Emerald ash borer (Agrilus planipennis)

The **emerald ash borer** is a wood-boring beetle which **affects all species of ash tree**. Infested trees will usually die. Larvae feed within trunks and branches more than 5cm in diameter, which can include larger saplings.

Larval feeding under the bark disrupts the flow of nutrients and **can result in branches or entire trees dying.**

Adult beetles:

- feed on ash leaves
- are a deep green metallic colour
- are between 7.5-13.5mm long
- have a flat head

Larval Galleries: Found under the tree bark, curve and twist in a snake-like shape and are filled with sawdust-like material (frass). Sections of bark may fall or peel off a heavily infested tree.

Look out for:

- dying/ yellowing branches and foliage, particularly at the top of the tree
- 5-10cm long splits down the bark
- “D-shaped” exit holes on the tree bark, around 3mm wide
- new shoots growing from the tree’s trunk (epicormic growth).

If you suspect it, report it by visiting https://treealert.forestresearch.gov.uk/ or use the QR code.



Adult beetle (real size 7.5-13.5mm). Credit: Debbie Miller, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



Adult beetle and “D-shaped” exit holes. Credit: Jared Spokowsky, Indiana Natural Resources, Bugwood.org.


Galleries under bark. Dominic Eyre, Crown Copyright.

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