

## **Borers**

Borer infestations often go unnoticed until plants, or part of a plant, begin to die or show signs of external damage. Borers normally produce round, oval, or semicircular holes that are found in a random pattern on the plant. Borers tunnel through the inner bark layer, affecting the vigor of the plant which can invite other diseases and infestations as well as weakened limbs that may fall. Borer infestation can prevent the transport of nutrients and water throughout the tree, leading to the tree's eventual death.



The D-shaped exit hole, characteristic of an Emerald Ash Borer

## **Treatment & Prevention**

Because many wood-boring insects are secondary invaders, the best line of defense against infestation is to keep your trees healthy. Proper fertilization and pruning can help reduce plant stress, discouraging disease and infestations.

Treatment methods for borer infestations include pruning of infested limbs, systemic treatments, and chemical sprays. Chemical sprays usually require multiple treatments, while systemic treatments can be done once.