

**Minutes of the Norwich Conservation Commission (NCC) –
Special Meeting of the Emerald Ash Borer Management Subcommittee (EABMS)**

1/13/2026, 7:00-7:45 pm

Zoom only meeting

**EABMS members present: Chris Rimmer, Doug Hardy, Steve Long, Peg Merrens,
Alex Gottlieb, Lindsay Putnam**

The meeting focused on final approval of a cover letter and two consent documents that will be mailed to Norwich landowners with hazardous ash trees in the Town right-of-way; removal of these trees is planned during early spring 2026, and the documents articulate options available to landowners concerning removal, disposal of downed wood, and potential postponement of cutting. After some brief discussion and one suggested change in language for increased clarity, the documents were unanimously approved. They will be finalized and included in the mailing to landowners, which is planned before the end of January.

There was also discussion about the need to identify sites to store wood chips and logs from ash trees following their removal from private properties on which landowners do not wish to keep them. Several sites are under consideration. It is hoped that an RFP will be issued to potential contractors for the removal work in late February.

The current petition to include a warrant article on the March 2026 Town ballot for a vote to appropriate \$60,000 to the EAB Response Fund #52 was discussed. The ballot currently has >160 signatures, and we are aiming for at least 180, which seems assured. The petition is due in the Town Clerk's office by 15 January.

Brief responses to several EAB-related questions by a Norwich resident were presented.

The Zoom meeting was recorded, and the recording is available [here](#).