



# DANA Update

The newsletter of the  
Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association

March, 2015

Volume 20, Issue 2

[www.DouglasAcres.org](http://www.DouglasAcres.org)

## DANA President's Message

We hope you will join us on Tuesday, March 10, for the general meeting of the Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association. Our guest speaker will be David Jahn, Municipal Arborist, City of Des Moines, who will provide valuable information about the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) that is making its way across Iowa. David will discuss the plan developed by the City of Des Moines for managing public ash trees. He will also provide information about how to determine if your ash tree is healthy and what treatment options are available to preserve your tree. I have been to several of David's presentations and have found them to be very educational. Please see the article below for additional information.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting!

**Linda Westergaard**

## The Emerald Ash Borer is Coming

*(adopted from the City of Des Moines website)*

The Emerald Ash Borer is an insect of Asian origin that is rapidly making its way across Iowa, threatening all Ash trees. By tunneling under the bark of the Ash tree, the insect cuts off all nutrients and water, causing the tree to die.

### Why Trees Are Important

In addition to bringing beauty and character to our neighborhoods, trees increase property values, save energy by reducing air condition and heating costs, clean pollutants from the air and water, reduce storm water runoff, buffer and reduce noise, promote community interaction and renewal, and provide habitat for birds and wildlife.

### If there is an Ash tree in your Right of Way or "Parking"

The public right of way or "parking" is the area between the street and the public sidewalk in front of your home. If there is an Ash tree in the parking in front of your home, the decision for what to do with that tree rests with the city. The City Forestry Department has inspected those trees and some Ash trees have already been removed. It is our understanding that the Forestry Department will return and remove the stumps left behind when the Ash tree was cut down. It is also our understanding that the City will plant a new tree in the right of way only **IF IT IS REQUESTED BY THE HOMEOWNER**. A TREE PLANTING REQUEST FORM needs to be completed and returned to the Des Moines Public Works Forestry Division. In other words, if you don't request a new tree, you will not get a new tree. There will be a supply of Tree Planting and Request Forms at the Annual meeting on January 13, please pick up a form and come prepared with any questions you might have.

### If there is an Ash tree in your Yard

Several options are available to the homeowner who has an Ash tree in their yard. The best recommendation is to contact an Arborist or tree service who can evaluate the overall condition of your tree and whether you should consider treatment or removal (see article on page 2). Several types of treatment are available and most experts are advising that this is a job that should be performed by a professional.

Additional information is available on the City of Des Moines website, go to [www.DMGOV.org](http://www.DMGOV.org) and look for Emerald Ash Borer in the "Quick Links" box on the left side of the home page.

Do you have news that you think would be interesting to your Douglas Acres neighbors? Let us know and we'll put it in the next newsletter. Call Neal Westergaard at 988-4288 or send an email to [nealwes@gmail.com](mailto:nealwes@gmail.com)

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U.S. POSTAGE  
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*Time sensitive material, please do not delay delivery*

Local  
Postal Customer

## You're Invited!

**What:** DANA General Meeting  
**When:** Tuesday, March 10, 2015  
7:00 PM  
**Where:** Staves Methodist Church  
2747 E Madison



Are you on Facebook? Search for "Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association" then click "Like" so you can keep up on what's happening in your neighborhood. You can also visit our DANA website, [www.DouglasAcres.org](http://www.DouglasAcres.org)