



Dead and dying ash trees are a widespread problem throughout the Pittsburgh region due to the invasion of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Native ash trees devastated by this foreign insect pest are dead or dying and pose a serious threat to people, property and Duquesne Light power lines.

As ash trees decline and die, large branches break or the entire tree falls over soon after death, typically within 1-3 years. The safety condition created by EAB in communities littered with dead ash trees results in a costly and dangerous problem for municipalities and homeowners. Removal of dead and dying trees costs significantly more because of the unpredictable nature of the affected wood compounded by obstacles including homes, buildings, backyards, and power lines.

Property owners are encouraged to remove ash trees that are dead or dying as they are responsible for damage that occurs as a result of falling trees. Property insurance may not cover damage caused by dead or dying trees. **While it is expensive to address these trees, Duquesne Light will, during routine maintenance efforts, remove those portions or, in some cases, entire trees as it deems necessary to reasonably safeguard its electrical lines and equipment from falling tree parts. Property owners will have the responsibility to complete the removal of partially removed trees and the clean-up and disposal of the resulting wood and debris.**

To learn more about Emerald Ash Borer:

www.emeraldashborer.info

www.dcnr.state.pa.us/forestry/insectsdisease/eab

www.ento.psu.edu/extension/trees-shrubs/emerald-ash-borer

