

**EHB**  
PROGRAM

# European House Borer



## MEDIA RELEASE

9 March 2005

### Website to assist public in identifying EHB

The State Government is urging people to become familiar with the European House Borer (EHB), a destructive pest of untreated pine, so suspected EHB activity can be identified and reported to prevent it becoming established in Western Australia.

The EHB Website was launched this week to assist with educating the public on EHB.

EHB Program director, Lisa Christy said "It is important for the public to help us by looking for signs of EHB so we can monitor the pest and determine treatment for identified infested items. The website will be a great source of information for people to learn about EHB and how they can help us contain this exotic pest.

"It is hoped by managing the removal and destruction of infested materials in specific sites, reducing the movement of untreated pine and limiting suitable habitat, including dead pine trees, dead branches, pine logs and untreated pine timber, that we may be able to eradicate EHB in Western Australia. To do this, we will need support from the public.

The EHB Program has been investigating all properties in a 2km radius around the affected sites identified during the initial state wide EHB surveillance in 2004. Evidence of EHB has so far been confirmed in 18 outer Perth suburbs including the Shire of Mundaring, Shire of Kalamunda, Shire of Serpentine-Jarrahdale, City of Swan, City of Melville and the City of Gosnells.

Ms Christy said "In Western Australia, EHB has so far been found in dead pine trees or logs and within dead branches of living pine trees. Overseas EHB has been known to infest untreated roof timbers, architraves, door frames and timber articles such as pine furniture, causing structural damage. Thankfully, EHB has not yet been found in structural timber in WA.

"EHB is similar to other insects that infest and cause damage to timber. However based on current evidence, it appears as though Western Australia is in the fortunate position that with the public's assistance, it may be possible to eradicate EHB before it becomes established.

"We are asking people to assist with containment activities by firstly not moving any untreated pine, including logs, fire wood, milled timber or furniture to reduce to risk of human spread. Secondly, we would like to encourage people in EHB affected areas to be aware and take note of Building Notes issued by the Department of Housing and Works. In the future, it is possible that movement restrictions of untreated pine materials and building regulations may occur."

Ms Christy said anyone who suspected the presence of European House Borer in dead pine trees, untreated pine timber or pine furniture or goods, should contact the Freecall Hotline to arrange an expert examination.

Information about European House Borer is available online at [www.ehb.wa.gov.au](http://www.ehb.wa.gov.au) or by calling the Freecall Hotline on 1800 084 881.

Contact the freecall hotline 1800 084 881 for further information



**EHB**  
PROGRAM

*European  
House Borer*



MEDIA RELEASE

ENDS. Media Inquiries - Deanne Johnson 9366 2355

Contact the freecall hotline 1800 084 881 for further information

