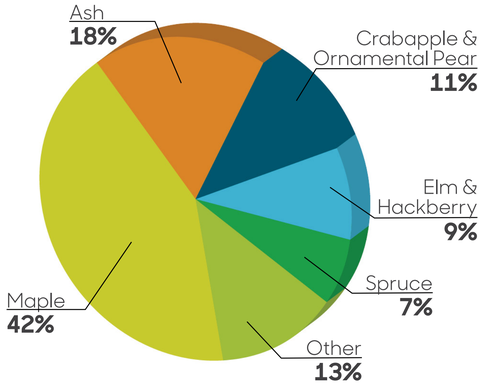
Map Source: Iowa Department of Natural Resources, "Natural Resources Geographic Information Systems Library," http://www.igsb.uiowa.edu/nrgislibx/.

The Urban Forest

The map on the left depicts city owned trees that have been surveyed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Iowa DNR).[1] The trees are divided into three categories: healthy trees, hazard trees, and ash trees.

"**Hazard**" trees are distinguished with a yellow triangle symbol. The hazard designation reflects tree condition using the Iowa DNR's priority rating. Trees highlighted on this map are "dangerous, dead, or dying, and no amount of maintenance will increase longevity or safety;" or are infected by "insects, pathogens, or parasites."

"**Ash**" trees are distinguished with a purple cross. They are under imminent threat from the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB),* an invasive beetle that disrupts circulation in the tree resulting in the loss of tens of millions of ash trees in North America.[2] EAB was first discovered in Iowa in 2010 and was confirmed in 30 Iowa counties as of 2016.[3]



The graphic above shows how many of the city's trees are of the same species. There is a strong possibility that 18% (Ash trees) of Glidden's city owned trees will die once EAB is carried to the area. With proper planning and management, the city's canopy can be improved by planting suitable trees that can gradually replace hazard trees and Ash trees. Improving species diversity will create a more resilient urban forest.

1 Iowa Department of Natural Resources Community Tree Inventories, http://www.iowadnr.gov/Conservation/Forestry/Urban-Forestry/Community-Tree-Inventories

2 EAB is a significant threat to our urban, suburban, and rural forests because it kills stressed and healthy ash trees. EAB is so aggressive that ash trees may die within two or three years after they become infested. Ash trees are as important ecologically as they are economically in the forests of the eastern United States. Emerald Ash Borer the Green Menace, USDA Program Aid No. 1769, 2008, https://www.aphis.usda.gov publications/plant_health/content/printable_version/EAB-GreenMenace-reprint June09.pdf.

3 "Iowa Tree Pests website," Entomology and Plant Science Bureau of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), last updated February 9, 2016, http://www.iowatreepests.com/eab_home.html.

Glidden Urban Forest

Bioregional Context

Julia Badenhope, Casey Cox, Riley Dunn, Dominick Florer, Hatvany Gomez-Concepcion, Ngoc Ho, Henry Herman, Alysse Kirkman, Giannis Koutsou, Emma Lorenz, Zoey Mauck, Carol Ustine

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Iowa's Living Roadways community visioning