



Department of Public Works

Jeffrey J. Mantes  
Commissioner of Public Works

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release: Friday, May 15, 2009

For Additional Information Contact: Cecilia Gilbert, permits & Communications Manager, 287-3261 or 708-2295 (cell)

### **Mayor Barrett to Demonstrate Emerald Ash Borer Treatment *Demonstration Occurs During National Public Works Week & Emerald Ash Borer Week***

The City of Milwaukee has spent the last few years preparing for life with emerald ash borer (EAB). As an established pest in the region, Milwaukee Forestry has accepted that it is not 'if' EAB arrives, but 'when' it is confirmed within the City boundary. Milwaukee has over 200,000 street trees and approximately 36,000 ash trees. Mayor Tom Barrett along with Department of Public Works staff will begin treating some of the City's ash trees on Monday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Location to be determine.

Milwaukee is moving forward with plans to chemically treat all City-owned ash in an effort to moderate/mitigate the impact of EAB. In previous summers, time studies were conducted to compare efficiencies between a number of chemical delivery systems. They determined that pairing a hydraulic injection system from Arbor-Jet with the chemical Tree-age (active ingredient emamectin benzoate) was the most efficient and effective option available.

The demonstration is being held during National Public Works Week, May 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> as well as Emerald Ash Borer Week, as designated by Governor Jim Doyle. The theme for this year's National Public Works Week is, ***Revitalize, Reinvest, Renew***. "The preventive action taken to keep the EAB from harming City of Milwaukee trees is a great example of reinvesting in our community so it can continue to revitalize neighborhoods." said Mayor Barrett.

**WHO:** Mayor Tom Barrett  
Jeff Mantes, Commissioner, Public Works  
David Sivyer, Forestry Services Manager

**WHAT:** Emerald Ash Borer Treatment

**WHEN:** Monday, May 18, 2009  
11:00 a.m.

**WHERE:**