



# DURHAM NEWS NOTES

Late Summer 2025



## **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) In Washington County**



1. Length ranges from 0.33 to 0.53 inches (8-13.5mm).
2. Head has a slight indent and bulging eyes. No long antennae.
3. Wing covers atop the body range from dingy to bright green and dull metallic. Underside is bright metallic. No spots, stripes, or grooved lines.
4. Body is slim and pointed.
5. When wings are open a red metallic body is visible.



The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was first detected in Washington County in 2022 and is expected to soon take up residency in Durham. These metallic green forest pests have decimated millions of ash trees across the country and threaten to do so in Durham, as well.

The Oregon ash, *Fraxinus latifolia*, is the only ash tree native to the pacific northwest and is know as a riparian “super-tree” for its ability to stabilize wetland soils and filter pollutants.

### **What can be done?**

Once the EAB becomes established in an area there are no effective means of eradicating it. However, preventatively treating ash trees has been found to be 95% effective but needs to be done about every 2 years. For a list of insecticides and their effectiveness, please visit [www.oregoneab.com](http://www.oregoneab.com). Some insecticides can only be applied by a professional.

Help stop the spread of EAB by not moving ash firewood.

Please report EAB by visiting [oregoninvasiveshotline.org/](http://oregoninvasiveshotline.org/).

## **Get Durham News Notes by Email**

Receive Durham News Notes by email by visiting <https://durham-oregon.us/> and clicking “Subscribe to Receive Durham News and Digital Newsletter” in the green banner. Enter your email and you will receive a copy of the newsletter, and any important information the City may need to communicate.

The City does not intend to eliminate printing the newsletter, and so your printed copy of Durham News Notes will still arrive by post.

### **Inside this issue:**

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## **Tree Ordinance Updates**

Durham has long been know for being a sylvan community and the tree canopy is one of the main standouts newcomers notice. Many of our trees were planted as part of the Pilkington Nursery more than a century ago, and the City has regulated tree removals for over 50 years.

Cities regulate tree removals to preserve trees for the health, environmental, and aesthetic benefits they bring, but allow for the removal of trees that pose a safety risk to people and property.

The City knows that residents are passionate about this topic, and so has committed its limited time and resources to this update. In addition to engaging the community, the City has been working with its contract attorneys, arborists, and city planner. The updates prioritize the protection of Durham’s citizens and the trees they cherish.

*Tree Ordinance Updates Continued on page 3*

## Talk to Kids About Fire & Life Safety

Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue encourages parents and caregivers to talk to their kids about how and when to call 911 for police, fire, or medical assistance in the event of an emergency. Make sure children know information an emergency dispatcher will need: their address, phone number, and parents' contact information.

It's also a good idea to have phone numbers for family and neighbors posted on the refrigerator, near the phone, or on a designated bulletin board in the event kids need assistance in times that are not an emergency.

Cooking is one of the leading causes of home fires. Set house rules on using the stove, oven, or microwave. Most fires start on the stovetop due to food or oil being left unattended while being heated or when items are placed too close to the burners.

### The following tips may help your child avoid a fire:

- Allow cooking privileges based on age and maturity. Consider allowing younger children to only use a microwave or oven to heat food (versus the stovetop).
- If allowed to use the stovetop, never leave food (especially oil) unattended — even for a moment!
- Keep things that can burn or catch on fire such as pot-holders, dish towels, and food boxes away from the stove.
- Water and oil do not mix! Never throw water on a grease fire or try to move a flaming pan.
- If a fire occurs, leave the home and call 911 from a cell phone or a neighbor's home.

### Other safety tips to share include:

- Keep matches, lighters, and candles away from children.
- Know two escape routes from every room in the house and practice your fire escape plan.
- Do not place items that can burn such as clothes, blankets, or scarves over a lamp or near a heater.
- Do not insert anything other than a plug into an electrical socket and do not overload electrical sockets.
- Never mix cleaning products. Together they can react and cause harm, off-gassing, or an explosion.

- Know where first-aid supplies are located. Consider signing up older children for first aid, home alone, babysitting, and/or CPR classes.

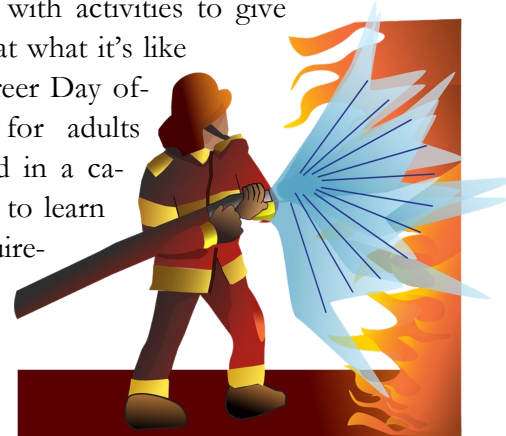
Visit [www.tvfr.com](http://www.tvfr.com) for more fire and life safety info.



## Explore a Career in the Fire Service

TVF&R is gearing up to offer a unique Career Day on October 12th tailored with activities to give

people an inside look at what it's like to be a firefighter. Career Day offers an opportunity for adults who may be interested in a career in the fire service to learn more about job requirements and TVR&R. It includes hands-on experiences in primary firefighter responsibilities as well as presentations about station life, career and volunteer opportunities, the hiring process, emergency medical services, fire prevention, public safety education, and more.



Between 8 am and 5:30 pm that Saturday, participants will rotate through activity stations at the Training Center in Sherwood and have a chance to talk with education partners from several colleges and university about their respective emergency medical services and fire science programs.

The application opens August 1st, and TVF&R will select as many as 50 participants for Career Day. The deadline to apply is August 31st, but may close prior to that date if the District receives enough applications for consideration. Candidates interested in applying for TVF&R's Career Day must be 18 or older and can apply online at [www.tvfr.com/careers](http://www.tvfr.com/careers) under "Career Events."

### **Tree Ordinance Updates** *Continued from page 1*

The City is proposing to have one ordinance for tree removals for existing homeowners and another for properties applying for development.

The ordinance relating to development will be incorporated into Durham's Development Code (DDC). A public hearing is scheduled for the October 7th Planning Commission meeting to address the proposed DDC changes.

The tree ordinance that will apply to homeowners has to follow the DDC update, so that any conflicting language that exists can be repealed.

### **Solid Waste Ordinance Update**

Over the past year the City of Durham and our hauler, Pride Disposal, have worked together to modernize the Solid Waste Management Ordinance. While largely administrative, the update also includes language making customers responsible for maintaining their carts. The ordinance also gives the hauler the ability to enforce provisions of the ordinance through a private right of action, if the City chooses not to.

### **Monthly Meetings:**

Planning Commission  
**1st Tuesday of the Month**  
**at 7:00 PM**

City Council  
**4th Tuesday of the Month**  
**at 7:30 PM**

**Unless noticed otherwise, meetings are held at Durham City Hall**

\* Visit [durham-oregon.us](http://durham-oregon.us) to verify dates

\* Zoom links are available upon request

### **City Staff**

Kait Garlick recently left the Administrative Assistant position at the City of Durham. We appreciate all of her hard work over the past year and wish her well on her new endeavors!

The City has hired Wyatt Bean to replace Kait. Wyatt is born and raised in Oregon and holds a Masters of Public Administration from the U of O.

Welcome Wyatt!



### **Durham Community Needs Your Help!**

In the event of a disaster, our first responders will be YOU and Your Neighbors!

In 2016, volunteers divided Durham into 30 clusters of 7-12 homes and identified one or two "host" households who welcomed their immediate neighbors for a small gathering.

We learned basic preparedness steps and shared each other's

contact information. We identified which neighbors have pets, children, disabilities and who may need extra assistance. Now, 9 years later, we have many new residents and we've experienced several disaster events: ice & windstorms causing electrical/ heat loss & frozen pipe damage and urban fire risks. We remain at risk for a major earthquake.

To help prepare, the Neighborhood Ready program has been updated and is offering free presentations for families and neighborhood clusters throughout Durham. The presentation covers steps to take before, during and after a disaster and helps provide the best possible resilience for everyone. Topics include: Preparing your home to shelter in place, Go Bags & evacuation information, Saving water, Communication & alerts, When & how to shutoff utilities, Sanitation and more. The next presentation/workshop for Tualatin will be at the Tualatin Library on Sept 27th 10am to 12pm. In addition, there is an Emergency Preparedness Fair on Sept 13th 11am to 2pm, also at the Tualatin Library.

While most hosts will continue their role, some have moved from Durham or their situation has changed. Please consider being a part of sharing this critical information and community effort by being a Cluster Host or co-host. We would like to plan a Cluster Host training in November (dates and times to be determined).

**Please contact Barbara Bracken at [DBrac2@aol.com](mailto:DBrac2@aol.com) 503-620-1567**





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Find out more on our website:

[www.durham-oregon.us](http://www.durham-oregon.us)

Durham News Notes is written and published by City staff. We welcome information and contributions that may be of interest to Durham residents. The newsletter is typically published by the 15th day of the first month of each quarter (Jan, April, July, Oct). Deadline for inclusion is the 15th of the month prior to publication. Archived newsletters are available online or at City Hall.

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## COMMUNITY

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### **Help Keep Durham Beautiful, Safe, and Accessible by Maintaining Your Sidewalk**

Sidewalks provide people with a safe space to travel around the neighborhood away from vehicles. It's the growing season and some plants can quickly get out of control. As in most cities, property owners in Durham are responsible for keeping sidewalks and planting strips abutting their property in good repair and condition, even if the sidewalk is on the other side of your fence. For example, the sidewalks along Upper Boones Ferry Road are the responsibility of the adjacent property owner.

Sidewalks should be kept free of obstacles, overhanging obstructions, tripping hazards, and protruding objects. By regularly cutting back vegetation that grows into sidewalks, property owners can keep pedestrian access clear and safe. Similarly, property owners must also attend to seasonal hazards such as leaf debris, snow, and ice.

The following standards apply:

1. Landscaping must not obstruct visibility of a stop sign or traffic control device within 100 feet, as viewed by a

person operating a vehicle from the normal vehicular approach.

2. It should not obscure pedestrians or vehicles approaching within 20' of an intersection or driveway when viewed within 3' and 10' above the street grade.
3. Overhanging branches need to be more than 8' above a sidewalk or bicycle path and 14' above an area designated for vehicle travel.
4. No portion of the landscaping may encroach onto any roadway, sidewalk, or bicycle path.

Damaged or uplifted sidewalks that may cause pedestrians to trip, or conditions that make them inaccessible, should be repaired promptly. As a property owner, you can repair a damaged sidewalk yourself or hire a contractor. Either way, you will need to get a sidewalk repair permit to ensure the work meets City standards. In doing your part to keep your sidewalks maintained and accessible, you help provide a safe way to enjoy our City.