



Dear Customer,

Entomologists and Certified Arborists are in general agreement that, since its first actual confirmed sighting in 2011, the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) insect has probably been in the area for two years before it was identified.

This means that the EAB is entering its seventh year of infestation in southern Wisconsin and Dane County. This insect has proven to be an incredibly devastating pest to our native ash tree population. There are over 700 million ash trees in the State of Wisconsin alone, so control of this pest is critical to retaining the natural beauty of forests and urban landscapes.

In 2014, we began to use a product called Tree-azin, which is an effective and 100% CERTIFIED ORGANIC product developed and tested in Canada. This product has been proven to be more effective than conventional insecticides with none of the deleterious side effects and carryover that these chemical insecticides can produce. This product is a botanical, injectable insecticide derived naturally from the "Neem" tree. Recent studies have shown that Tree-azin does not produce any of the same negative environmental effects on non-targeted insects, animals and plants that other products used to treat EAB have caused, both in laboratory tests and in field use.

For this reason, Barnes, Inc. has chosen to use Tree-azin EXCLUSIVELY for treating ash trees. When Barnes, Inc. began treating with this product in 2014 on a biennial basis, the EAB infestation in Dane county was in the last stages of early infestation. In 2015, we saw a large increase in the population of EAB in our area. This was to be expected as we entered what experts consider to be the heavy infestation period of the EAB cycle. (See enclosed graph).

With that said, we have adjusted our treatment recommendations to help ensure that we are maximizing the effectiveness of controlling EAB. Recent studies from Michigan State University have concluded that annual applications during this period increase the effectiveness of Tree-azin based treatments.

Therefore, Barnes Inc. is strongly recommending that any trees treated in 2014 and 2015 should be placed on an annual treatment schedule for this year (2016) and next year (2017). If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact us. Also, please note that we will continually update our website ([www.barnesinc.net](http://www.barnesinc.net)) with new information as it becomes available.

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