

September 14, 2006

Emerald Ash Borer Update

Warren Goetsch (Acting Division Manager, Natural Resources and Bureau Chief of Environmental Programs, Illinois Department of Agriculture) returned my phone call this afternoon and shared the following;

The Government Management Task Group (GMTG) met last week and decided that the following course of action for Kane County should be pursued;

a. IDA will sample 260 small trees on public property throughout the 51 sq. mile Kane County quarantine zone by stripping bark and checking the tree for ash borer larvae.

b. If no larvae are found in these 260 trees, then it is likely that the protocol will call for government funded eradication of ash trees within 1/2 mile of the infested trees in the Windings to proceed in December,2006

c. If larvae are found in some of these 260 trees, the GMTG will probably have to look at a larger eradication zone and would need more funding to sponsor such a program.

d. Warren is concerned about how an eradication program could be conducted in heavily wooded areas without cutting roads and damaging the environment. I told Warren that we would like to work with him on solutions to this problem in the Windings.

Bill Miller