



Emerald Ash Borer Update

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

SEPTEMBER 21, 2026

Background

Emerald Ash Borer is an invasive pest that destroys Ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.)

Native to East Asia; discovered in US in 2002 (Michigan)

Beetle is ½" long; bright, metallic green

Kill rate of 90-100% of Ash trees



Concern for Camas

Strategic Priority: Stewardship of City assets

Washington's first confirmed identification occurred in Vancouver in August 2026

Most Ash trees are in significant decline within 2-7 years of infestation

Infestation rate is 90-100%

343 publicly-owned & planted Ash trees

Unknown number of private or native trees



EAB – Before & After

A Toledo street before and after EAB



June 2006



August 2009

EAB – Before & After



Primary Area of Concern - Downtown



Approx. 75 Ash in
Downtown Core

[illegible]

DNR Recommendations

Department of Natural Resources Preparedness Recommendations:

- Inventory Urban Forest
- Establish a Tree Replacement Program
- Inject select Ash trees with EAB insecticide

City of Camas completed these recommendations from 2023-26 to prepare for EAB arrival



EAB Solutions & Costs

There are no known methods to deter EAB

Solutions & Costs (approximate):

- Inject trees with insecticide = \$500/tree (lasts two years)
- Remove Ash trees = \$1,800/tree
- Plant non-Ash trees = \$1,300/tree

Total cost to remove Ash trees = \$617,000

Total cost to replant = \$446,000



Next Steps

Visual inspections on Ash trees (downtown completed in Sept 2026)

Place beetle traps in spring

Begin Ash removal & tree replacement

Prioritize removal of weakened and damaged Ash

Funding strategy

Applied for DNR grant

Communications strategy

Prepare for Dutch Elm Disease

