



NEWS RELEASE

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CITY TREATING ASH TREES IN INDIANAPOLIS PARKS

FORESTRY AND PRIVATE PARTNERS JOIN TO COMBAT GROWING MIDWEST PEST PROBLEM

INDIANAPOLIS – The Indianapolis Department of Public Works Forestry Division has begun to treat ash trees in City parks as part of its effort to combat a growing infestation of an acutely invasive pest known as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). This year marks the third year of the five-year program called the Legacy Tree Project (LTP). This project is designed to raise public awareness of EAB, demonstrate the efficacy of preventive treatment and motivate residents to take action.

Through the LTP partnership, about 200 selected ash trees in Holliday Park, Broad Ripple Park, and Martin Luther King Jr. Park are being treated with *Safari*, an insecticide proven to protect ash trees from EAB. These parks are located in areas of the city with heavy EAB infestation.

The LTP, provided at no cost to taxpayers and fully funded by Valent Professional Products, runs from 2010 through 2014. Indianapolis is one of only 13 cities across four states selected to participate in the LTP. Valent has contracted with the Davey Tree Expert Company to treat ash trees.

Because EAB is small and the damage to trees is mostly internal, it is difficult for non-professionals to detect until trees become heavily infested or die. Depending on tree size, EAB can kill ash trees within one to three years. Purdue Extension predicts that EAB will kill most untreated trees in the next four years.

City residents with ash trees on their property should consult with a certified arborist and either begin a treatment program or schedule the tree for removal.

For more information about the LTP, visit www.legacytreetreeproject.com. For more information on *Safari* insecticide, please visit www.valentpro.com. For information about the EAB, visit www.indy.gov/dpw.

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