

## Overview: Disposal Methods & Best Practices

- Buckthorn is NOT accepted at any of Pine Counties Recycling & Transfer Stations.
- For disposal, Buckthorn should be burned onsite.
- Transportation of Buckthorn should be minimized to prevent transmission.
- Oak and Ash tree matter are accepted at all Recycling & Transfer Stations within Pine County.
- Any Oak or Ash trees thought to be infected should NOT be brought to a Pine County Recycling & Transfer Station.
- To prevent the spread of Oak Wilt and Emerald Ash Borer, Oak and Ash trees should not be transported from neighboring counties.

**For questions about disposal, please contact us at (320)-216-4220.**

## Interested in Mulch?

Pine County is piloting a program to chip all the yard waste brought to our Recycling & Transfer Stations into Mulch. Mulch is anticipated to be available through this program starting in 2023.

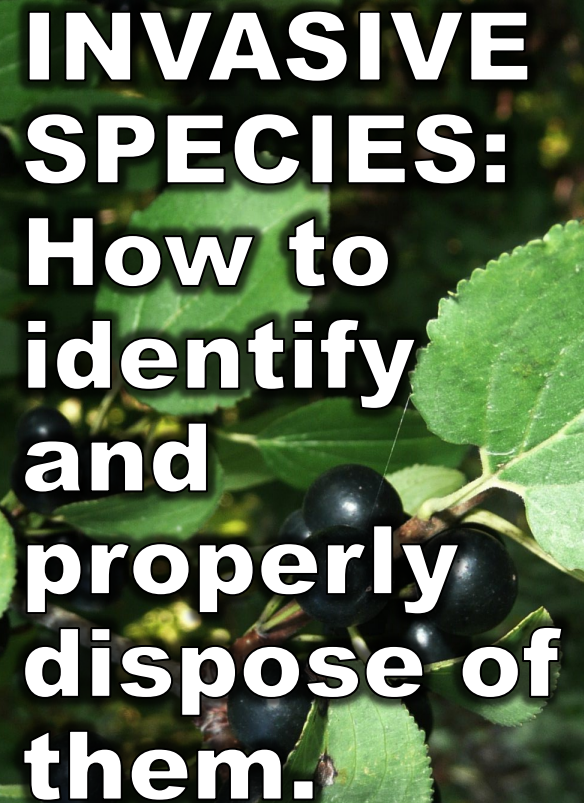
**All yard waste brought to Pine County's Recycling & Transfer Stations should be less than 4 inches in diameter.**

**Thank you for keeping Pine County green & clean!**



**Pine County Solid Waste Department**

**Keep Pine County Green & Clean**



**INVASIVE SPECIES:  
How to identify and properly dispose of them.**

**(320) 216-4220**

# Pine County - Managing Invasive Species

## Buckthorn

### Why is it a problem?

- Threatens the future of forests, wetlands, prairies, and more.
- Out-competes native plants.
- Degrades wildlife habitat.
- Contributes to erosion.
- Serves as a host for other pests.
- Creates messy fruits that stain sidewalks and driveways.
- Lacks “natural controls” that would curb its growth.

### How to identify it:

Shape of Plant: 10-25 feet tall; oval form; upright.

Leaves: Oval, dark green, dull to glossy. Still green and has leaves in early winter.

### Common Buckthorn:



### Glossy Buckthorn:



### How to dispose of Buckthorn:

Buckthorn is NOT accepted at any of Pine Counties Recycling & Transfer Stations. Burn onsite and minimize transportation.

## Oak Wilt

Oak wilt is a deadly disease that affects all species of oaks found in Minnesota. It is caused by a non-native, invasive fungus. The fungus invades the water-conducting vessels of oaks, eventually killing infected trees.

Oak wilt spreads in two ways: above ground by sap beetles and below ground through roots that have grown together, called root grafts.



### How to identify it:

A good indicator of oak wilt is a carpet of leaves under an oak in mid-summer. Leaves at the edge of the canopy are the first to wilt. The wilt then progresses toward the inner canopy.

### How to protect against Oak Wilt?

The greatest risk of oak wilt transmission occurs in the spring and early summer. Avoid pruning your oak trees between April and July. If oak trees need to be pruned April through July, spray or paint tree with wound sealer immediately after the cut is made. This barrier will prevent the introduction of spores by sap-feeding beetles.

## Emerald Ash Borer

Emerald Ash Borer or EAB is an invasive insect that has killed millions of ash trees throughout the eastern half of the U.S. and southeastern Canada. Native to eastern Russia, northern China, Japan, and Korea, emerald ash borer infests and kills both weak and healthy ash trees. All ash species native to North America are vulnerable to attack.



### How to identify it:

One sign of infestation are tunnels from feeding larvae. Another sign of infestation are 1/8-inch wide, D-shaped exit holes which are created by emerging adult beetles. Because the holes are small and frequently high in the tree, they can be difficult to find.

### Best practices for tree disposal:

Oak and Ash tree matter are accepted at all Recycling & Transfer Stations within Pine County.

However, any trees thought to be infected with Oak Wilt or EAB should NOT be brought to any Pine County Recycling & Transfer Station.