

2015-2017 Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan

To slow the spread of the emerald ash borer across the Greater Montreal area and to more effectively manage its impacts, the Communauté métropolitaine de Montréal (CMM) has adopted a strategy for fighting the insect pest. The strategy aims to provide region-wide coordination of the actions being taken in the 82 municipalities concerned, including Town of Mount Royal.

In accordance with the proposed strategy, Town of Mount Royal has adopted a 2015-2017 Emerald Ash Borer Response Plan and a new by-law (By-law No. 1433). These measures will give it the tools it needs to slow the insect's spread and reduce the ash mortality rate. Based on the proven SLAM (slow ash mortality) method, the response plan relies on intervention strategies for protecting ashes and delimiting high-risk zones.

The objectives

- **Strengthen the response tools in accordance with the CMM's recommendations**
- **Adopt a by-law concerning ashes on private property**
- **Provide support to ash owners**

Strengthen the response tools in accordance with the CMM's recommendations

Among the some 10,000 trees that make up Town of Mount Royal's urban forest, 310 ashes have been identified in the parks and green spaces. Since 2012, the Town has introduced several measures to limit the spread of the emerald ash borer. In particular, a classification review is performed on a cyclical basis and scouting operations are carried out each year. In addition to installing 14 traps and barking 50 trees, all ashes on public property have been injection-treated by the end of the summer of 2015.

During the same period, the Town have taken an inventory of trees on private property in order to identify the ashes. A door hanger has been left at each home to tell the owners whether or not they have ashes on their property. Ash owners have been informed of what they should do based on their trees' condition. A complete follow-up program has been planned to guide citizens in treating their ashes and, if necessary, pruning or felling them.

Adopt a by-law concerning ashes on private property

To provide a framework for the measures ash owners must take, the Town recently adopted By-law No. 1433 Limiting the Propagation of the Emerald Ash Borer in Mount Royal. The by-law sets forth specific requirements and various restrictions applicable to privately owned ashes, in particular regarding their treatment, felling and cutting and the moving of ash wood waste.

Provide support to ash owners

Once the inventory has been taken, property owners will receive an evaluation of their ashes and guidance on the procedures to follow in order to comply with the Town's new by-law. In addition, by availing themselves of the services of the Town's official supplier, Entrepreneurs Paysagiste Strathmore, they will receive a refund equal to 50% of the cost of the TreeAzin systemic insecticide treatment. When an ash is felled or cut, any branches or parts of the trunk more than 20 cm in diameter must be taken to the Public Works Division and placed in a container provided for the

purpose. This measure is aimed at controlling the risk of propagation by transporting infected wood. The Town will dispose of this wood waste by sending it to a site authorized to handle it, at no additional cost for property owners.

Information campaign and documentation

The Town has put in place various communication tools to inform residents of the new measures to control the emerald ash borer. Some documents, including the door hanger, have been distributed every home during the summer of 2015. Other communication strategies are planned for 2016, including our social media. All documentation, including By-law No. 1433, can also be found in the Environment section of the Town's website.

Current composition of Town of Mount Royal's public urban forest

Species	Percentage	Species	Percentage
Maples	57.5%	Willows	2,3%
Honey-locusts	10.5%	Kentucky coffee trees	1.8%
Oaks	7.5%	Ginkgos	1%
Ash	3.3%	Other hardwoods	5%
Hackberries	2.3%	Conifers	4.8%