



Hamilton  
Public Works

7.1  
Public Works Committee  
May 4, 2015

**Public Works Department  
Environmental Services Division**

**Emerald Ash Borer Program Update**

**Public Works Committee  
May 4, 2015**

***Providing services that bring our City to life!***

# Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is an invasive insect native to Asia, that was first discovered in Canada in Windsor in 2002. Since that time, it has rapidly spread throughout Ontario and most of Quebec.

EAB is a primary killer of all Ash trees within the genus *Fraxinus*. It is the larval stage of the insect that causes the damage by feeding underneath the bark, effectively girdling the tree; preventing the translocation of water and nutrients.

- Community
- People
- Processes
- Finance



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# Emerald Ash Borer in Hamilton

EAB was first discovered in Hamilton in February 2009 on the central mountain.

Infested Ash trees are present throughout the City with tree decline and mortality evident in every Ward.

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# Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan

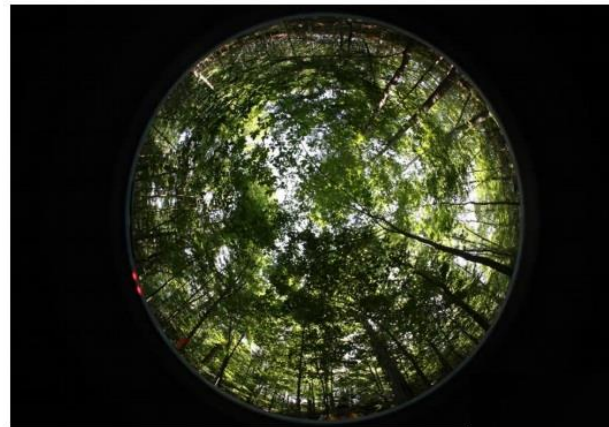
Council approved a 10 year, \$26.2 M EAB management program where 10% of the City's ash tree inventory is removed and replanted with a non-Ash tree species each year.

The Forestry Section is utilizing this opportunity to diversify the urban forest.

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← Canopy, Pre EAB infestation

Canopy, Post EAB infestation



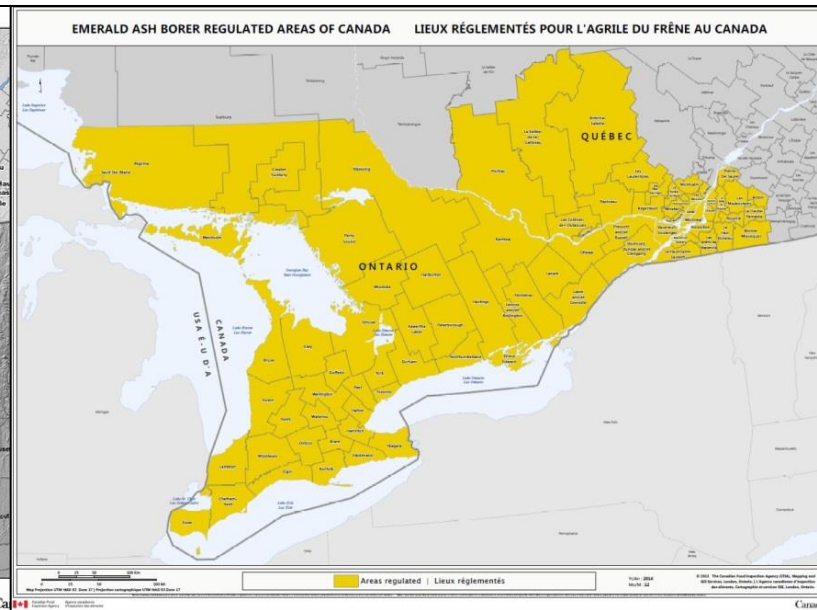
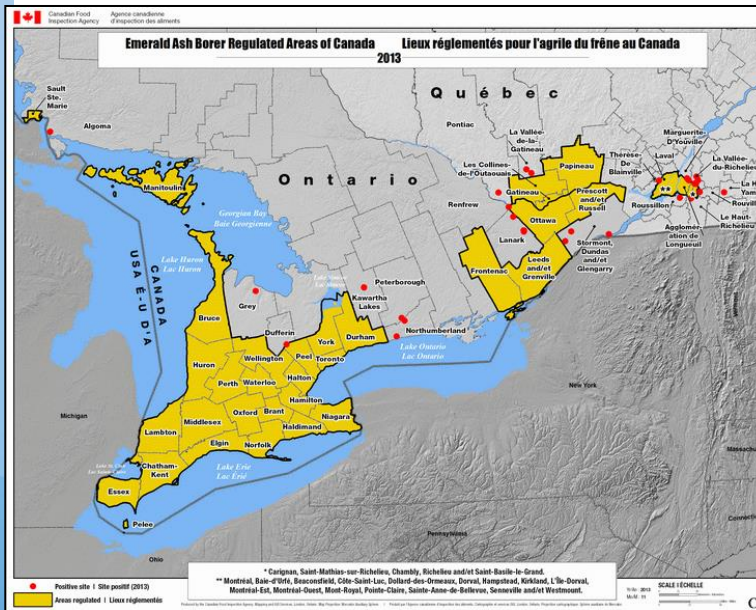
Courtesy: Dave Kreuzweiser

# Emerald Ash Borer Regulated Areas

2013

2014

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# Ash Removal Process

- Community
- People
- Processes
- Finance



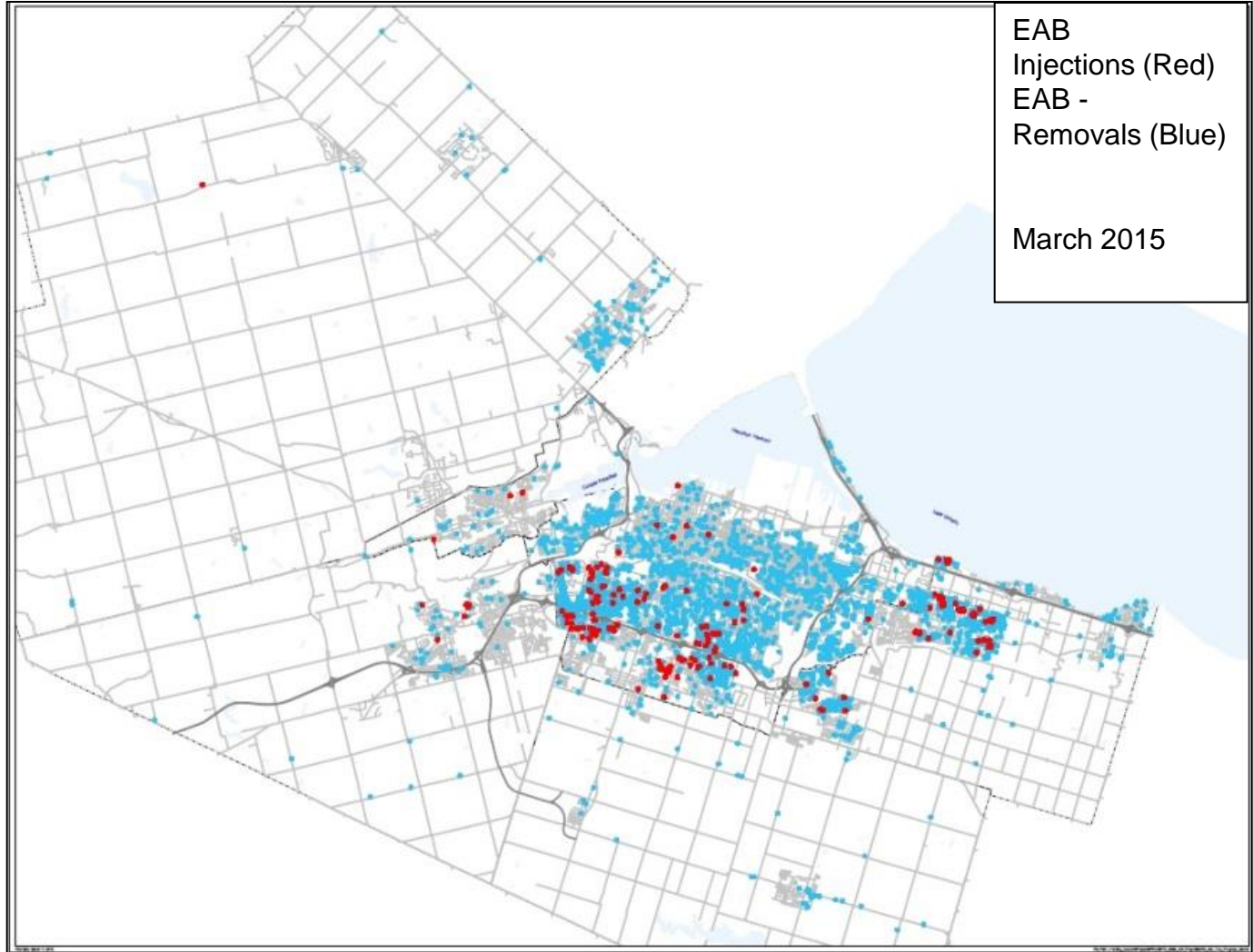
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# Ash Tree Injections and Removals Progress

- Community
- People
- Processes
- Finance



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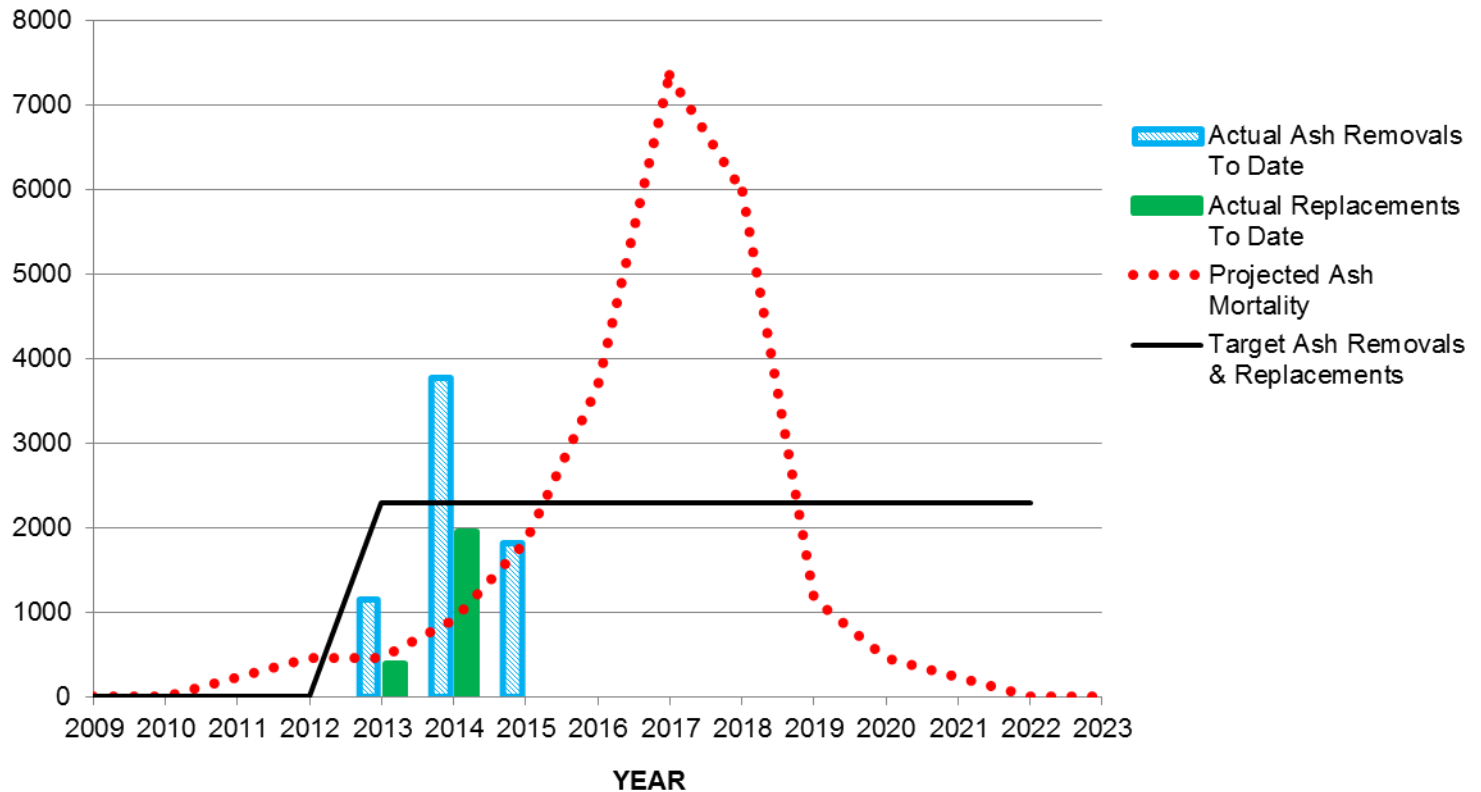


# Progress VS Targets

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- People
- Processes
- Finance



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Proactive removal of approximately 2,300 urban Ash trees per year from urban streets, parks and cemeteries combined with 1:1 tree replacement

# Ash Tree Program Progress 2015

As of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 the work completed under the EAB Program is as follows:

- 6,761 trees removed
- 3,747 stumps removed – balance of clean up by June 30<sup>th</sup>
- 1,946 replacement trees planted – rate of planting increased for 2015

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A green promotional flyer for the 'Free Tree' program. The top section says 'GET YOUR FREE TREE' with a tree icon. Below that, a box titled 'THE BENEFITS OF TREES' lists: 'Increase property value', 'Improve air quality', and 'Improve storm water runoff reduction'. The middle section says 'Call the city to request your free tree, we will deliver and plant it. 905.546.CITY (2489)'. The bottom section features the 'Every Tree Counts' logo and the website 'treeshamilton.ca' with the phone number '(905) 546-CITY (2489)'. There is also a small 'Trees Hamilton' logo.



# Ash Replacement Process

Diversify the urban canopy

- Community
- People
- Processes
- Finance



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# Diversifying Our Urban Forest

- Community
- People
- Processes
- Finance



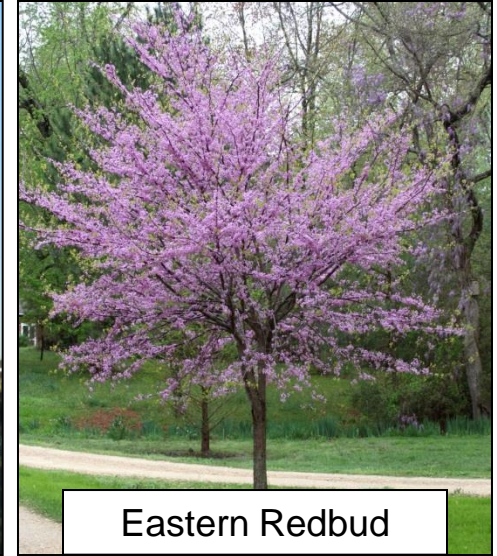
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Ornamental Pear



Ginkgo



Eastern Redbud



Kentucky Coffee



Autumn Blaze Maple



Tuliptree Bloom



Tuliptree

# Community Education

Public communication on the EAB Program has included the following:

- FAQ's on the <http://www.hamilton.ca> website, including information on Ash tree and EAB identification, signs and symptoms of infestation, and reporting procedures
- Information booklet "EAB – What you Need to Know"
- Notice to residents prior to removal
- Replacement tree indicators
- Community news advertisements



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# Targets for 2015

- Maintain 2300 removals per year
- Increase Ash tree replacements to 3,777
- Continue to diversify our Urban Forest through replacements

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# Questions?

For further information please contact

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