

## What to do

### Check whether there are any ash trees on your property

Here are three simple ways to identify an ash tree:

#### 1. Opposite leaf and branch arrangement:

Ash leaves and branches grow in symmetrical pairs, across from each other on the stem. (Figure 1)

#### 2. Bark features:

Young ash trees often have a smooth reddish bark. The bark of a more mature ash has interlaced ridges that form diamond-shaped grooves. (Figure 2)

#### 3. Compound leaves:

Ash leaves are composed of an odd number (5 to 11) of leaflets. (Figure 3)



## A small insect, a serious threat

Thousands of trees in Montréal are currently at risk of infestation by the emerald ash borer, an invasive Asian beetle that can now be found throughout the city and is devastating the ash tree population.

The larvae are the silent killers. They tunnel their way under the bark to feed themselves, eventually blocking the flow of sap. A seemingly healthy ash tree may actually be under heavy attack. Unfortunately, by the time it shows signs of infestation, it is usually too late to protect it.

Montréal has been working hard since 2011 to curb the populations of the emerald ash borer on public grounds. But private homeowners need to join in the fight as well. Under municipal bylaw, if you have one or more ash trees on your property, you are required to take action.



[montreal.ca/en](http://montreal.ca/en)

Ville de Montréal / Service des communications (05-991-2385) - Photo de l'agile - Wolfgang Hoffmann / AgStock

## Don't let your ash trees down

A guide to fighting the emerald ash borer

Treatment is now free



Montréal 



## Treat your ash trees for free!

Montréal now offers to treat your ash trees for free. All you need to do is fill out the online consent form. You have until **July 31st** to do so.

Under the by-law, ash trees must be treated every two years. If your ash trees were treated last year, please wait until next year to file your application.

Ash trees having a diameter of less than 15 cm or that grow in wooded areas on your lot (see definition) are not eligible.

Under municipal by-laws, if ash trees are located on a landscaped area of your property, you are required to treat them, unless 30% or more of the treetop is withering.

## If your ash tree is in decline, have it cut down

If 30% or more of the treetop exhibits signs of dieback, you are required to have your tree cut down as soon as possible. If it is located in a wooded area more than 25 metres away from a developed area (see below for the definitions of "wooded area" and "developed area"), felling is not necessary. Start by applying for a tree felling permit from your borough. Once your application has been approved, you can contact three or more specialized contractors for a quote to make sure you get the best price.

You may qualify for a subsidy to cover part of the cost of cutting down and replacing your tree. Be sure to visit our website for further details.

## Dispose of the wood properly

Once felled, the logs and branches of infested ash trees can still contribute to the spread of the emerald ash borer and threaten the survival of untreated trees. Proper disposal is therefore essential.

Ashwood must be processed on-site or sent to an authorized processing facility within 21 days of felling or pruning in a developed area, or within 60 days in a wooded area. For more information on processing facilities, please refer to our website.

The transformation process (e.g., chipping the wood debris or sawing it into planks and shredding the parts that include the bark) destroys the beetle. The processed wood may then be stored without any restrictions.

Important: Ashwood may not be kept as firewood under any circumstances.

---

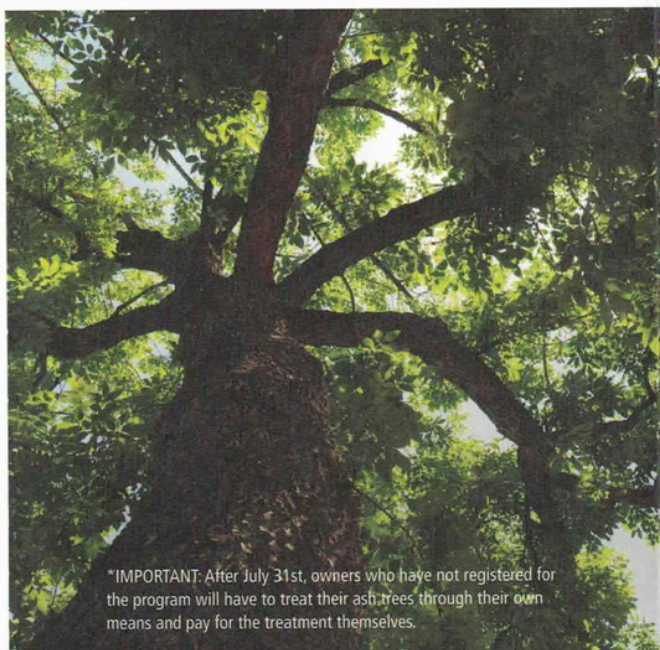
### What is a "wooded area"?

A parcel of land, or a part thereof, populated by trees in which herbaceous plants, shrubs and regenerating trees are not cut back on a regular basis.

### What is a "developed area"?

A parcel of land, or a part thereof, that is not a wooded area.

---



**\*IMPORTANT:** After July 31st, owners who have not registered for the program will have to treat their ash trees through their own means and pay for the treatment themselves.

