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# *News Release*

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For immediate release

## **The CFIA Takes Further Action to Slow Emerald Ash Borer**

OTTAWA, March 25, 2011: The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is taking further action to slow the spread of the invasive emerald ash borer (EAB) in Canada by increasing the regulated areas. This increase is due to new detections of this beetle in 2010. The CFIA will invoke one ministerial order that includes all regulated areas in Ontario and Quebec.

The ministerial order empowers the CFIA to regulate the movement of all ash tree materials and all firewood from specific areas of Ontario and Quebec. This is important because this is a key way the pest is spread. Those who move these materials from the regulated areas without prior permission from the CFIA could face fines and/or prosecution.

The regulated area for Ottawa and Gatineau has been expanded to include the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville in Ontario, and all of Ottawa.

In southern Ontario, it was determined that the most effective way to regulate is to amalgamate into one regulated area all the cities, counties and municipalities where EAB has been discovered. This will help the movement of ash materials within the regulated area.

The amalgamated regulated area in southern Ontario includes Hamilton, Toronto, the Regional Municipalities of Chatham-Kent, Durham, York, Peel, Halton, Niagara and Waterloo and the Counties of Brant (including the City of Brantford), Elgin, Essex, Haldimand, Huron, Lambton, Middlesex, Norfolk, Oxford, Perth and Wellington.

Regulated areas for Sault Ste. Marie, ON and the regulated area which includes the Municipalities of Carignan, Chambly, Richelieu, Saint-Basile-le-Grand and Saint-Mathias-sur-Richelieu, in Québec remain unchanged.

Although the EAB does not pose a risk to human health, it is a highly destructive beetle that has already killed a large number of ash trees in Ontario and the north eastern United States. It poses a major economic threat to urban and forested areas of North America.

The CFIA will continue to work with its partners and stakeholders towards slowing the spread of EAB.

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