

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

EMERALD ASH BORER AWARENESS WEEK MAY 17-23, 2026

WHEREAS, more than 90 million ash trees exist in the forests of the great State of North Dakota, enhancing our state's air and water quality, natural landscapes, recreational destinations, wildlife habitats, property values and local economies; and

WHEREAS, as many as 80% of trees in some North Dakota communities are ash, helping residents reduce heating and cooling costs, reducing air pollution and stormwater runoff, increasing property values and making our towns and cities some of the most beautiful in the country; and

WHEREAS, spring marks the beginning of the travel and tourism season in North Dakota, and increasing public awareness and understanding of the emerald ash borer (EAB), a destructive exotic beetle, will benefit the state of North Dakota by curtailing the artificial spread of the beetle through the movement of firewood; and

WHEREAS, emerald ash borer has been detected in LaMoure and Cass counties; and

WHEREAS, efforts undertaken in North Dakota, in partnership with private and nonprofit organizations, universities and local, state, tribal and federal agencies are helping to protect the millions of ash trees in the state. Employing a cooperative spirit and encouraging environmental stewardship throughout the states and partnerships ultimately reduces the risk to the nation's ash resources; and

WHEREAS, Emerald Ash Borer Awareness Week is an opportunity for the government to join forces with environmental groups, community organizations, schools, businesses, industry, tourists and citizens to take action against the spread and introduction of EAB.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
May 17-23, 2026, EMERALD ASH BORER AWARENESS WEEK
in the State of North Dakota.





Kelly Armstrong
GOVERNOR



Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE