



NEWS RELEASE

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City Partners to Protect Ash Trees

INDIANAPOLIS – The Department of Public Works (DPW) will partner with Valent Professional Products this summer to treat and protect 200 of the City’s ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). The partnership, called the Legacy Tree Project, has been in place since 2010.

EAB is an invasive pest native to Asia that is 100 percent lethal to ash trees. EAB was first identified in Indianapolis in 2006 and currently is present in all of Marion County’s nine townships. Marion County is one of 39 Indiana counties under an EAB quarantine. The quarantine regulates the movement of materials that could hasten the spread of EAB, including firewood.

“The EAB infestation continues to impact ash tree populations in cities across the Midwest, including Indianapolis,” DPW Director Lori Miser said. “The Legacy Tree Project helps preserve a portion of the City’s ash tree population, which represents about 20 percent of our total tree canopy in Marion County.”

Through the Legacy Tree Project, the City is preserving ash trees in some of the city’s most cherished green spaces, such as Holliday Park, Broad Ripple Park, and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

The City also is working to increase public awareness of EAB and encouraging citizens to be proactive and treat ash trees before they show symptoms of infestation. Citizens can visit the DPW Urban Forestry [webpage](#) for help in dealing with the EAB threat, resources to find a certified arborist, tips on identifying ash trees, and photographs showing what an EAB infestation looks like. Citizens are advised to consult a certified arborist when considering treatment or removal of EAB infested trees on private property.

Safari Insecticide is the EAB treatment product being applied to the selected trees through the Legacy Tree Project. The treatment is one of only three approved by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to control of EAB,. Safari Insecticide is commonly used on trees in urban landscapes. It poses minimal risk to people, pets and the environment.