

TOWN OF CORINTH
REQUEST FOR BIDS and BID FORM
TO REMOVE POTENTIAL HAZARD ASH TREES IN THE TOWN RIGHT OF WAY
ON BOTH SIDES OF WHITE ROAD IN THE TOWN OF CORINTH

Issued: April 30, 2025

Project Description: To remove potential hazard ash trees only along the roadside of White Road.

Deadline for Bid Submission: 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Please see below for bid submission information. Please utilize the accompanying bid form.

Bid Opening: 5 p.m. Wednesday, May 21, 2025 at the Corinth town office located at 1367 Cookeville Road, Corinth VT.

Town Contact: Questions may be directed to Virginia Barlow, Town of Corinth Tree Warden, 802 439 5652, or ginny@redstartconsulting.com. Information will be provided to all bidders at the site visit.

Tax Exempt Status: The Town of Corinth is exempt from State of Vermont sales tax.

1. Bid and Project Specifications: The project is for removal and disposal of all ash trees marked with blue paint within the municipal right of way along White Road in Corinth, VT. See Appendix II. (Stumps shall be not more than six inches in height). Where the landowner has indicated an interest in retaining the wood (see Paragraphs 9 and 13) the work includes cutting and stacking logs and chipping or removal of branches as described below. **See Appendix I for wood disposal directions for each landowner.**

The number of ash trees by diameter class that are to be removed are as follows:

6 to 11 inches: 74

12-24 inches: 49

> 24 inches: 3

Total: 126

2. Bid Selection: The Selectboard will consider the selection of a contractor at its meeting on Tuesday, 03 June, 2025. The Town reserves the right to select any bid for any reason, and to reject any or all bids wholly or in part, to waive any informalities or immaterial irregularities therein, to accept any proposal even though it may not be the lowest cost, to call for rebids, and to make an award which in its sole and absolute judgement will best serve the Town's interest.

3. Bid Submission: Deadline for bid submission is 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 20, 2025. Bids are to be sealed and marked "REMOVAL OF ROADSIDE ASH TREES IN CORINTH" and mailed to: Corinth

Selectboard, Attn: Carl Demrow, P. O. Box 461, Corinth VT 05039 or delivered by hand to the Town office, 1367 Cookeville Road, Corinth VT 05039, and provided to the Town Clerk if the office is open and otherwise submitted to the front door mail slot.

4. Schedule: Work, including clean up, must be completed by Friday, July 31, 2025.
5. Payment Schedule: The contractor will be paid within thirty (30) days upon the Town's receipt of invoice and completion of work, and with written acceptance of the work by the project manager for the Town. Invoices shall be consistent with the bid as accepted and directed to the Assistant Treasurer, Town of Corinth, PO Box 461, Corinth VT 05039 and refer to the Corinth Hazard Ash Tree Project.
6. Site Visit: A site visit for contractors shall be held on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at 10 a.m. starting at the intersection of Taplin Hill Road and White Road. Questions regarding this bid request will be addressed at the site visit. Questions regarding the site visit may be directed to Virginia Barlow, 802 439 5652, ginny@redstartconsulting.com.
7. Insurance: The selected bidder will be required to provide a Certificate of Liability Insurance with liability and property coverage of no less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$1,000,000 per aggregate, naming the Town of Corinth as an additional insured within 10 days of notice of the Selectboard's selection of the bidder and in any case prior to starting work. The Certificate of Insurance must also include Workers Compensation Insurance, unless the selected bidder has no employees, in which case a Non-Employee Work Agreement and a Liability Hold-Harmless Agreement will be signed prior to commencing work. All insurance documents must be delivered to the Corinth Town Clerk.
8. Traffic Control: Traffic signage for road closure/crew working can be provided by the town road crew. The selected contractor must request the proposed date(s) of road closure or partial closure at least one week in advance of the cutting date. The Road Foreman will post notices of the closure at the appropriate road locations.
9. Landowner Agreements: The Town of Corinth will be responsible for contacting landowners and advising them of the cutting. With respect to access to private lands and disposal of materials, the contractor shall adhere to the landowners' decisions, outlined in Appendix I, including landowner decisions with regard to cutting and removal of wood. See Appendix I for details.
10. Right of Way Vegetation: Remaining trees and shrubs of all species in the cutting area must be protected from damage to the extent feasible. The Town will rely primarily on natural regeneration to replace ash trees. To that end, native trees and shrubs within the cutting area will be preserved as practical through directional felling and careful positioning of harvesting equipment. The Town recognizes that some loss of regeneration is unavoidable, but expects loss to be minimized.

11. Stumps: Stumps must be cut to less than 6 inches from the ground as a safety measure to minimize damage in case of vehicle collision.

12. Site Maintenance: The contractor must ensure that no debris is left on site where it might block driveways, field access, ditches or in any way impede road crews from regular maintenance practices such as ditch clearing or grading of gravel roads at any time. Logs left on site temporarily, whether for contractor's or landowner's future use, must not impede passage of motorists and must be staged outside of the finished road surface and not in any road, ditch, or stream, and may not remain in the right of way at the completion of the work.

13. Wood Retained by Landowners: Where cut wood is to be left for the landowner pursuant to Appendix I, branches smaller than 6 inches in diameter will be chipped or removed from the site. Wood left on site for the landowner shall be cut in log lengths not to exceed 16 feet and stacked or placed in an orderly manner outside of the town highway right of way. Logs shall not be piled more than 3 feet high and in a manner that will minimize the danger of rolling. Unless otherwise indicated in Appendix I, no wood will be left in the right of way.

14. Wood and Chip Removal: Should the landowner elect not to keep logs under the Town/Landowner agreement, the selected contractor may remove wood for their own use or to sell. The State of Vermont's Slow the Spread recommendations is attached as Appendix III. Appendix III shall be reviewed by contractor, and the recommendations implemented as applicable. Upon selection of the winning bid, the Town shall make available to the contractor a list of nearby landowners or businesses willing to accept chipped materials.

15. Independent Contractor, Hold Harmless: The bidder selected to do the work shall be an independent contractor by law, and shall not be deemed to be entitled to the benefits or protections of an employee of the Town of Corinth. The Town shall not be responsible for submitting payroll withholding, such as taxes, nor unemployment contributions on behalf of the selected bidder. The selected bidder shall hold the Town of Corinth harmless for claims and damages in the performance of the scope of services described in the bid and this request for bids, excepting in the event of nonpayment without cause by the Town.

16. Bid Acceptance and Contract: By the submission of a bid, bidder acknowledges that the Town of Corinth may accept the bid as written and, together with this request for bid and bidder's invoices for the work performed in accordance with the bid, the bid may be considered a contract for performance by the bidder. The Town of Corinth reserves the right to request changes to the bid in which case the selected bidder, upon agreement to the changes, will promptly enter into a written agreement with the Town of Corinth consistent with the terms of this request for bid and the submitted bid as modified.

Incorporated as part of these terms: Appendix I: Wood disposal by Landowner

Appendix II: Map of White Road with Landowner Names

Appendix III: Recommendations to Slow the Spread

**TOWN OF CORINTH BID FORM TO REMOVE POTENTIAL HAZARD ASH TREES IN THE TOWN
RIGHT OF WAY ON BOTH SIDES OF WHITE ROAD, CORINTH**

Please provide the following information – type or print please:

Name of Contractor: _____

Name of Principal Contact (if different): _____

Contractor's mailing address: _____

Contractor's phone number: _____

Contractor's e-mail address: _____

Total Quote: \$ _____

Estimated number of working days required to complete the job: _____

Bidder's Relevant equipment for project (owned or leased):

Please provide the name and phone number for three job references:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Signature of Contractor

By signing this Bid Form, you are certifying that the Town of Corinth may treat this bid as an offer, the bid is made in good faith without fraud, collusion, or connection of any kind with any other bidder for the same work, and that you are competing solely on your or your firm's own behalf without connection with or obligation to any other person or firm. You also affirm that you are not currently an employee of the Town of Corinth.

Name of Contractor/Company (Print): _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The above is a duly authorized principal or representative of the Contractor

TOWN OF CORINTH – REMOVAL OF HAZARDOUS ASH TREES ON WHITE ROAD
APPENDIX 1 – LANDOWNER WOOD RETENTION DIRECTIVES

Wood Disposal by Landowner

* indicates that landowner wishes to keep chips

LANDOWNER WILL KEEP WOOD

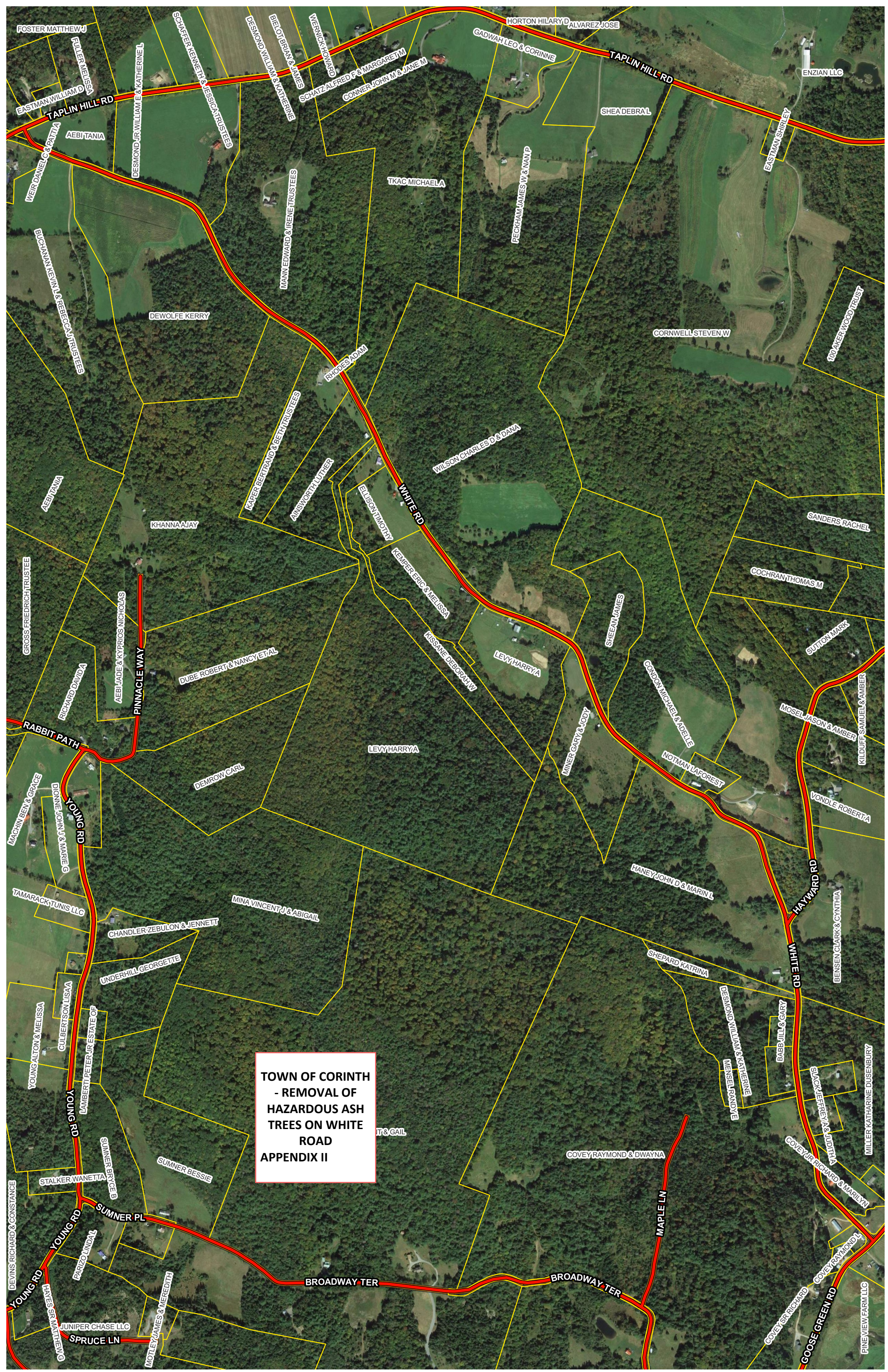
	White Rd #	6 – 12"	12-24"	➤ 24"
Haney	790	1	3	0
Buchanan	2197	1	0	0
DeWolfe		25	22	3
Desmond*		16	8	0
Miner*	993	1	1	0
total		44	34	3

CONTRACTOR WILL TAKE WOOD

	White Rd #	6 – 12"	12-24"	➤ 24"
Mann		10	0	0
Wilson	1340	9	6	0
Pedder-Khanna		1	1	0
Kaper	1679	0	1	0
Levy-Carr	1213	0	2	0
Kemper*	1285	0	1	
Tkac		6	1	0
Sheean		1	0	0
Bensen		0	3	0
Total		27	15	0

NO RESPONSE

	White rd #	6 – 12"	12-24"	➤ 24"
Rhodes	1594	3	0	0
Total		3	0	0



RECOMMENDATIONS TO SLOW THE SPREAD OF EMERALD ASH BORER

Infestations of the invasive pest Emerald ash borer (EAB) naturally spread one to two miles annually. However, through human movement of ash logs and firewood, EAB and other wood pests can be moved long distances to uninfested areas, killing ash trees in new locations. While EAB has spread into most of Vermont's counties, its population is low and it has infested only a very small percentage of the state's total ash trees. Attention and care in managing the movement of infested ash material will slow the spread of EAB and allow time for planning, monitoring, and research.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is unlawful to willfully and intentionally move material that is infested with EAB without proper treatment. Assess the condition of ash trees prior to harvest. If trees are infested with EAB, follow the recommendations below.

Before moving ash material (logs, firewood), inspect it to determine if it is visibly infested with EAB. Pay close attention if the ash is coming from an [EAB Infested Area](#).

➡ **Before moving ash trees, logs, or firewood, determine if they are visibly infested with EAB.**

Signs of EAB Infestation



Signs of EAB infestation: (A) birds removing the outer layer of bark giving a flaking appearance - often called “blonding” and (B) “S” shaped galleries under the bark.

Photos: bugwood.org.



IS THE ASH MATERIAL TO BE MOVED VISIBLY INFESTED WITH EAB?

YES

Follow these recommendations when ash logs and firewood **ARE** visibly infested with EAB.

Treatment and Processing of Visibly Infested Ash Logs and Roundwood

- **MOVING DURING EAB FLIGHT SEASON:** June 1 – September 30
 - Leave onsite or delay harvest or transport until end of EAB flight season, OR
 - If harvesting or transport **must** occur during the flight season:
 - Notify the purchaser that the logs/roundwood are visibly infested with EAB prior to shipping, AND
 - The purchaser should **immediately** process and treat infested bark by burning it in boilers onsite or grinding.
- **MOVING OUTSIDE OF EAB FLIGHT SEASON:** October 1 – May 31
 - Leave onsite, OR
 - Notify the purchaser that the logs/roundwood are visibly infested with EAB prior to shipping, AND
 - The purchaser utilizes before May 31 and treats bark by burning in boilers onsite or grinding before May 31.

Treatment and Processing of Visibly Infested Ash Firewood

- Remove ash firewood from shipments, OR
- Season ash firewood at its place of origin for at least 24 months, OR
- Deliver ash firewood after October 1 and burn by May 31, OR
- Heat-treat ash firewood to [standard](#).

Treatment and Processing of Visibly Infested Ash Material from Tree Care and Clearing

- Leave onsite, OR
- Follow the treatment and processing of ash logs and roundwood detailed above, OR
- Chip and mulch the material as small as possible.

NO

Follow these recommendations when ash logs and firewood **ARE NOT** visibly infested with EAB.

Even though the ash material is not visibly infested with EAB, some low-level infestations can go unnoticed. You can still take proactive steps to help slow the spread, especially with ash material originating from the [EAB Infested Area](#). When feasible, follow the treatment and processing recommendations above for greater protection of Vermont's trees and forests.

Visit VTinvasives.org for more information

For additional information or questions, contact (802) 828-1531.