

Finding a Certified Pesticide Applicator for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

ISU Extension & Outreach is unable to give specific recommendations for companies who are licensed and certified to treat ash trees for the emerald ash borer (EAB), as that could create a bias in favor of some companies. However, we can provide general guidance on how to find certified applicators and considerations for conducting your research.

To treat ash trees for EAB, a person must be certified with the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) - Pesticide Bureau. To treat trees commercially, an applicator must have a valid and **active category 30** (3-“O” for ornamental) or **3OT** (3-“O T” for ornament and turf) per state law.

IDALS – Pesticide Bureau website provides access to a database listing companies with the appropriate certifications. Each business name, address, phone, and applicators with specific certifications are found when you click the company name. For your convenience, a link to the page on the IDALS site to begin your search for licensed commercial applicator companies is: <http://www.kellysolutions.com/ia/Business/searchbyCity.asp>

Next Steps:

1. **Choose your search criteria from the following suggestions:**
 - Use *only* your city’s full name-- OR
 - Use *only* your zip code--OR
 - Enter your county’s number in the field labeled “county”. (For example, Polk is county number 77. The full list of Iowa county numbers given on page two of this document.) The search function on this IDALS site does not perform well using the county *name*. Name searches for *cities with multiple word names* may not be as useful as using the only the zip code. If needed, expand the search to nearby counties with large cities, as some companies are willing to drive to outlying towns for treatments.
2. **Select “Commercial Applicator” from drop-down list in the next field.**
3. **Click button labeled “Search for one of these Criteria”.**
4. **You need to select a business that has an Active certification in category 30 or 3OT.** The list of companies that will appear includes *Inactive* as well as *Active* and **ALL** commercial certifications also appear, so plan to review the list carefully.
 - **TIP #1:** If you are a user of “Excel”, the list can be copied into a spreadsheet and sorted to delete “inactive” companies.
 - **TIP #2:** The business name may suggest that they work with trees. These companies may be more likely to have a 30 or 3OT certification. For example: “Sample Lawn & Landscape”, or “Sample Tree Service”.
 - **Click on the name of companies with Active certifications to see if they have a 30 or 3OT certification.**
 - Company phone number and address is given on this screen as well.
5. **Suggestion: When calling prospective companies to treat for EAB, ask and verify if the applicator is also certified arborist.** Arborists are tree professionals and can determine if the tree is a good candidate for treatment and suggest pruning to keep the tree in good condition. Check the [International Society of Arboriculture \(ISA\)](#) home page for ISA-certified arborists in your area.

Research Considerations:

- **You will need to talk with companies to find out if they have experience applying treatments that are recommended for EAB** — it is not a given that a company will do EAB treatments (trunk injection, soil injection, soil drench, or basal trunk spray).
- **We encourage you to get two to three bids** for the same type of treatment.
- **Ask for and check local references of past clients.**
- **Professional treatments can be costly.** EAB treatments must be done yearly or every other year for a period of several years. Resources on ash trees and decision guides for EAB infestations are posted at ISU Extension and Outreach’s EAB resource page is: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/psep/emeraldashborer.html>.
- **If your ash tree is smaller than 20” diameter (60” circumference),** you will find that it is possible to treat your own ash tree(s).

State of Iowa County Codes

00: Non-Resident	34: Floyd (Charles City)	67: Monona (Onawa)
1: Adair (Greenfield)	35: Franklin (Hampton)	68: Monroe (Albia)
2: Adams (Corning)	36: Fremont (Sidney)	69: Montgomery (Red Oak)
3: Allamakee (Waukon)	37: Greene (Jefferson)	70: Muscatine (Muscatine)
4: Appanoose (Centerville)	38: Grundy (Grundy Center)	71: O'Brien (Primghar)
5: Audubon (Audubon)	39: Guthrie (Guthrie Center)	72: Osceola (Sibley)
6: Benton (Vinton)	40: Hamilton (Webster City)	73: Page (Clarinda)
7: Black Hawk (Waterloo)	41: Hancock (Garner)	74: Palo Alto (Emmetsburg)
8: Boone (Boone)	42: Hardin (Eldora)	75: Plymouth (LeMars)
9: Bremer (Waverly)	43: Harrison (Logan)	76: Pocahontas (Pocahontas)
10: Buchanan (Independence)	44: Henry (Mount Pleasant)	77: Polk (Des Moines)
11: Buena Vista (Storm Lake)	45: Howard (Cresco)	78: Pottawattamie (Council Bluffs)
12: Butler (Allison)	46: Humboldt (Dakota City)	79: Poweshiek (Montezuma)
13: Calhoun (Rockwell City)	47: Ida (Ida Grove)	80: Ringgold (Mount Ayr)
14: Carroll (Carroll)	48: Iowa (Marengo)	81: Sac (Sac City)
15: Cass (Atlantic)	49: Jackson (Maquoketa)	82: Scott (Davenport)
16: Cedar (Tipton)	50: Jasper (Newton)	83: Shelby (Harlan)
17: Cerro Gordo (Mason City)	51: Jefferson (Fairfield)	84: Sioux (Orange City)
18: Cherokee (Cherokee)	52: Johnson (Iowa City)	85: Story (Nevada)
19: Chickasaw (New Hampton)	53: Jones (Anamosa)	86: Tama (Toledo)
20: Clarke (Osceola)	54: Keokuk (Sigourney)	87: Taylor (Bedford)
21: Clay (Spencer)	55: Kossuth (Algona)	88: Union (Creston)
22: Clayton (Elkader)	56: Lee (Fort Madison)	89: Van Buren (Keosauqua)
23: Clinton (Clinton)	57: Linn (Cedar Rapids)	90: Wapello (Ottumwa)
24: Crawford (Denison)	58: Louisa (Wapello)	91: Warren (Indianola)
25: Dallas (Adel)	59: Lucas (Charlton)	92: Washington (Washington)
26: Davis (Bloomfield)	60: Lyon (Rock Rapids)	93: Wayne (Corydon)
27: Decatur (Leon)	61: Madison (Winterset)	94: Webster (Fort Dodge)
28: Delaware (Manchester)	62: Mahaska (Oskaloosa)	95: Winnebago (Forest City)
29: Des Moines (Burlington)	63: Marion (Knoxville)	96: Winneshiek (Decorah)
30: Dickinson (Spirit Lake)	64: Marshall (Marshalltown)	97: Woodbury (Sioux City)
31: Dubuque (Dubuque)	65: Mills (Glenwood)	98: Worth (Northwood)
32: Emmet (Estherville)	66: Mitchell (Osage)	99: Wright (Clarion)
33: Fayette (West Union)		