

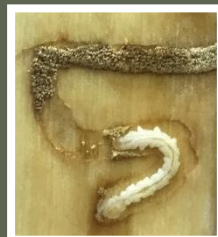


# EMERALD ASH BORER Treatment Guide

from the **Kentucky Division of Forestry**

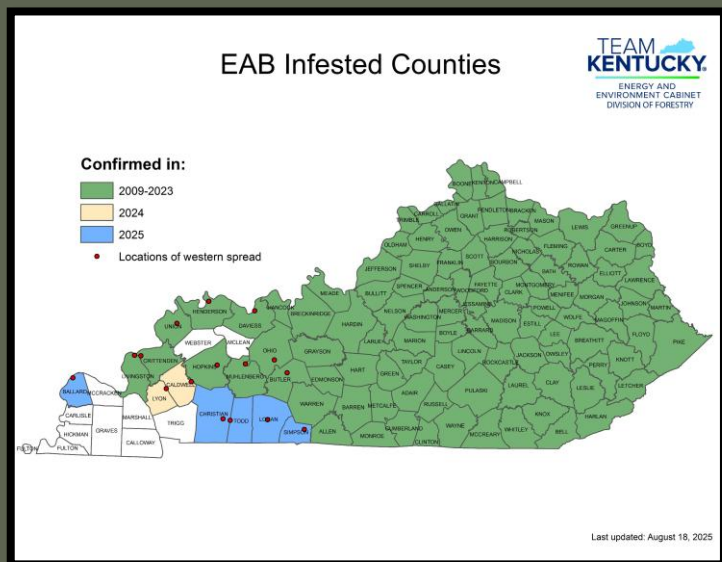
A landowner's guide to protect their **ASH**:

Five Easy Steps to Help You with Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Treatments



## 1. Decide if treatment is warranted.

Ash treatment is recommended for landowners who live in/or around counties that are currently infested. The map below shows the current known distribution of EAB.



However, it is possible that additional counties are infested beyond what has been reported to date. The publication, [Managing EAB: Decision Guide](#), is a useful tool to determine which trees should be treated. *If a tree is unhealthy and showing decline in more than half the canopy, then treatment is not recommended.* Also, keep in mind that trees will likely have to be treated for several years before applications can be reduced/stopped. Chemical treatment, however, is much cheaper than paying to have a tree removed!



Ash trees showing signs of decline due to EAB.

## 2. Professional or DIY treatment?

Use the [Trees are Good](#) website to search for local certified arborists or treat trees yourself by purchasing insecticide online or from stores with lawn and garden sections.

## 3. When do I treat my trees?

Trees should be treated in early to mid-spring. In Kentucky, it is best to treat from the end of March through the end of May.

## 4. Deciding on which chemical to purchase.

Look for tree/shrub insecticides that have **Imidacloprid** listed as the active ingredient. These products can be found at your local hardware store or online. Purchasing concentrated products allows for the most economical long-term solution for treating ash trees.

## 5. Soil Drench Treatment

Most products available to landowners are applied by a soil drench. On the product label, look for the tree/shrub section and follow the application instructions for soil drench.

General treatment guidelines include:

- Measure the diameter of the tree and follow label directions to find the chemical application rate
- Mix the insecticide with the appropriate amount of water
- Clear away mulch and leaf litter before application and pour the mixture directly on the soil around the base of the tree

Applications should be done when the soil is moist but not saturated or excessively dry.

**Trees over 15 inches** in diameter may need increased rates of chemical. Many concentrated products available to landowners have two application rates, one for smaller and one for larger trees. Use the higher application rate on trees greater than 15 inches in diameter. Remember to always follow the label, the label is the law! Another option is to hire a tree care professional. Commercial applicators have access to chemicals that may be better formulated for larger trees.