



Emerald Ash Borer: Signs and Symptoms



A Fairfax County, Va., publication

November 2008

There is a new insect in the Fairfax County — the emerald ash borer, a metallic green beetle. It only attacks ash trees, but it can kill your ash. **These are the most common signs that the emerald ash borer may be attacking your ash tree.**

Split Bark or Branches



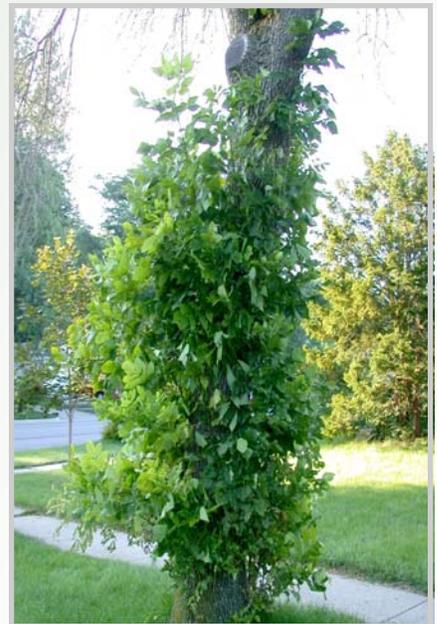
You may find a **split or fissure** in the tree trunk (*left*) or branches (*below*).



Canopy Dieback and Shoots



If a tree is infested, its **canopy may die** (*left*), or a tree may grow small shoots or branches from the trunk, called **epicormic sprouts** (*right*).



Exit Holes in the Bark

When an adult emerald ash borer emerges from the tree, it leaves a distinctive exit hole, shaped like a capital letter “D.”



S-Shaped Galleries Under the Bark



The larvae feed on the tree beneath the bark. They make tunnels or galleries in an “S”-shaped pattern. These galleries can be seen once the bark around the splits begins to come off the tree.

Get more information at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/environmental/pests.htm.

For more information or to request this document in an alternate format, contact the Fairfax County Forest Pest Branch, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 518, Fairfax, Va. 22035, 703-324-5304, TTY 711.

Photos courtesy of Heather Finch, Fairfax County Urban Forest Management Division; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources; Michigan Department of Agriculture; Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service; David Cappaert, Michigan State University; and www.bugwood.org.