



Emerald Ash Borer Cost-Share Program

Cost Assistance for Protecting Ash Trees

Forestry Topic 32

February 2024

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is the most destructive forest insect ever to invade the U.S., and has killed hundreds of millions of ash trees in urban, rural and forested settings. This wood-boring beetle is particularly dangerous to our native ash species because it reproduces in large quantities, matures quickly, disrupts the trees' uptake of water and nutrients, and spreads rapidly via human transport and natural dispersal.

The devastation is clearly visible in many counties across Virginia, but healthy ash are still present at the forefront of EAB invasion. After witnessing widespread ash mortality across the country for more than a decade, a few things have become clear. Certain chemical treatments are effective when applied correctly, and more importantly, without intervention, Virginia's ash resource will face near extinction.

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) is offering a reimbursement cost-share program to support injection treatments of approved pesticides on genetically, ecologically, historically or publicly valuable ash. A single treatment is often costly for a landowner or organization, yet removal costs can be more expensive when considering the long-term value live trees can provide. The incentive covers **up to 50%** of treatment costs charged by the certified pesticide applicator, not to exceed \$7.50 per diameter breast height (DBH) inch, or \$1,250 in cost-share payments per landowner or \$5,000 in cost-share payments per organization. Virginia landowners and organizations may apply for this competitive grant.



Program Details

- ◆ Open enrollment will take place April 22 through June 24, 2024.
- ◆ Ash (*Fraxinus*) species must be green, white, black, pumpkin, Carolina or blue ash.
- ◆ Trees must be at least 12 inches diameter at breast height (DBH).
- ◆ Estimated percentage of live crown at the time of treatment must be at least 70% (no more than 30% canopy loss).
- ◆ A VDOF forester must assess the tree(s) prior to treatment to be considered for cost-share funds. Contact your local forester today.
- ◆ Only trunk injection treatment of emamectin benzoate products will be cost-shared.
- ◆ Cost-share payment will not exceed 50% of the bid or treatment quote submitted with the application prior to treatment.
- ◆ For organizations conducting treatments internally, the incentive payment covers 50% of direct project costs, such as supplies, chemicals and labor (not to exceed the volunteer rate, \$31.80/hour).
- ◆ All treatment applications approved for cost-share must be conducted by a certified pesticide applicator in good standing with Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services during the spring and summer before trees begin to drop their leaves.
- ◆ All treatment applications must be conducted in accordance with the directions for use as they appear on the product label that has been approved by the Environmental Protection Agency.

For more information about services or programs in your area, contact your local VDOF office:

www.dof.virginia.gov



Virginia Department of Forestry

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



1. Complete

- ◆ Application Form 6.5, Sections 1-3

**Applications Accepted
April 22 - June 24, 2024**



2. Contact

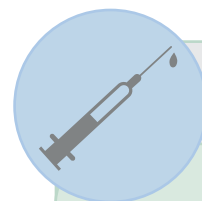
- ◆ VDACS-certified arborist to obtain a treatment quote
- ◆ VDOF forester to assess trees and complete Form 6.5, Section 4



3. Submit

- ◆ Completed, signed application (Form 6.5, Sections 1-4) and treatment quote to VDOF forester

**Applicant will be notified of
approval or denial within two weeks**



4. Treat

- ◆ Eligible trees upon notification of project approval



5. Submit

- ◆ Paid invoice with \$0 balance
- ◆ VA State W-9
- ◆ Form 6.5, Section 6 (Certification of Completion)

**To Forest Health
by September 23, 2024**



6. Receive

- ◆ Cost-share reimbursement for EAB treatment within 4-6 weeks of final paperwork submission

Helpful Resources

- ◆ [Find a Forester](#)
- ◆ [Find an Arborist](#)
- ◆ [EAB Cost-Share Application Form](#)



Contact

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