

For Immediate Release

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Confirmed in the Region of Waterloo

Waterloo Region, Ontario. August 23, 2010... The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Waterloo Region in the area of Homer Watson Boulevard/Fountain Street and the 401.

Movement restrictions have been placed on the affected properties and the owners have been notified. Further regulatory measures to control this infestation will be considered once the CFIA surveying is completed in later this year.

The EAB is a highly destructive insect that attacks and kills all species of ash trees, excluding Mountain Ash which is not a true ash tree. Native to eastern Asia, EAB was first discovered in Windsor, Ontario and Detroit, Michigan in 2002.

At this time, there is only confirmed presence of the EAB on two properties near the 401 in Cambridge and Kitchener. Because we cannot be sure how wide-spread the infestation may be, we are taking a region-wide approach to managing this situation. Staff from the Region of Waterloo, City of Cambridge, City of Kitchener, City of Waterloo and the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) are working together to provide information to the public as well as implement measures and actions to help slow the spread of the pest.

There is no immediate cause for alarm; the EAB poses no risk to human health and the impacts of the EAB may not be seen for several years. At this time, we are asking residents and visitors to take the following steps to help slow the spread of the pest:

- . Don't transfer firewood into or out of Waterloo region - buy local, burn local, never take it home.
- . Don't transfer or move ash trees in the form of nursery stock, logs, lumber, fire wood, ash-wood packaging, ash-wood branches or bark into or out of Waterloo region.
- . If you have an ash tree on your private property that is showing signs of decline or distress and suspect it may be infested by the EAB, contact the CFIA at 1-866-463-6017.

Staff from the local municipalities will continue to work together

through the fall and winter to identify if and where there are signs the EAB is present. This will help staff to prioritize the plan to slow the spread of the pest and manage the costs of removal and replacement of ash trees. It is important to note that cutting down ash trees (either infected or not) does not stop the spread of EAB.

A website has been set up to provide local information and resources for residents about the EAB and how municipalities are handling it. Visit www.eabwaterlooregion.ca to learn more about the EAB, how to identify an ash tree and recognize the signs of EAB infestation. The website will also contain updates on the CFIA and municipal investigations. More resources and information will be added to the site as it becomes available.

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About Cambridge

The City of Cambridge is one of the fastest growing areas in the country. It is strategically located astride highway 401 in Southwestern Ontario, part of Canada's Technology Triangle. In 2009, the population reached over 126,000 people. With a multicultural mix and a strong foundation of support services, Cambridge has a diverse economic base with leading industries in advanced manufacturing, automotive, high technology, pharmaceutical, business and financial services and hospitality/retail. The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is an employer with a progressive work environment that offers the opportunity to provide service to the community through creativity and innovation, and with opportunities for career growth and advancement.

About the Corporation of the City of Cambridge

The Corporation of the City of Cambridge is a dynamic organization filled with dedicated people who deliver vital municipal services to you. Services that residents, businesses, visitors and people like your family and friends enjoy. We're a comprehensive team of professionals: engineers, financial specialists, skilled trades, administrative experts, customer service, communications - and the list goes on.

We're proud to be part of the systems that bring you the array of services that citizens in Cambridge need:

- Parks and recreation
- Activities and programs like pools, seniors' centres, community centres, arenas and other facilities
- Sports programs and all the needs related to playing fields, like indoor soccer, baseball diamonds and other amenities
- Events
- Farmers' Market
- Cemetery services
- Road programs
- Leaf pick up services
- Winter maintenance services
- Water and sewer services
- Fire, emergency and related services
- By-laws and enforcement
- Tax administration
- Licensing for businesses, lotteries, marriage, dogs, and other services like applications for birth, death and marriage certificates, notarizing or commissioning of documents
- Archival research
- Economic Development and business support programs

- Tourism support to share opportunities to showcase the festivals and help bring visitors in to support retail and other elements of the economy
- Administration of committees, steering groups and advisory groups
- Planning and development services
- Traffic and parking services
- Ensuring the best security, police, transit, garbage, water processing service, utilities, animal control are in place.
- Libraries and galleries
- Centre for the arts
- Accessibility matters
- Council services including things like supporting the up coming needs of our residents for the Oct 2010 municipal elections

It's a multitude of services and we continue to refine and review them to ensure we deliver the services in the most effective, efficient, and proactive ways.

In 2010 we are undergoing a corporate service review. This is a further check and balance system to seeking improvements - like better technologies to simplify processes or realigning how we operate. The comprehensive review is happening this year with a view to providing a report to Council for consideration. The report will be available by year end and will be addressed by the newly elected council for the 2011 budget.

For more information on the area or the corporation visit www.cambridge.ca

The City of Cambridge press room is located at

http://www.cambridge.ca/the_office_of_the_chief_administrative_officer/corporate_communications_marketing

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