

Invasive Instant Essay

Directions: Fill in the blanks with words from the word bank at the bottom of the page.

An _____ species is an organism whose introduction to a habitat changes its ecological balance.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is a shiny _____ colored wood boring _____ that came to North America from the continent of _____. EABs are so small, that several of them can fit on a bright copper _____.

EABs feed only on _____ trees. You can find these trees in several settings including _____, _____ and _____. Ash trees are found in most Vermont hardwood forests, especially where _____ soils are located. The wood from ash trees is strong and flexible so it is used to make _____ bats, baskets and handles for tools.

EABs kill _____, beautiful trees, as well as those that are unhealthy. The adult EAB female lays her eggs on the rough outer _____ of the tree. Immature EABs, called _____, feed on tissue of the ash tree that is used to circulate nutrients and water throughout the tree. Adult EABs begin to emerge from under the trees bark in the month of _____ through holes that are shaped like the letter _____.

EABs and other forest pests are often moved to new locations in _____ so please tell your parents to buy it only near the place where they are going to burn it.

Word bank (use each word only once):

Firewood	Invasive	Forests
Green	Neighborhoods	Baseball
Bark	Ash	Asia
Beetle	Healthy	Penny
Moister	Cities	May
Larvae	D	

Learn more about invasive pests at www.vtinvasives.org



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