry, environmental groups, community organizations, tourists and citizens to take action against the spread and introduction of EAB;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, \_\_\_\_\_, Governor of the State of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby proclaim the week of May 18, 2014 – May 24, 2014 as Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week in (State Name) and I commend this observance to all people.