

Whitby is within the regulated area for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a highly destructive non-native invasive insect that feeds on Ash Trees. EAB was first identified in Ontario in 2002, and since then, the insect has spread east across Ontario, killing millions of different types of ash trees. It was first found in Whitby in 2011 and in Brooklin in 2014.

The Town of Whitby is responsible for treating or removing and replacing ash trees located on Town roads, parks, open spaces, woodlots and other municipally owned properties.

More information is available here, including links to additional resources:

- [CFIA: Emerald Ash Borer Questions and Answers](#)

## Removal of Ash Trees on Private Property

Property owners are responsible for maintaining, treating and removing ash trees (and any other trees) located on their property. Support related to the monitoring and control of the spread of invasive pests such as the Emerald Ash Borer and the Asian Long-horned Beetle is provided through the Canadian Forest Service (CFS) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

The CFIA regulated area for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) includes all of Southern Ontario. Wood debris from Ash species (*Fraxinus* spp.) shall not be moved out of the regulated area. To help prevent the spread of EAB, wood debris from all Ash trees on a property must be disposed of in accordance with the requirements of the CFIA. This includes stumps, logs, wood chips, branches, brush and leaves.

### What items are restricted from leaving regulated areas?

Regulated articles include ash nursery stock, ash trees, ash logs, ash wood, rough lumber (including pallets and other wood packaging materials containing ash, wood, bark, wood chips or bark chips from ash trees) and firewood of all tree species.

Vehicles that were used to carry any of these items are also regulated.

Moving these materials from regulated areas is permitted only if the following conditions are met:

- the materials have been treated to kill or remove all life stages of the emerald ash borer, and
- written permission has been obtained from a CFIA inspector

Domestic movement requirements for ash products, as well as import conditions, are outlined in the [CFIA policy directive](#). The directive also provides information on the voluntary

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For more information, contact

Operations/Forestry: 905.668.3437 / [pw.operations@whitby.ca](mailto:pw.operations@whitby.ca)  
Planning and Development: 905.430.4306 / [planning@whitby.ca](mailto:planning@whitby.ca)



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Emerald Ash Borer Approved Facility Compliance Program. The program has been developed to mitigate the spread of the emerald ash borer in Canada while facilitating the domestic movement and importation of regulated articles from the continental United States.

## Are there fines for moving wood from a regulated area?

Yes, you can be fined for moving wood from a regulated area. Under the authority of the [Plant Protection Act](#) restrictions are put in place to prevent movement of materials that may spread federally regulated pests such as the emerald ash borer. The methods used do not necessarily relate to the volume involved.

There are two types of penalties that can be issued for those who violate the Plant Protection Act:

1. Immediate penalties of up to \$15,000 may be issued. Administrative Monetary Penalties (or AMPs) are basically tickets used to encourage compliance and deter repeated offences. They can be issued to individuals or businesses under the Agriculture and Agri-Food Administrative Monetary Penalties Act.
2. A penalty of up to \$250,000 and/or imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years. This involves a prosecution, where the individual or business is charged with an offence under the Act. Prosecution under the Act is usually used to penalize repeated non-compliance or for serious violations.

## What do I do if I suspect my Ash tree is infested?

If you are in an area that is regulated for the emerald ash borer and you have recently trimmed or cut down your ash tree, please contact the Town of Whitby or the CFIA for directions on disposal.

The local regulated disposal yard can be found at:

Dufferin Transfer Station  
35 Vanley Crescent (south of Finch, off Chesswood Drive)  
North-York, Ontario  
(416) 392-3161  
  
Monday-Friday 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Closed Saturday and Sunday

Alternatively, Ash trees to be removed may be disposed of by chipping and using on site.

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