Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Your child is currently learning about the invasive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) at school. In the summer of 2002, the destructive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was discovered in ash trees in the Detroit and Windsor areas. Since that time this exotic invasive pest from Asia has been responsible for the systematic destruction of ash trees throughout Ontario, Canada and parts of Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Maryland. Over 20 million ash trees in North America have already been killed, and estimates to remove, dispose of, and plant new trees run into the tens of billions of dollars.

Here in Indiana, there are about 147 million ash trees in the forests and at least another 4-5 million in urban areas. Once the borer infests the tree, unless yearly chemical intervention is used, the ash tree dies within one to three years. Because of the high rate of mortality associated with EAB, ash trees as a species in North America may face extinction.

We ask that you join your child in learning about EAB and support her/his efforts to raise awareness about the threat that the beetle poses to ash trees in Indiana. In addition, as your child has learned, it is imperative that we work together to slow the spread of EAB.

Thanks for your support. Your family’s participation will help slow the spread of Emerald Ash Borer in Indiana!

The EAB Educational and Outreach Team at Purdue University
And USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB): What You Need to Know

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a destructive pest that kills ash trees. Here’s what you need to know. Please visit our Web site to support your child’s Arrest That Pest! efforts, and find the answers to these and other questions about EAB:

The Beetle: How Do You Recognize It?
The Tree: How Do You Recognize It?
The Evidence: How Do You Recognize It?

Websites for more information on EAB:
www.entm.purdue.edu/EAB
http://www.in.gov/dnr/entomolo/pestinfo/ashborer.htm

Contact Information

For information on the curriculum contact:
Melissa Shepson, 765-494-0997, mshepson@purdue.edu

For more information on EAB
Purdue University Department of Entomology
Exotic Insects Education Coordinator: (765) 494-0822
Purdue Extension: (888) EXT INFO (888-398-4636)

Indiana Department of Natural Resources
Division of Entomology and Plant Pathology: (317) 232-4120
Division of Forestry: (317) 232-4105
Toll-free number for information on invasive species in Indiana: 866-NO EXOTICS (866-663-9684)