

# The WAA to the Rescue

by Eric Petersen, WAA Publicity Chair



In early May of this year, the Wisconsin Arborist Association sponsored a Day of Service event to fight back against the emerald ash borer (EAB). Armed with bucket trucks, skid loaders and a portable sawmill, forty volunteers removed 17 EAB-infested trees from Fireman's Park in the village of Newburg. Newburg has been labeled as Wisconsin's Ground Zero for EAB as it was first detected there last August.

The event focused not only on removing the trees before the beetles emerged, but also on demonstrating that these ash trees can still provide valuable wood products after the trees are felled. WAA members safely brought the trees to the ground before a skid loader hauled the logs to a portable sawmill that was set up on site to mill the logs into lumber. The branches and slab wood were put through a large chipper and will be turned into compost by a local company. The DNR, DATCP and Town & Country RC&D all helped out in putting together this very successful event.

Special thanks to the following who helped tremendously to make this the event that it was:

City of West Bend Forestry Dept.  
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