

National Trail Parks and Recreation District Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan Clark County, Ohio

INTRODUCTION

National Trail Parks and Recreation District's (NTPRD) decision to implement an Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) plan is in response to the impending infestation of Ash trees in the community and to prevent a potential crisis to public safety, budgeting, or the NTPRD's forest areas. We hope to lessen the social and economic impact on the community by utilizing this plan. Through this plan the NTPRD will systematically oversee the removal of Ash trees located in parks, trails, golf courses and other NTPRD owned and or managed properties. As of the end of 2006 it is estimated there were approximately 1300 ash trees located within NTPRD's owned/managed active areas.

Considering the Emerald Ash Borer has not yet been detected in Clark County seems to afford us time to begin removals prior to EAB becoming a critical situation to NTPRD. The following items of the NTPRD's EAB management plan will be utilized with the understanding these items may be revised as new information about the Emerald Ash Borer becomes available.

NTPRD TREES

NTPRD will be responsible for removing Ash trees from NTPRD's active areas. These removals should begin in late 2007. Prior to beginning removals, an inventory of the existing Ash trees will be conducted to determine exact locations and conditions of these trees. The order in which Ash trees are removed will be based on condition, size, and overall impact to our community. Ash trees in poor condition will be removed first. NTPRD will maintain an inventory of all trees removed. The NTPRD's overall financial condition will play a role in determining the number of Ash Trees to be removed each year.

Due to the large amount of work that will be involved with implementing this program, requests for routine Forestry services may be delayed or postponed. Hazardous or emergency situations will continue to receive a priority response.

WOOD DISPOSAL

NTPRD currently maintains brush disposal areas and takes wood waste to the C& S recycling yard on Dayton Avenue. There are no plans to change this source of disposal.

Disposal of wood waste will be in accordance with ODA specifications and regulations.

CANOPY REPLACEMENT

It is the intent of this plan to replace the majority of the trees removed due to EAB. The replacement trees shall be 1 ¼" to 2" caliper and of diverse species to prevent monoculture plantings. Planting priorities will be determined by NTPRD, with planting being done in the Spring and Fall of each year. The NTPRD's overall financial condition will play a role in determining the ability to replace Ash trees that are removed each year.