

**October 2024**

**Square miles known to be infested with EAB:**

**Forest Grove – 10.4 Butte Creek/Pudding River – 23.6**

*NOTE: The full extent of the Butte Creek/Pudding River infestation is likely to become clearer over the next few weeks as more surveys are completed. This will likely increase the area known to be infested.*

***This monthly newsletter gives updates and resources on emerging threats to the health of Oregon's trees in natural and managed landscapes. It is published by the Oregon Department of Forestry in collaboration with other state, regional, federal, Tribal, and local agencies and organizations. To subscribe, email [jim.gersbach@odf.oregon.gov](mailto:jim.gersbach@odf.oregon.gov)***

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## **ODA says EAB has been found within city limits of Woodburn, Mt. Angel**

The Oregon Dept. of Agriculture has confirmed that trees showing signs of infestation with EAB have been found inside the city limits of two towns in eastern Marion County - Woodburn and Mt. Angel. The two towns are only eight miles apart, and just a few miles from Butte Creek, the border between Marion and Clackamas counties. Many dead and dying ash trees have been found on both sides of the creek, indicating a well-established EAB infestation. The ODA says it is continuing to survey in both counties to try to determine the full extent of EAB infestation. Both counties, along with Yamhill and Washington counties, are under a wood and ash/olive nursery stock quarantine. Find details on quarantine restrictions [here](#).



## **OISC has grants available for invasive species education and outreach**

The Oregon Invasive Species Council (OISC) is still seeking proposals for grants to fund education outreach projects. OISC gives out the awards, while the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) administers the financing of the OISC Education Outreach Grant Program.

- Project budgets must be at least \$5,000. Projects over \$20,000 must show a collaborative, larger-scale watershed, community, or statewide education or outreach impact.
- Grants will be awarded based on the availability of funds.

Grant applicants must be an eligible legal entity—a local or tribal government, non-profit organization, educational institution, or individual (an individual is not eligible for indirect or administrative costs). Eligible entities must have a FEIN number. A state or federal agency may apply for funding only as a co-applicant with an eligible entity.

OISC encourages a broad array of applications that serve to inform and engage the public and/or specific audiences on invasive species, their impacts, pathways of introduction, prevention, and management. The goal is to protect Oregon's clean water, working landscapes, food, wildlife, and unique beauty for future generations.

Project goals should relate to understanding the impacts, spread, prevention, detection, or management of invasive species issues in Oregon and be relevant to OISC goals.

## **Three Oregon places will test Oregon ash seedlings for EAB resistance**

ODF's J.E. Schroeder Seed Orchard in Marion County and two Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District sites in Washington County have agreed to serve as sites where three large genetic trials of Oregon ash seedlings (*Fraxinus latifolia*) can be grown to examine adaptive genetic variation in this species and to see if any families are resistant to emerald ash borer (EAB).

The young trees will be grown from seed collected from populations of Oregon ash throughout the native range of the species (California, Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia). The seedlings will be monitored to provide the first systematic look at whether resistance to EAB is present in Oregon ash and to see to what level, if any, these trees are able to fend off or withstand infestation. Seed will be sown in spring 2025, with the first plantings expected to begin in fall 2025. The project is funded by the USDA Forest Service.

EAB eventually kills upwards of 99 percent or more of all ashes in areas it infests, virtually wiping out ash trees. Researchers Richard Snieszko from the USDA Forest Service's Dorena Genetic Resource Center in Cottage Grove and Glenn Howe, an associate professor of Forest Genetics at OSU and Director of the Pacific Northwest Tree Improvement Research Cooperative, say they expect the project to take many years to find resistance to EAB in any Oregon ash trees. Additional seed collections are underway.

"Findings from this project likely represent the best hope to build future populations of this important tree for restoration. Other groups are also interested in establishing genetic field trials, but funding will be needed to start those," says Snieszko.

In addition to the test plots, it is expected that ash trees in heavily infested areas that survive after others have died will be evaluated to see if their survival is due to natural resistance.

## Benton County to be site of event exploring wood debris disposal options

Join OSU Extension Wednesday, Oct. 9 for a free field tour of a suburban forestland parcel in Benton County to explore alternative approaches for managing woody debris. Partners helping with the tour are Oregon Dept. of Forestry, Oregon Dept. of Environmental Quality, Oregon Forest Resources Institute, Oregon Small Woodlands Association, and others.

The tour will include demonstrations of mastication (grinding, shredding, or chopping woody material) and an air curtain incinerator (ACI) as well as presentations and discussion.

Topics include:

- fire risk reduction
- biochar production
- cost-share options
- smoke management
- protecting public health
- invasive insect sanitation (including EAB)



Lunch is provided. Register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton/events/alternative-approaches-woody-residue-management>

## ODF and OSU Extension to hold EAB class for natural resource pros

Natural resource professionals are invited to a workshop on the management of emerald ash borer in the Willamette Valley. The workshop is Tuesday, Oct. 1 from 9 a.m. to noon at Alton Baker Park in Eugene. It is being put on by the Oregon Dept. of Forestry and OSU Extension. The workshop will include classroom instruction and a mock-EAB demonstration trail to practice recognizing signs of EAB. For more information or to register, please visit <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/lane/events/emerald-ash-borer-training-natural-resource-professionals>

## Small woodland owners are invited to an EAB training Oct. 2 in Philomath

OSU Extension is inviting small woodland owners to learn about EAB at a free, 2-hour workshop Wednesday, Oct. 2 in Philomath. Participants will learn the biology and impacts of EAB in the Willamette Valley. They will also be shown how to identify the signs and symptoms of EAB in Oregon ash trees on a mock-EAB demonstration trail in Philomath.

This class runs from 10 a.m. to noon and is eligible for 2 continuing education units (CEUs) for those with Pesticide Certification. Register at <https://extension.oregonstate.edu/benton/events/emerald-ash-borer-workshop-small-farm-woodland-owners>

*\*Space is limited, RSVP required*

## Natural resource professionals get MOB training from Metro and ODF

A class for natural resource professionals working in areas known to be infested with Mediterranean oak borer has quickly filled up. Metro and the Oregon Dept. of Forestry organized the class, which will focus on how to diagnose and manage this invasive pest, which is native to Europe, North Africa, and the Middle East. The class is being held Oct. 3 in Wilsonville, where MOB has been detected in a number of Oregon white oak trees. Registration for this class is closed, but more classes are planned for next year when signs and symptoms will again be visible.



## Estonia delegation returns to Europe to share Oregon's EAB response



Two officials from Estonia's Agriculture and Food Board met in September with representatives of state, local and federal agencies responding to the EAB outbreak in Oregon. The Oregon EAB Interagency Task Force, led by the Oregon Dept. of Agriculture, hosted field trips to sites in Washington County where slow-the-spread efforts are happening. There were also three days of presentations and in-depth discussions of everything from advance planning and detection efforts to education and outreach, quarantines, funding, and wood-waste handling recommendations.

Estonia sits on the Baltic Sea south of Finland. It has one native species of ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) but many planted green ash (*F. pennsylvanica*) from North America. EAB is not yet present in Estonia, but officials said they are aware of infestations in Ukraine and nearby St. Petersburg, Russia. They are setting up detection traps to provide an early warning of when the insect crosses their border. They expressed appreciation for the information Oregon supplied and said they will be sharing their learnings with their counterparts in other nations of the European Union.

## Publications

*Modelling impacts to water quality in salmonid-bearing waterways following the introduction of emerald ash borer in the Pacific Northwest, USA.* Maze, D., Bond, J. & Mattsson, M. *Biol Invasions* (2024).

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10530-024-03340-3>

*Alternatives to Ash in Western Oregon: With a Critical Tree Under Threat, These Options Can Help Fill Habitat Niche.* G. Kral, and D.C. Shaw. 2023. OSU Extension EM 9396.

<https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/em9396>

*Oregon Ash: Insects, Pathogens and Tree Health* by Oregon State University Extension (also available in Spanish at this same website)

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/pub/em-9380>

*Wood Decay Fungi Associated with Galleries of the Emerald Ash Borer* by the University of Minnesota and Uruguay's *Instituto Nacional de Investigación Agropecuaria*

[Forests | Free Full-Text | Wood Decay Fungi Associated with Galleries of the Emerald Ash Borer \(mdpi.com\)](#)

## **Useful links for more information**

Mediterranean oak borer fact sheet

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/Documents/forestbenefits/fact-sheet-mediterranean-oak-borer.pdf>

EAB monitoring guidance

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/Documents/eab-monitoring-guidance.pdf>

Oregon Dept. of Agriculture

<https://www.oda.direct/EAB>

Oregon Dept. of Forestry

<https://www.oregon.gov/odf/forestbenefits/pages/foresthealth.aspx>

OSU Extension

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/collection/emerald-ash-borer-resources>

Emerald Ash Borer Information Network, a collaborative effort by the USDA Forest Service and Michigan State University

[www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)

USFS Forest Health Protection

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/foresthealth/index.shtml>