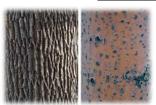
# FOREST HEALTH: EMERALD ASH BORER



## IDENTIFYING ASH TREES

### Ridged Bark:

On mature trees (left), bark is tight and displays patterns of diamond shaped ridges. On young trees (right), bark is relatively smooth.



#### Compound 'Opposite' Leaves:

Leaves have 5 to 11 leaflets with smooth or toothed margins (tips). Leaflets are positioned opposite with one at the top.



#### 'Opposite' Branches:

Branches and buds are directly across from each other rather than staggered.



## WHAT IS THE EMERALD ASH BORER?

The Emerald Ash Borer is a metallic green wood-boring beetle of about 1 to 1.5 cm in length that attacks all native species of ash trees, typically killing them in 2 to 3 years. Its larva bore tunnels inside the tree, feeding to the inner bark until the tree dies. Native to north-eastern Asia, the pest was first discovered in Ontario in the Windsor area in 2002.

## **RECOGNIZING INFESTED ASH TREES**

#### INFESTED ASH TREES OFTEN EXHIBIT THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS



#### **Crown Dieback:**

Severely attacked trees may exhibit crown dieback as the canopy dies from the top down. Leaves may wilt or turn yellow during the growing season.



#### Tunnels:

Winding S-shaped larval tunnels snake under the bark where larvae bore channels. Removing the bark exposes larvae and sawdust-filled galleries.



#### Woodpeckers:

Woodpeckers feed on the larvae under the bark. Look for increased Woodpecker feedings or signs of their probing in the bark.

## Norfelk With Control of Control o

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is a very destructive insect and potentially poses a safety risk to persons and property once the affected ASH trees succumb to this insect.

To report a finding of EAB or for more information please do not hesitate to contact the Norfolk County Forest Conservation Service at 519-426-5999 ext. 2224.

Individuals interested in learning more about forestry are encouraged to join the Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association. For more information please visit <u>www.norfolkwoodlots.com</u>.



Photos and information courtesy of Michigan State University, Forestry Images (www.forestryimages.org).



Vertical splits of 7 - 10 cm

are often present over larval galleries.

#### Exit Holes:

Fully mature beetles emerge through exit holes they chew through the bark. These holes are distinctly D shaped and are 3.5 o 4 mm across.