



Arrest That Pest!

EMERALD ASH BORER in Indiana

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Background Information

Teachers: After determining your cooperative learning groups, photocopy the following pages. Then cut out each section along the dotted line. Make sure each student has a copy of her/his assigned section. Note: Vocabulary words are highlighted in **bold**.

Section One

What is the Emerald Ash Borer?

The **iridescent** adult beetle is dark green in color, ½” long and 1/8” wide. When adults flare their wings, you can see their violet **abdomen**. The **larvae** are cream-colored grubs with flat bodies, bell-shaped **segments**, and wide heads.

Recent research has shown that in heavily **infested** trees or in trees that are stressed, most EAB have a one year life cycle. In healthy trees that have only a few larvae, most EAB require two years to complete their development.

Adult beetles begin emerging in middle to late May, with peak **emergence** occurring during the month of June. The adult insects are most numerous in late June and early to middle July. Adults feed on the ash tree leaves, and then females begin laying eggs approximately two weeks after they emerge.

The eggs, laid in bark **crevices**, hatch in one to two weeks and the tiny larvae **bore** through the bark. The larvae remain here for several months, usually from late July through October, feeding on the **cambium** or **vascular** tissue that carries water and **nutrients** to the tree.

Most EAB remain in small **chambers** underneath the outer bark over the winter. **Pupation** occurs in the spring, and new generations of adults emerge in May to begin the cycle all over again. <<http://www.entm.purdue.edu/EAB>>

Click on each life stage for details

