Emerald Ash Borer in Rensselaer County, NY

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Rensselaer County - David Chinery

Photography by Master Gardeners
Pat Thorne and Irv Stephens
• Location: Route 66, Town of North Greenbush (Wynantskill), NY

• Following up on a report of an adult emerald ash borer (EAB) in a NYS DEC purple trap, we found evidence of EAB for the first time in two Rensselaer County ash trees

• Photos taken early December, 2015
EAB is not easily seen from the ground at the present time in these trees. I used binoculars to see it, but Pat Thorne and Irv Stevens were able to take the following photos of the damage.
Woodpecker hole in first tree.
Also tree damage on the second limb.
Is this a larva sticking out?
Damage about new limb.

The feeding activity of woodpeckers and other birds offers the best clues of an EAB infestation.
Closer look.
White breasted nuthatch feast.
A second white breasted nuthatch.
Multiple large holes.
Multiple woodpecker holes with small holes where larva lived.
Another view of same area.
Holes in second tree.
Multiple holes in second tree.
Second tree.
Typical “blonding” where the woodpeckers have removed the outer bark in their search for EAB
• At this point we don’t know if there are other infested trees in the area, but it is highly likely.

• For more information on Emerald Ash Borer, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at (518) 272-4210