



Canadian Food  
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne  
d'inspection des aliments

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# *News Release*

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*For Immediate Release*

## **MOVEMENT OF ASH TREES AND FIREWOOD FROM THE CITY OF TORONTO PROHIBITED**

**OTTAWA, February 22, 2008** – The Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is taking decisive action to limit the spread of the invasive emerald ash borer (EAB) in Ontario.

“The Government of Canada is working hard to limit the spread of the emerald ash borer,” said Minister Gerry Ritz. “We all have a responsibility to do what we can to protect Canada’s valuable forests and the Government of Canada is committed to working with provinces and municipalities to protect ash trees.”

Effective February 15, 2008 the movement of potentially infested material will be strictly controlled in the City of Toronto under a Ministerial Order. The pest is primarily spread to new areas through the movement of infested firewood, ash tree and other materials.

EAB poses an environmental and economic threat in North America. As a result, Canada and the U.S. are working together to combat its spread.

The public can play an important role in limiting the spread of this invasive beetle by not removing any firewood or ash tree materials from EAB-infested areas such as those in the City of Toronto.

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For more information, contact:

CFIA Media Relations  
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**Canada** 

## NOTICE OF MINISTERIAL ORDER

February XX, 2008 - To limit the spread of the emerald ash borer (EAB) in Ontario, a new regulated area has been established. This area has been established to control the movement of potentially infested materials to other areas of Canada.

The *City of Toronto Emerald Ash Borer Infested Places Declaration and Order* (2008) restricts the movement of any regulated materials from the city of Toronto, including nursery stock, trees, logs, wood, rough lumber including pallets and other wood packaging materials, bark, wood chips or bark chips from ash trees and firewood of all tree species which have not been treated to eliminate the emerald ash borer. This order extends to vehicles that were used to carry any of these items.

Properties for which Notices of Quarantine or Notices of Prohibition of Movement have been issued are also regulated under the *Plant Protection Act* for emerald ash borer. It is prohibited to remove any firewood and ash tree material from these properties.

Ministerial Orders for the County of Essex and the Municipality of Chatham-Kent and the Counties of Elgin, Lambton and Middlesex remain in effect and the movement of firewood of all species will continue to be regulated to limit the further spread of EAB.

The movement of regulated materials from regulated areas will only be permitted with the written permission of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). Anyone who violates these Orders may be subject to a fine and/or be liable for prosecution. These actions are necessary to limit the artificial spread of EAB.

The CFIA continues to cooperate with other government agencies including Natural Resources Canada - Canadian Forest Service, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the United States Department of Agriculture to develop strategies to control EAB and limit its spread to other areas of Canada. Consultative and advisory committees have been formed to provide science-based advice to the CFIA on this issue.

Additional information on the emerald ash borer is available on the CFIA web site at [www.inspection.gc.ca](http://www.inspection.gc.ca).