

Virginia Department of Forestry Emerald Ash Borer Cost-Share Program

Application Process and Information

The Virginia Department of Forestry (DOF) distributes funds through a cost-share reimbursement program for the treatment of ash trees threatened by the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB).

DOF will reimburse qualifying applicants **up to 50%** of direct treatment costs for control of EAB performed by a <u>VDACS</u> <u>state-certified pesticide applicator</u>. Only trunk injection treatment of an emamectin benzoate product will qualify for cost-share.

Reimbursements will not exceed:

- The approved amount as noted in the project approval letter
- \$7.50 per diameter inch, matched by landowner or organization for a total rate of \$15 per inch
- \$1,250 per landowner or \$5,000 per organization, matched for a total project cost of \$2,500 per landowner or \$10,000 per organization
- \$10,000 per federal fiscal year per locality

Eligibility

Eligible applicants include individual landowners and organizations (e.g., municipalities, non-profits, educational institutions and homeowners' associations) statewide.

Applications will qualify for assistance based on the following criteria:

- 1. Ash trees are at least 12 inches in diameter (DBH) and do not display canopy loss greater than 30%. Large ash trees and trees exhibiting minimal canopy loss will be more heavily prioritized.
- 2. Application includes a detailed and sustainable ash preservation strategy (Form 6.5, section 2).
- 3. Applicant demonstrates a need for protecting the historical, ecological, genetic or public value of ash trees.

Application Process

- A complete application will include sections 1 through 4 of <u>Form 6.5 Emerald Ash Borer Program Cost-Share</u> <u>Application</u>, as well as a quote for treatment costs from a VDACS state-certified pesticide applicator.
- Sections 1 through 3 of Form 6.5 are completed by the landowner and section 4 is completed through a site visit by a DOF forester. The DOF forester must inspect and approve the tree(s) of interest prior to treatment for the application to be considered.
- Original applications with completed and signed sections 1 through 4 and quote of treatment costs are to be submitted to the DOF forest health technician by the involved DOF Forester. Any incomplete applications received after the deadline will be rejected.
- If the project is approved, the applicant will receive an approval letter within 14 days of submission and treatment can then begin. If the project is rejected, the applicant will receive a letter notification with reasons for the rejection.
- To schedule a site visit with a DOF forester for your project, please visit <u>www.dof.virginia.gov</u> and use the "Find a Forester" feature.

Program Details

- Approved individuals and organizations must pay for treatment up front, then submit verification of payment and Virginia State W-9 form to receive reimbursement.
- Treatments must be performed in the spring and summer before trees begin to drop leaves.

Questions?	Important Dates to Remember	
Contact Forest Health: <u>Amanda.Conrad@DOF.Virginia.gov</u> or (434) 365-8223	Applications Accepted	April 22 – June 24, 2024
	Final Documentation Due	September 23, 2024