

Office of the Mayor

Urbana, Ohio

Proclamation

Whereas, Over five billion ash trees exist in the great state of Ohio that contribute to air and water quality, property and land values, reduced heating and cooling costs, reduced soil erosion, temperature moderation, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats, manufacturing, commerce, and tourism, and

Whereas, Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a destructive exotic beetle, was first discovered in 2003 in Northwest Ohio -- now a major gateway for the lethal pest -- creating a threat to all of the eastern United States' ash tree resources, and

Whereas, by increasing public awareness and understanding of EAB, our community can assist in curtailing the artificial spread of the beetle, and

Whereas, to halt the artificial spread of EAB by discouraging the movement of firewood and other ash tree materials, our community would help reduce the need for state, federal, and local governments, business, industry, and Ohioans to employ costly methods to control and eradicate new EAB-infested sites and restore affected areas, and

Whereas, employing a cooperative spirit and encouraging environmental stewardship in our community ultimately reduces the risk to Ohio's ash resource, and

Whereas, spring marks the beginning of the travel and tourism season in Ohio, and

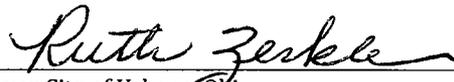
Whereas, Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the City of Urbana to join forces with state and federal agencies, township and county governments, business, industry, environmental groups, community organizations, and citizens to take action against the spread and introduction of EAB,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ruth Zerkle, Mayor of the City of Urbana, Ohio do hereby proclaim the week of May 22, 2011 as

Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week

in the City of Urbana. I encourage all citizens to increase their understanding and awareness of EAB and its environmental, ecological, and economic impact on our community, the State of Ohio, and the United States of America.

Dated this 9th day of May, 2011

Signed: 
Mayor City of Urbana, Ohio

