City of Boulder Forestry

Thousand Cankers Disease, Drippy Blight and Emerald Ash Borer
City of Boulder Urban Forestry Program

- Maintain 50,725 trees total:
  - 37,273 street trees
  - 13,452 park trees
- Total appraised value of public trees under our jurisdiction approximately $110 million
- Total 2015 Forestry Budget = $1.1 M
- 5 FTEs:
  - City Forester
  - 4 Field Foresters
  - 3 - 4 Seasonals
Annual Tree Health Survey

• Staff conducts annual city-wide surveys of both public and private trees
• Prompted by resurgence of Dutch elm disease in 1997
• Parameters expanded to include other insect and disease pests
Thousand Cankers Disease of Walnut

Walnut Twig Beetle and *Geosmithia morbida*
TCD – Progression of Symptoms
Drippy Blight of Red Oak

Kermes scale (*Allokermes rattani*) and *Lonsdalea quercina*
Drippy Blight – Symptoms
Emerald Ash Borer
City of Boulder
How many ash do we have?

- 6,016 ash trees in city parks and street rights-of-way (12% of public trees)
- Statistics
  - Mean = 11” diameter
  - Median = 25” diameter
  - Range: 1”- 49” diameter
- Estimated 70,000 ash on private property and naturalized along creeks
- Estimated 1.45 million ash in metro Denver
Emerald Ash Borer – Is the West Different?

- Ash under more stress due to environmental factors
- Detection even more difficult due to other pests
- Lack of contiguous ash in native forests – impact on rate of spread?
Delimitation Survey
Education / Outreach

- Website
  www.EABBoulder.org
- Open Houses / Farmers Markets / Events
- Doorhangers
- News Releases
- Outreach material in coordination with CO EAB Response Team
- HOA Meetings
- Business groups
- Workshops for industry professionals
Emerald Ash Borer – Boulder Strategy

- Ash Ops
  - Planting
    - 500-600 trees / year
  - Pesticide Application
    - Treat ~1500 public ash on 3 year rotation with TREE-äge
    - Only treat trees >10” DBH in good condition
  - Tree Removals
    - Proactive removal of declining ash
    - Phase out remaining ~4500 public ash as they get infested
  - Limited Enforcement
    - Dangerous trees only
  - Biocontrols
    - 4 Species of parasitic wasp
  - Wood Debris
    - Biomass for heating Boulder County buildings
    - Milling larger logs
- Collaborative Research Projects
- Urban Forest Strategic Plan
Emerging Pests in Colorado (EPIC)

- **EPIC (Emerging Pests in Colorado)**
  - City Foresters (Boulder, Denver, Fort Collins)
  - Colorado Department of Agriculture
  - Colorado State Forest Service
  - Colorado State University
  - US Forest Service
  - USDA Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS)
  - Green and Wood Industries
- **Goals**
  - Cooperation and Communication
  - Develop markets for the wood
  - Education and Outreach
  - Invasive species workshops
  - EAB Management Plan template for cities
  - EAB State of CO Response Plan / EAB Management
Opportunities!!!!

• Promote Urban Forestry
• Media Opportunities
• Increased contact with municipal decision makers

• Enhanced Arboricultural Budgets
  • $$ - Ops, Inventory, Planning, Outreach
  • Additional Staff

• Inter-Agency Cooperation
• Updated Tree inventories
• Better Tree Diversity long term
• Stronger Private partnerships
• Job Security
Questions?

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