#### **INVASIVE SPECIES**



An adult emerald ash borer.

Oregon Department of Agriculture

# **Emerald ash borer** found in Oregon

First sighting on West Coast

#### **By SIERRA DAWN McCLAIN** Capital Press

FOREST GROVE -The emerald ash borer, an invasive wood-boring beetle that infests and kills North American ash trees, has been found in Oregon.

The discovery was the first known sighting on the West Coast, according to Oregon Department of Agriculture.

The beetle was found on June 30 by Dominic Maze, an invasive species biologist for Portland.

Maze was in Forest Grove, waiting to pick his kids up from summer camp, when he noticed several unhealthy-looking ash trees. Upon closer examination, he recognized the distinctive D-shaped holes that adult emerald ash borers make as they exit an infested tree.

"When my kids arrived, I asked them to look for adult beetles," he said. "My son promptly found one crawling on him. Knowing how many millions of ash trees these bee

#### **HELP NEEDED**

Officials urge the public to learn what an emerald ash borer looks like and report sightings online at the Oregon Invasive Species Council hotline. More information can be found on the Department of Agriculture's emerald ash borer webpage.

ogists. The Department of Agriculture calls the emerald ash borer the most destructive forest pest in North America.

According to a 2022 study in the academic journal Sustainability, since it was first found near Detroit, Michigan, in 2002, the beetle has killed more than 8 billion native ash trees.

The beetles have infested much of Canada and the U.S., spreading out from the Midwest.

Native North American ash trees are not resistant to emerald ash borers, so nearly all infected trees will prematurely die if left untreated.

Ash trees are an important part of ecosystems nationwide, and when they die, there are ripple effects. According to the University of Illinois Extension Service, the death of ash trees reduces property values for homeowners, creates losses in timber, reduces important wildlife habitat, increases heating and cooling costs and increases

stormwater runoff.

Researchers estimate it would cost billions of dollars to replace lost ash trees in just the Midwest alone, where many trees have already died.

State officials say Maze played a crucial role in alerting the state to his discovery so that agencies can try to track and curb the beetle's spread.

After finding the emerald ash borer in Forest Grove, Maze immediately called the Oregon Department of Forestry's Forest Health Unit to report the sighting.

Department of Agriculture forest entomologist Christine Buhl drove to the site and identified an adult emerald ash borer, known for its metallic, shiny green color. Her identification was later verified by two more invasive species specialists, Max Ragozzino, of the Department of Agriculture, and Wyatt Williams, of the Department of Forestry.

Within 48 hours of the discovery, officials cut down and chipped the infested trees.

Officials urge the public to learn what an emerald ash borer looks like and report sightings online at the Oregon Invasive Species Council hotline. More information can be found on the Department of Agriculture's emerald ash borer webpage. "This will help the state know how far and how fast this destructive insect is spreading in Oregon," the department said.

### **OBITUARIES**

### James L. Walker Astoria

Nov. 18, 1938 — May 28, 2022

James L. Walker, 83 of Astoria, passed away May 28 at his home.

Born Nov. 18, 1938, in Rockford, Washington, he was the youngest of eight children born to Earl and

Alma Walker.

James lived in Rockford until his 10th birthday, when the family moved to Hammond. He graduated from Warrenton High School in the Class of 1957.

On Nov. 21, 1959, he married Rutha Glenn, and they enjoyed 62 years of life together.

He worked at the Warrenton Lumber Mill for 40 years, retiring in December 2000.

James loved country music, and played many concerts over the years with his band, The Wagon Wheel Band. He enjoyed playing the guitar and singing to his many fans. The camaraderie of those lifelong friendships, made during those years of music, meant a great deal to him.

He enjoyed travel of all kinds, but he had a lifelong love of the American road trip. Many fabulous family vacations were taken over the years and, later in life, Rutha and he traveled many miles of adventures together.



**James Walker** 

He was an avid reader of conspiracy novels, and loved old Western movies. Nothing gave him more joy than watch-

ing his grandsons grow up, never missing an opportunity to watch and cheer them on. He was a beloved son, husband, father and grandfather, and will be greatly

James is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Rutha; three children, Vickie Walker, of Mayo, Florida, Betty Hatcher-Walker (James Hatcher), of Astoria, and Lee Walker (Bobbi), of Knappa; four grandsons, Jake

Hatcher, of Klamath Falls, Cole Hatcher (Danielle), of Westport, Jason Hemphill, of Mayo, and Zach Walker, of Astoria; along with many nieces and nephews and extended family.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Earl and Alma Walker; his five brothers, Orvil, Robert, Jerry, Jack and Darald Walker; and two sisters, Joann Berg and Shirley Shelton.

A celebration of life will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Friday at the Warrenton Community Center, 170 S.W. Third St. in Warrenton.

## **Ronald James McClintock** Knappa May 12, 1940 — June 26, 2022

away at home on June 26 in Knappa. He was born May 12, 1940, in Aber-

deen, Washington, to Jim and Shirley McClintock.

His work career was in the pulp and paper industry.

He enjoyed hunting and fishing, as well as all athletics, especially baseball.

Ron is survived by Eva, his wife of 60 years; his children, Ron McClintock (Karen) and Darrin McClintock (Stephanie); grandchildren, Chris Oja (Melissa), Caitlin Oja,

Bo McClintock, Olivia McClintock, the Knappa Schools Foundation for the Ethan McClintock and Ryan McClin- high school baseball program.

Ronald James McClintock passed tock; great-grandchildren, Sawyer and Easton Oja; and a sister, Fran Rose He was preceded in death



**Ronald McClintock** 

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across the country tles have killed, I felt like I was going to throw up."

rightly Maze was worried.

The notorious emerald ash borer — native to Asia — has left widespread destruction in its path across the U.S., so its arrival on the West Coast concerns biol-

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