

# Caring for your Colorado Landscape



Brought to you by the experts at Swingle Lawn, Tree & Landscape Care

Fall/Winter - 2016

Autumn is a  
second spring  
when every leaf  
is a flower.

- Albert Camus



## Emerald Ash Borer Has Been Detected in Longmont

Emerald ash borer (EAB) was detected in Longmont, CO, on Monday, June 6th, 2016, at a residential location which has not been officially released. The detection falls within an existing EAB quarantine area around Boulder County, in which the City of Longmont resides. The quarantine area was set up in an effort to prevent the human-assisted spread of this devastating insect.

It is still unclear whether the insect arrived in Longmont naturally, or unknowingly by human transportation.

Emerald ash borer was first detected in Boulder in September of 2013. This is the first known case of emerald ash borer detection outside of the Boulder city limits.

According to a press release from the Colorado State Forest Service, Longmont is estimated to have an ash tree population of approximately 43,000 trees. The city's Forestry Services Department manages 2,800 of those trees, located in public rights-of-way, parks and other city properties.

*(Read more inside)*

### RECOMMENDED Fall Services

- ✓ Tree Pruning
- ✓ Aeration
- ✓ Fertilization

*Schedule today*

**303.872.6232 | 970.884.3054**

[myswingle.com](http://myswingle.com)

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Lawn Care | Tree Service | Pest Control  
Landscaping | Holiday Lighting

Swingle has offices in Denver, Firestone and Fort Collins - proudly serving residents across the Front Range of Colorado.

*Headquarters:*

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Denver, CO 80231  
303.872.6232/970.884.3054  
**myswingle.com**



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**myswingle.com/careers**



**SCHEDULE  
TODAY!**

## Sprinkler Winterization?

**303.872.6232**

*Not available north of Broomfield.*



**HUDSON GARDENS**  
DENVER BOTANIC  
GARDENS

Family Fun from our Valued Colorado Partners

**Boo at the Zoo**

Denver Zoo ([denverzoo.org](http://denverzoo.org))  
Friday, Saturday, Sunday  
October 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

**Festifall**

Hudson Gardens ([hudsongardens.org](http://hudsongardens.org))  
Saturday, October 8, 9AM - 5PM

**Glow at the Gardens**

Denver Botanic ([botanicgardens.org](http://botanicgardens.org))  
October 19, 20, 26, 27 - 6 - 9:30PM

Visit Swingle near the  
Pollinator Pathway on  
Friday, October 28th!

## Tom's Talk

By Tom Tolkacz, CEO



As the year comes to a close, we'd like to express our sincere appreciation to all our loyal customers, and welcome those who've joined us this year. We thank you for your continued business.

Much has changed since this time last year, most notably the arrival of emerald ash borer (EAB) in the City of Longmont. With this recent discovery, EAB is definitely a reality here in Colorado. I strongly urge you to read the information in this newsletter, which provides in-depth statistics, as well as helpful tips for ash tree identification and more. I cannot stress enough how important it is for homeowners and property managers to view EAB as a significant threat. The good news is you have treatment options to prevent the destruction.

The Cities of Denver, Edgewater, Lakewood, Westminster and many others have proactive plans to save their ash trees. The question is, do you?

On a lighter note, Swingle celebrated two milestone openings this spring: our new northern Colorado regional headquarters in Firestone, and the *Pollinator Pathway* at the Denver Zoo. Each continues to build on our commitment to the communities we serve and the environment we are ultimately responsible for.

We were also honored this July by the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment for our continued commitment to safety. Twenty-five years ago, Swingle was one of the first Colorado companies to be accredited with the Premium Cost Containment Program designation, which helps employers find ways to control workforce injuries and insurance-related costs. We're proud to say that we continue our commitment to safety each and every day. Congratulations to everyone on the Swingle team.

As always, contact us if you have any concerns about your landscape. We look forward to making your life more enjoyable this year and for many years to come.

Thomas R. Tolkacz, CEO

## Free Pumpkin from Rock Creek Farm



### Free Pumpkin

Bring this coupon to  
Rock Creek Farm and  
choose one (1) free pumpkin  
as Swingle's gift to you.

One (1) pumpkin per family. For customers and  
employees of Swingle Lawn, Tree & Landscape  
Care. Valid from October 1st-31st.



In appreciation of your business, Swingle has partnered with Rock Creek Farm, home of the largest U-Pick-Em pumpkin patch in Colorado, to give you a **free pumpkin**.

You'll find a wide variety of pumpkins, Indian corn, gourds, hay bales and corn stalks for your fall decorating. Not to mention fun activities for all ages. And don't forget about their homemade pumpkin bread and hand-dipped caramel apples Rock Creek is famous for.

Rock Creek Farm is located on the west side of Highway 287 (Wadsworth), 2 miles north of Broomfield. Open 9am-6pm, October 1st-31st. Visit their website for more details  
**[rockcreekfarm.com](http://rockcreekfarm.com)**.



# EAB FACTS

## A PATH OF DESTRUCTION



**Destroyed**  
**50 Million+**  
ash trees in 27 states

Source: [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info) – June 2016.

CAUSE OF AN ESTIMATED  
**\$10 Billion**  
in treatment, replacement  
and removal costs

Source: Ecological Economics – December 2010.



**POTENTIAL TO DESTROY**

**1 OUT OF 6** FRONT  
RANGE  
TREES

Source: Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) – June 2016.



**The most destructive forest pest**  
**in US history**

Source: [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info) – June 2016.

## Emerald Ash Borer Discovered Outside of Boulder

*(Continued from the front cover)*

Swingle believes emerald ash borer (EAB) is a serious threat across the Colorado front range, requiring action from residents and businesses. Here are some answers to commonly asked questions to help you stay informed:

### How can I identify if I have an ash tree?

Plants form foliage buds in two ways – opposite and alternate. That is, the buds (leaves) are either directly across from each other (opposite) or found on different positions along the branch (alternate). The foliage buds in ash trees are found on opposite sides of the twig.



The leaves of ash trees are also distinct in that they are formed in 5 – 11 leaflets. The only other tree that has both alternate buds and leaves formed in leaflets is the boxelder. Boxelder always has either 3 or 5 leaflets.

### What does an infested tree look like?

Symptoms include dead branches, cracks in branches, branch sprouts and small, scorched leaves. Signs of woodpeckers visiting the tree feeding on emerald ash borer larvae in the wood are also signs.

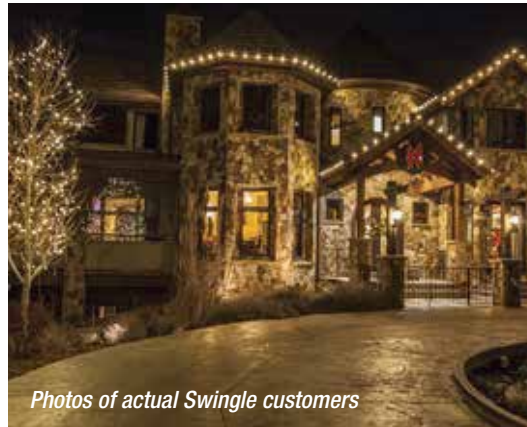
In other parts of the country, ash trees infested with emerald ash borer are reasonably obvious. The challenge in eastern Colorado is that native ash borers (lilac ash borer, red headed ash borer, ash bark beetle) also challenge our ash trees. The damage from these insects mimics that of emerald ash borer. Additionally, freezes and other weather events that defoliate ash trees also result in damage similar to that of emerald ash borer.

### If I treat my tree what should I expect?

If the tree is not treated it will die, that is a known fact. Some have asked, "If I treat my tree, will it look the same as it does now?" Maybe...and maybe not.

While the success rate for treatment is very high, when emerald ash borers become prolific, they will challenge the tree – or begin feeding on the tree before the treatment controls them. Treated ash trees will accumulate more dead branches and have a more sparse appearance to the tree canopy. When the EAB mortality curve subsides, the ash should return to its normal vigor.

More questions visit [myswingle.com/eab](http://myswingle.com/eab)



Photos of actual Swingle customers



See our work featured at  
Denver Botanic Gardens,  
Towns of Parker and Castle Rock,  
Hudson Gardens and more.



## Holiday Lighting

- Design and Installation
- Take-Down and Storage
- All-Season Maintenance

**Save \$100**  
**Off Holiday Lighting**

Expires 11/30/16. New residential customers only.

More photos at [myswingle.com](http://myswingle.com)



Residential and Commercial | Schedule a Complimentary Design Consultation today - 303.337.6200



Prepare your property before  
the winter weather arrives.

## PROPERTY Checklist

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cover or store <b>patio furniture</b> and <b>grills</b> to protect them from the elements. | <input type="checkbox"/> Turn <b>outdoor faucets</b> off inside your home – remember to leave the outside open to drain excess water.                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cut down <b>perennials</b> – this is also a good time to divide and plant elsewhere.       | <input type="checkbox"/> Drain <b>garden hoses</b> and store them inside to prevent damage.   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Make sure <b>storm drains</b> point away from the house to prevent ice build up.           | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspect <b>outdoor lighting</b> for dead bulbs and dirty lenses. A well-lit property prevents slips and falls on icy surfaces. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clay and fragile <b>planters</b> should be moved indoors to prevent cracking.              |   |



# Ask Our EXPERT

Tony Hahn

*Fall and Winter Preparation*

## Why do you prune trees in the dormant season?

Some trees are more susceptible to disease than others. If they become infected and the disease is not pruned out, it can and will spread more deeply into the tree. Pruning when temperatures are colder and humidity levels are lower minimizes the risk of spreading active infections. Dormant pruning typically is scheduled between mid November and early April.

## Why is winterizing your lawn so important?

Root growth and development are the most important reasons to prepare your lawn prior to winter's onset. Without a strong, deep root system, your lawn becomes stressed and is less likely to withstand extreme winter weather.

Front range communities can experience long durations of dry weather between snowstorms.

Roots are primarily made up of proteins and carbohydrates - derived from nitrogen-based fertilizers. Other components of root function are potassium and phosphorous - included in "winterizer" fertilizers. Many years of experience in the lawn care industry has reinforced that without good root growth in the fall, your chances of having a beautifully thick lawn come the spring are greatly reduced.

## How does fall aeration help your lawn in the spring?

Clay soils, which encompass much of the front range, are notoriously compact. Heavy, wet, clay soils do not contain much oxygen, which is necessary for respiration and root growth. Soils with lots of organic matter have naturally occurring pore spaces, allowing plenty of oxygen into the soil. Since clay soils compact easily, it is critical to alleviate the compaction for better air, water, and fertilizer penetration to the roots.

Aeration is suggested at least twice a year. Overseeding, which often accompanies a fall aeration, is also recommended when soil temperatures are still high enough to allow for germination. Seeding also helps break up monocultures in lawns, which can increase disease resistance as well. If you want a healthy and beautiful lawn come the spring, you have to do some work in the fall.

*Tony Hahn is one of Swingle's Landscape Care Consultants and a Certified Arborist. He's known as "The Voice of Swingle", as seen on our local Colorado TV stations.*

# Top Colorado Fall ACTIVITIES

## Fall Foliage

- Kebler Pass, Crested Butte
- Maroon Bells, Aspen
- Capitol Creek, Aspen
- Buffalo Pass, Steamboat Springs

## Fall Festivals

- Downtown Boulder's Fall Fest
- Choctoberfest, Arapahoe County Fairgrounds
- Harvest Farm, Wellington
- Oktoberfest, Denver

## Haunted Houses

- 13th Door Haunted House, Aurora
- Fright Fest at Elitch, Denver
- Circus of Fear 3-D, Arvada
- Haunted Field of Screams, Thornton

## Pumpkin Patch

- Rock Creek Farm, Broomfield
- The Bartels Farm, Fort Collins
- Flat Acres Farm, Parker
- Cottonwood Farm, Boulder

## In this issue:

- EAB discovered in Longmont
- Fall/winter landscaping tips
- Free pumpkin at Rock Creek
- Planning for holiday lighting
- Property checklist for winter

## Pollinator Pathway Opens at Denver Zoo

*Proudly sponsored by Swingle*

Protecting the bee community is critical to our ecosystem and food supply. Swingle believes it's important to take precautions to look out for our honey-making friends while performing services for our customers.



measures to ensure we do our part.” – John Gibson, President, Swingle Lawn, Tree & Landscape Care

On Saturday, June 25th, Swingle and the Denver Zoo opened the *Pollinator Pathway* – supporting the pairs ongoing efforts for education and sustainability across Colorado.

The *Pollinator Pathway* was recognized as the 200,000th certified Backyard Habitat by the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) during the official ribbon cutting ceremony.

Learn more at [myswingle.com/pollinator-garden-denver-zoo](http://myswingle.com/pollinator-garden-denver-zoo)

## FALL SPECIALS

**\$20 OFF**  
NEWLY  
AUTHORIZED  
FALL SERVICES\*

Call today to take advantage of \$20 off these services:

- Fall Aeration
- Fall Aeration/Overseeding
- Soil Conditioner
- Lawn Fertilization\*\*
- Home Insect Control

\*Not applicable on other services. Some services require a full program purchase. Cannot be combined with other offers. Other restrictions apply. \*\*Lawn fertilization - \$20 off one (1) application.