



City of Burnsville

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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BURNSVILLE TO CONTINUE TREATING PUBLIC ASH TREES AS PART OF EAB PLAN

Residents Have Opportunity to Take Advantage of City Bulk Pricing for Private Treatments

In April 2013, the City of Burnsville approved a plan to protect a portion of its public trees from the invasive Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). The plan dedicates funding over 10 years to treat 2,865 “legacy” public ash trees in parks and boulevards, remove others that are in poor condition or become infested, and plant new trees.

Last June, in partnership with project consultant Rainbow Treecare, the City treated 478 public ash trees. This year, the City and Rainbow Treecare will treat an additional 928 ash trees, and the City will remove 120 that are in poor condition. Residents who have public ash trees that will receive treatment in the boulevard adjacent to their homes will be notified in the coming weeks.

Private Ash Tree Treatment

All residents will also have the opportunity to take advantage of the City’s contract prices to treat ash trees on their private property. Residents will be responsible for the full cost of these private treatments. **Residents interested in scheduling a treatment for private ash trees should contact Rainbow Treecare at 952-767-6920 for pricing and scheduling. The contract prices are valid through the end of 2015.** Residents are also encouraged to volunteer to pay for treatment of other existing ash trees in their neighborhoods.

While EAB has not yet been reported in Burnsville, the little bug (which can do a large amount of damage) was found nearby in Dakota County at Lebanon Hills Regional Park in December 2014.

The City has approximately 3,000 ash trees in its boulevards, 930 in parks and 14,300 in public woodlands. These 18,000+ public ash trees, in addition to the more than 22,000 ash trees found on private property, are all at risk if and when the ash borer enters Burnsville.

Planting New Trees

In addition to treatment, residents are encouraged to plant new trees when possible. Residents are reminded that they must obtain a permit from the City before planting any trees in the boulevard/right-of-way on their property (15 feet in from the curb). ANY tree work – including removals and trimming – must be done by a City-licensed tree contractor. A list of licensed contractors is available at www.burnsville.org/forestry.

For more information on the City’s Emerald Ash Borer plan call the Forestry Department at 952-895-4508 or visit www.burnsville.org/EAB.

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