



**For Immediate Release**

June 2013

For More Information:

Mike Lippert

Assistant Director, Public Works

513-821-0037

[mlippert@wyomingohio.gov](mailto:mlippert@wyomingohio.gov)

## **Legacy Tree Project Continues City of Wyoming Urges Action Against EAB**

The City of Wyoming reports that ash trees in community parks enrolled in the Legacy Tree Project (LTP) look spectacular. "As part of a five-year partnership with Valent Professional Products, these trees are receiving annual application of Safari® insecticide through the 2014 treatment cycle, all at no cost to the City" says Mike Lippert, Assistant Director of Public Works.

"The Safari treated trees look great, while nearby untreated trees are heavily infested by EAB and dying or dead. Looking only at the LTP trees, you wouldn't have a clue the region is actually in the 'meltdown' or exponential tree death phase due to EAB," he continued.

Wyoming city leaders have worked for years to raise understanding among residents that early treatment offered great promise for long-term ash tree canopy conservation.

"Council and administration reviewed early research trends and anticipated that conservation would be supported by economic and environmental metrics," notes City Manager Lynn Tetley. "What we didn't expect was the stunning documentation that loss of ash canopy has measurable negative impact on public health," she added, citing US Forest Service research released in February 2013.

Councilman Jim O'Reilly added, "When we started our planning, conventional wisdom was against us. But Valent saw what we saw." With a commitment to helping other municipalities learn how to cope with this devastating pest, the City and Miami Valley Risk Management Association hosted an EAB Risk Management workshop in 2012 that drew attendance by city leaders from 3 states and well over 100 miles away.

"Urban canopy is critical to quality of life, particularly for those of us in the First Suburbs Consortium averse to 'disposable' approaches to management," O'Reilly continued. "We're proud to be part of the revolution in thinking that is sweeping municipal management of EAB, and we urge communities that are just beginning the fight with EAB to continue the effort."

For more information about the Legacy Tree Project, visit [www.legacytreeproject.com/](http://www.legacytreeproject.com/)

For more information on the value of urban trees and the impact of EAB:

- <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/news/2013/01/tree-human-health.shtml>

- <http://donovan.hnri.info/>
- [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com)
- <http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/treecomputer/>

For more information on the First Suburbs Consortium:

- <http://www.hamiltoncountyohio.gov/hcrpc/fsc/default.asp>

###