



United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

Plant Protection and Quarantine



Emergency Response

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Outline

- The Chicago ALB story
 - Partnerships, cooperation, community engagement
- Local involvement
- Executing an emergency response
- Lessons learned
- Preparing for a new threat

The Chicago ALB Experience

- Background
 - Control completed 2006
 - Survey completed 2007
 - Countdown to eradication 2007
 - Eradication in 2008
- Partnerships
 - Pool resources
- Cooperation
 - Community level engagement



Program Delivery

- Cooperative agreement
- Community engagement
 - Survey
 - Chemical treatment
- Political support
 - Core Message → City, State and Federal agencies devoting all available resources to eradication of ALB in Chicago. Residents not saddled with costs of removal or restoration



Program Delivery

- Initial efforts
 - Delimit
 - How did ALB become established?
- Survey crews
 - Experience vs. intangibles
 - Desire to work and new ideas

Reasons for Success

- Innovative professional staff
- Protocols developed/ refined
 - Ground survey → bucket truck → bucket/ climbing
 - Chemical treatments
- Homeowner property access

Alderman Gene Schulter

- “....we felt very seriously that we had acted as a team of professionals as well as people concerned about our tree population. The local residents knew how important it was to have a line of communication with all layers of government to cut through the bureaucracy to work on this challenge.”

Preparing for a new threat

- Readiness plan
 - Resources available for EAB response
 - Organization of action agencies
 - Governors Science and Management Team
 - Wood utilization team
 - Survey team
 - Reforestation committee

EAB Arrives in Illinois

- June 2006
- Messages
 - EAB is not ALB
 - Support municipalities in development of management plans
- Challenge → fragmented government boundaries complicate management efforts

Emergency response

- Lessons learned
 - Cooperation
 - Information exchange
 - Partnerships
 - Validity in meeting future challenges
- Importance of local involvement
 - Solicit public vigilance

Media

- Impact of positive press coverage
- Continuing coverage
- Traditional and non-traditional partners
 - Assist with early detection

Summary

- Evaluate lessons learned
- Identify available resources
- Elevate response
- Recognize value of local response