



*Martin O'Malley, Governor*  
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## **Emerald Ash Borer Update**

July 21, 2011

As you know, the emerald ash borer is an exotic insect pest that is threatening ash trees in 17 states, including Maryland. State and federal quarantines have been in place since 2004 in an effort to contain the pest and minimize its impact on our ash resource. In June, 2011, USDA confirmed emerald ash borer in Howard County, reported by a licensed arborist in a landscape, and on two Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) survey traps, and in Anne Arundel and Allegany counties on survey traps. As a result, the Quarantine Area has been expanded to include **all of the 14 Maryland counties west of the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay**. We wanted to make you aware of changes in the quarantine and remind you of its key provisions in order to facilitate compliance and get your assistance with helping us contain this menace.

**What:** Revised Quarantine Order of the Secretary of Agriculture, State of Maryland, to prevent the spread of Emerald Ash Borer in this state; Plant Protection Order #11-02. Key changes are: 1) Addition of all Maryland counties west of the Chesapeake Bay and the Susquehanna River, 2) Removal of the Infested Area and Eradication Zone provisions.

**Where:** This quarantine applies to: **Baltimore, Montgomery, Charles, Prince George's, Washington, Garrett, Allegany, Frederick, Howard, Carroll, Saint Mary's, Calvert, Harford, Anne Arundel counties, and Baltimore City**, the Quarantine Area.

**When:** This quarantine is effective **July 11, 2011** and will remain in effect until rescinded or otherwise modified by the Secretary.

### **Key provisions of the quarantine**

#### **Regulated articles**

- A person may not move any of the following items (**Regulated Articles**) from the Quarantine Area to any destination outside the Quarantine Area.
  - o The emerald ash borer;
  - o **Firewood of all hardwood (non-coniferous) species;**
  - o **Any piece of an ash tree**, living or dead; and,
  - o Uncomposted ash chips and uncomposted ash bark chips larger than 1 inch in diameter in two dimensions.

**NOTE:** Additional items may be designated as regulated if an inspector determines that they present a risk of spreading emerald ash borer and notifies the person who possesses them of the restrictions.

- A person may move regulated articles originating outside the Quarantine Area through the Quarantine Area only under certain conditions as follows:
  - o The regulated articles are moved without stopping, except to refuel or for traffic conditions, and
  - o For the period between April 1 and August 31, or when the ambient air temperature is 40 degrees Fahrenheit or higher, the articles are shipped in an enclosed vehicle, or are completely covered to prevent access by the emerald ash borer.

#### **Enforcement**

- A person may not resist or oppose the Secretary or an authorized inspector in enforcing this Quarantine Order.
- An authorized inspector may call upon the assistance of any law enforcement officer to enforce this Quarantine Order.
- A person who violates this Quarantine Order is subject to criminal or civil penalties as provided under Agriculture Article, §§ 5-313 and 5-314, Annotated Code of Maryland:
  - o Up to \$500 per violation (any piece of a regulated article) and 3 months in jail for the first offense.
  - o Up to \$1000 per violation (any piece of a regulated article) and one year in jail for the second and subsequent offenses.

For more information on emerald ash borer in Maryland and the revised quarantine please visit: <http://www.mda.state.md.us/plants-pests/eab/>



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