



ARBORSCAPES

Tree Management • Plant Health Care
Construction Preservation

Ambrosia Beetles

Ambrosia Beetles are a type of wood boring insect that bore through tree bark and into the sapwood. Ambrosia beetles feed on a fungus that they cultivate on the walls of the tunnels they create. This fungus can be disruptive to the health of the tree, attacking the vascular tissue and interrupting water and nutrient intake. Usually ambrosia beetles attack weakened, injured, or dying trees and shrubs- however, some species are known to attack freshly cut wood or healthy trees and shrubs. Infested plants often die from the effects of the beetle boring, the ambrosia fungus, or a secondary infestation brought on by the plant's weakened state.



Pictured Above: Frass, a small toothpick like projection caused by the ambrosia beetle's tunneling. Pictured Below: Red-bay Ambrosia Beetle, cause of laurel wilt disease.

