



**EMERALD ASH BORER (EAB) MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**For the Radisson Community Association**

**May 28, 2014**

**Introduction:**

Emerald ash borer (EAB) *Agrilus planipennis Fairmaire*, is an invasive beetle that was discovered in southeastern Michigan, near Detroit, in the summer of 2002. But, it is thought to have been present in the USA since the mid 1990's when it was introduced in ash wood used as shipping material. The first discovery in New York was in 2009 in Randolph, Cattaraugus County. It has since been found in 15 other counties in New York. The first confirmed presence of EAB in Onondaga County was in the Town of Dewitt, in July of 2013. Since then, there have been five other confirmed infestations in the county. It is estimated that the Radisson Community Association is approximately 17 miles from the nearest confirmed infestation.

EAB is a small, half inch long, invasive green beetle that infests and kills all species of ash (*Fraxinus*) trees. Four species of ash can be found in Onondaga County, white ash (*Fraxinus americana*), green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), black ash (*Fraxinus nigra*) and blue ash (*Fraxinus quadrangulata*). The mountain ash (*Sorbus americana*) is not a true ash and is not attacked by EAB. Ash makes up roughly 13% of forested trees in the County. New York State has the highest density of ash in the country.

Experience in the Midwest indicates all ash trees will die unless treated with insecticides. Dead ash trees will need to be removed to eliminate the risk of tree failure and subsequent property damage or personal injury. Ash trees must be managed carefully in order to slow the spread of the pest throughout the community so that we have time to plan and reduce costs associated with EAB.

To responsibly address public safety and fiscal planning, The Radisson Community Association (RCA) must prepare for and manage the potential damage to its ash trees on its Common Property, parks, and on privately owned property within the Radisson Community. The following components of the RCA EAB management plan are subject to periodic review and revision as new information about EAB becomes available. This plan may change to remain compliant with state, or federal policies and procedures.

**Plan Purpose:**

It is the intent of this plan to mitigate the disruption to our community's forested areas from the impending infestation of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Taking a proactive approach to the oncoming invasion will allow the Association to address common property and private property needs in an efficient and effective manner. The Association will endeavor to distribute the costs of tree removal and tree replacement over a manageable time period in order to lessen the social and economic impact upon our community. The RCA Board of Directors, and its Executive Director, will be responsible for the implementation of this plan. A contracted Forester will be

responsible for the management and coordination of the effort.

**Definitions:**

Association – Radisson Community Association, Inc., including its subsidiary, RCA Properties of Baldwinsville, LLC (collectively, “RCA”)

Common Property - As per the Radisson Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, (Radisson Declaration) property owned and maintained by the RCA for the use and enjoyment of its members.

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH) – The diameter (inches) of the trunk cross section measured at 4 ½’ above the ground

**Inventory:**

The Radisson Community is composed of three classes of trees:

1. Street Trees: These are trees growing within the right-of-way (ROW) of Town of Lysander’s (TOL) streets.

Trees located within the ROW of the TOL are under the jurisdiction of the TOL which must determine the trees necessary and appropriate for removal and/or treatment. The Town Supervisor and Highway Superintendent should be contacted regarding any trees in question.

2. Association Trees: These are trees growing on RCA Common Property.

Trees located on RCA Common Property are the responsibility of the Association. The Association will compile an inventory of all ash trees, by sections, within the community. Due to the close proximity of RCA Common Property to private property lot lines, sections to be inventoried will be completed after that section has been professionally surveyed and marked. Residents in each section will be notified when their section will be surveyed, and likewise, informed when an action will be taken with RCA owned trees in nearby proximity to their private property.

3. Private Trees: These are trees growing on private property.

The Association, through its Architectural Standards Committee (ASC), continues to require an approval for any tree to be removed greater than 4” in diameter. This is for all species of trees, including Ash. If you desire to have a tree you own removed, please complete an ASC Tree Removal Application and receive approval for that action prior to removing the tree. Should an infestation be confirmed within the community, this requirement may be waived. If at such time that were to occur, this Management Plan would be updated accordingly. Likewise, if at such time an infestation is confirmed within the RCA community, private owners with trees that

have become infected and who refuse to remove the tree, may be mandated to do so as required by Onondaga County Health Dept/Nuisance Law, or by Resolution of the RCA BOD.

### **Management Options:**

The three fundamental management options are:

- Ash extirpation – which is the total removal of all ash trees.
- Ash conservation – which focuses on saving an optimal amount of ash canopy.
- Ash Preservation – which is the non-removal of any ash tree.

### **Wood Utilization and Disposal:**

The RCA and its Contractor(s) will not dispose of any wood outside the quarantine area, except at governmentally approved sites. The RCA and its Contractor(s) shall be governed under, and comply with, the applicable laws of the State of New York and the Federal Government. The RCA and its Contractor(s) shall comply with the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder as well as the rules and regulations of the RCA and, where appropriate, the rules and regulations of the Town of Lysander, OCCRA, the County of Onondaga and NYS DEC. The Contractor shall meet all requirements of these laws, rules and regulations, including any subsequent changes.

### **Education:**

The Association, through its involvement with the Cornell Cooperative Extension for Onondaga County EAB Task Force, will continue to stay abreast of the latest information regarding the infestation of the EAB. Information will be distributed to residents via the community newsletter, Reflections, the Association's website ([www.radissoncommunity.org](http://www.radissoncommunity.org)) and through public seminars, when feasible. The Association will also engage an expert consultant with experience with this matter to educate, guide and assist the BOD and RCA Management.

### **Canopy Replacement and Care:**

As the budget permits, areas where ash trees have been removed will be replaced with non-host specific species that will enhance the planting site, are appropriate for the planting site and add diversity. Planting will be done under the advisement of a contracted Forester for

optimal results. Certain areas may not be replanted; rather the RCA may allow for natural growth to occur.

**Budget and Postponed Work:**

The existing services facilities and amenities of the Radisson Community Association cannot be delayed or postponed to deal with EAB issues. It is expected that additional, unbudgeted resources will be required to respond to this emergency. Monies allocated as per this EAB Management Plan will be done upon approval of the RCA BOD, by Resolution. Depending on the overall expense of the proposed actions (tree removal and replantings), the Finance Committee will annually reevaluate the Fund Balances, which are the Association's required reserves. There could potentially be a decision to postpone certain new amenities, repairs and/or replacements of items and possibly to increase assessments. All recommendations of the Finance Committee will be reviewed and approved by the RCA BOD.

**Common Property Notice:**

As per the Radisson Declaration of Protective Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions, (Radisson Declaration) property owned by the Radisson Community Association is Common Property. RCA Common Property is under the jurisdiction of the RCA Board of Directors. It is its responsibility, which the Executive Director enforces on its behalf, to ensure that the Common Property is not used for unauthorized purposes (i.e. driving ATVs on open land) or maintained by anyone other than RCA personnel (i.e. mowing areas near your own personal property). Every Resident and Owner has a non-transferable privilege of enjoyment in and to all Common Property for so long as s/he shall be a Resident or Owner in good standing. Certain areas that the Association owns may be maintained, such as: the playfields, along the pathways, the medians, etc. while others will remain in their natural state. While the Association makes every attempt to keep the Common Property areas safe, residents should be aware that there may be naturally occurring dangers in the wooded areas and elsewhere on other Common Property.