



MEDIA RELEASE



Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Emerald Ash Borer confirmed in King Township

Five York Region municipalities now with confirmed infestations of invasive insect

NEWMARKET – The Regional Municipality of York has confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer in the Township of King. The Emerald Ash Borer, first found in York Region in 2008, is an invasive insect that kills all ash trees.



The Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer discovery near the 7th Concession, north of the municipal boundary of the City of Vaughan, marks the first confirmation of the insect in King Township. King Township is the fifth local municipality in York Region with a confirmed infestation, along with the Towns of Aurora, Markham, Richmond Hill, Whitchurch-Stouffville and the City of Vaughan.

York Region is working co-operatively with the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, the Ministry of Natural Resources, conservation authorities and local municipalities to monitor the spread of this insect and help manage its impact.

The Region conducts surveys to monitor the spread of the insect. The most recent survey, completed over the summer, confirmed the presence of the Emerald Ash Borer in Aurora and Whitchurch-Stouffville. Another survey is scheduled for 2012, which will target areas north of confirmed infestation areas.

As part of the York Region Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan approved by York Regional Council in June, infested ash trees on public property will be removed and replaced with other species. For suspected infestations on private property, residents are advised to consult a licensed arborist.

Education and communication are important initiatives to help residents understand the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer. York Region has information available on www.york.ca, including answers to commonly asked questions and links to other resources. York Region also sends updates to all households in [York Works](#), a Regional newsletter mailed to homeowners across York Region. Both resources can be accessed through links on the York Region homepage.

Further information on the Emerald Ash Borer can also be found at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website www.inspection.gc.ca/pests or by calling 1-866-463-6017.

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Founded in 1971, The Regional Municipality of York is made up of nine municipalities and provides services to more than one million residents, 29,000 businesses and 495,000 employees.