



# City of Burnsville

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 30, 2014

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## **BURNSVILLE TO BEGIN 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. While the little bug (which can do a lot of damage) has not yet been found in Dakota County – Burnsville City officials are preparing for its inevitable arrival. The plan dedicates funding over the next 10 years to treat 2,865 “legacy” public ash trees in parks and boulevards, remove others that become infested and plant new trees.

In June, project consultant Rainbow Treecare will begin treating the first 478 trees as part of this plan. Residents who have public ash trees that will receive treatment in the boulevard adjacent to their homes will be notified in the coming weeks.

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. The residential price is \$6.39 per inch of trunk diameter, measured 4.5 feet from the ground, and is valid through the end of 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.

Residents are encouraged to plant new trees, and volunteer to pay for treatment of existing ash trees in the public right-of-way in their neighborhoods. Residents are also reminded that ANY tree work done in the City must be done with a permit by a City-licensed tree contractor.

*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](http://www.burnsville.org/EAB).*

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