



Administrative Offices
2117 West River Road
Minneapolis, MN 55411-2227

Operations Center
3800 Bryant Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55409-1000

Phone: 612-230-6400
Fax: 612-230-6500

www.minneapolisparcs.org

February 10, 2010

Mark Abrahamson
Emerald Ash Borer Project Manager
Minnesota Department of Agriculture
625 Robert Street North
St Paul, MN 55155

RE: Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Inspection of Ash Trees for Emerald Ash Borer in Minneapolis, MN

Dear Mr. Abrahamson,

I am writing in regards to Minnesota Department of Agriculture's ash tree inspection program that will soon be starting in Minneapolis, MN. This work will help identify ash trees that appear to be infested with Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). By finding suspect trees early on it may be possible to slow the spread of this devastating pest. Please be aware that the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board (MPRB) whole heartedly supports this effort and is committed to working with you as needed.

The Forestry Division of the MPRB oversees the management and maintenance of hundreds of thousands of tree on boulevards and in parks throughout Minneapolis. About 19% or 38,000 of our boulevard trees are ash. With EAB being found in neighboring St. Paul in 2009 it is just a matter of time until there is a confirmation in Minneapolis. Because all ash trees will eventually be killed by EAB, any effort that can be made to slow the spread of the insect is of the utmost importance.

If any of our residents are interested in your work, feel free to provide them with a copy of this letter. If necessary, additional questions may be referred to the MPRB Forestry Division at 612-313-7710.

The long term health and well being of our urban forest is directly related to the care of individual trees. Cooperative projects between the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the MPRB is a positive endeavor that will maximize the benefits which trees provide to our city.

Sincerely,

Ralph C. Sievert, Jr.
Director of Forestry

President
John Erwin

Vice President
M. Annie Young

Commissioners
Brad Bourn
Bob Fine
Carol A. Kummer
Jon C. Olson
Anita Tabb
Scott Vreeland
Liz Wielinski

Superintendent
Jon R. Gurban

Secretary to the Board
Don Siggelkov

Superintendents Emeritus
Mary Merrill Anderson
David Fisher