

Oklahoma Pest Action Council Meeting

December 10, 2014, 10:00 a.m.

Minutes

Attendance

Sancho Dickinson
Jeanetta Cooper
Brian Hall
Elizabeth Nguyen
Ken Hobson
Mark Bays
Zachary Teachout
Everett Dale
Aaron Edwards
Richard Bewley

Oklahoma Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan:

The purpose of today's meeting was to discuss any changes that need to be made to the newly edited EAB Action plan. The purpose is to also move to finalize and to get the plan approved as soon as possible.

The following suggestions were proposed:

-Instead of having to update the EAB Action Plan regularly (add counties to the maps, etc.), add links to sites where the information will be updated regularly.

-Keep in contact with municipalities, city foresters, landscapers, arborists, etc. to talk about best management practices concerning an EAB infestation. 1) A pre-emptive approach to diversify the urban forests or replace trees gradually to save money or 2) Wait until the moment of infestation and treat/destroy infested trees.

Kenny- what pesticides are registered for use in OK for EAB?

Opportunities for outreach: ONLA, Oklahoma Turfgrass Assoc.

-Where should this information be available? Elizabeth will work with Shawn Colton and Sancho to update page on ODAFF site.

-Under Section VI, B, 3b, add utility companies to groups to be trained.

Richard and Mark spoke about the opportunity to train crew members on looking for signs and symptoms of EAB infested trees. Crew members attend safety meetings regularly and tree safety is an issue.

Everett will acquire EAB info cards for Mark and Richard to distribute.

-Outreach to state parks, city parks, city foresters.

State park manager meetings occur once a year

Brian and Elizabeth worked on Don't Move Firewood signs and rack cards to be hung and distributed to all 41 state parks.

-Other modes of outreach: Having a booth at State Fairs and expos

-Brian Hall will send out an updated Appendix E (Frequently Asked Questions) for everyone to finalize by Wednesday, Dec 17.

In other news:

-Plant material was found to be coming out of Arkansas to a lumber mill in Antlers. The county of origin does not have much ash. EAB traps to be set near the mill?

-One AGM was found near the shipping container yard at MCAAP. Surveys will continue for another 3 years.

-A new EAB trap (green bucket trap) is in development and will be used for the 2015 EAB survey.

The next meeting will be scheduled for January or February.