

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

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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.

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myswingle.com



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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



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)
Friday, Saturday, Sunday
October 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

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

Festifall

Hudson Gardens (hudsongardens.org)
Saturday, October 8, 9AM - 5PM

Glow at the Gardens

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

Free Pumpkin from Rock Creek Farm



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.

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.



EAB FACTS

A PATH OF DESTRUCTION



Destroyed
50 Million+
ash trees in 27 states

Source: 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 – 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



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



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



Prepare your property before the winter weather arrives.

PROPERTY Checklist

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

Order lawn care online
myswingle.com/order-lawn-care-online

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

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- Fall/winter landscaping tips
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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.

“As a leader in the green industry, we have a responsibility to promote awareness of this important ecological issue and take

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

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.