



## What Are the Large Purple Items in the Trees Around Highlands Ranch?

If you have wondered about the large purple items hanging in some of the Metro District's trees around the community, we have the answer. The items are being used by the United States Department of Agriculture's Plant Protection and Quarantine Office (USDA PPQ) for early detection of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). EAB is an exotic insect native to the Far East. EAB has killed millions of ash trees throughout the upper midwestern United States. EAB can be spread from affected areas through movement of firewood or nursery stock. Ash is an important resource to Colorado's urban forest. **EAB is not known to occur in Colorado.**



Detection of EAB prior to this year has been difficult due to the lack of detection tools. This year is the first year that a suitable attractant, called a lure, is available. The trap is baited with Manuka Oil, which emits a smell that attracts EAB to it. The color purple is also significant, as it has also been found to be attractive to these insects. The trap's exterior is lined with a sticky substance that will capture any insects lured to it. Traps will be in place until August. Please do not go near these traps so we can help prove Colorado is EAB free!

For more information about EAB, please visit [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info). You may also call Dennis Donovan, Metro District forestry supervisor, at 720-240-5915, or the USDA PPQ office **National Identification Services**, at 301-734-5312.

Resource links to EAB web sites:

<http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>

<http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/eab/>

[http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest\\_al/eab/eab.pdf](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/eab/eab.pdf)

<http://www.invasivespeciesinfo.gov/animals/eab.shtml>