

# Elm Leaf Beetle Control

<p>Watering</p>	<p>Watering your Elm will help to improve the efficacy of the treatment. This is particularly important after treatment as additional soil moisture assists with the translocation of the insecticide from the roots to the canopy. Watering is most effective if it is applied to the soil from half way between the trunk and the drip line to 3-5m beyond the drip line. Water loss through evaporation can be limited by watering trees early in the morning or in the evening. Tree Logic encourages responsible water usage and recommends that additional watering be compliant with current water restrictions and the use of recycled water is recommended where possible. For further information on effective watering techniques please visit our website: <a href="http://treeologic.com.au/facts/category/drought-solutions/">http://treeologic.com.au/facts/category/drought-solutions/</a></p>
<p>Suckers</p>	<p>Some Elm species develop suckers from their roots, particularly if the trees are drought stressed or have been damaged by mowers. Elm suckers are not protected from ELB even if the primary tree has been treated. It is therefore important that all suckers are removed as they can provide a safe food source for the ELB. Suckers should be removed with a clean, sharp cut as close as possible to the root; the use of herbicides is not recommended as it may also kill the tree. Mulching beneath your Elm will reduce damage to tree roots from mowers and improve water availability and retention.</p>
<p><b>Life Cycle</b></p> <p><b>September</b> Adult beetles may start to emerge depending upon daytime temperatures. Early emergent beetles often die from lack of elm leaves. In severely infested areas, beetles can be a pest inside buildings.</p> <p><b>October</b> Typical adult beetle emergence is during October. Adults fly to nearby elms and begin to feed on the new leaves. The adult beetle feeding causes the 'shot hole' damage to the leaves.</p> <p><b>November</b> Female adult beetles now lay small lemon eggs in a double row on the elm leaves. Egg hatching takes 7-10 days. Small black larvae emerge from the eggs and start to feed.</p> <p><b>December</b> The larvae are now feeding on the leaves and their damage is identified by the skeletonised appearance of the leaves. Trees can be quickly defoliated where there are severe infestations. The larvae move down the branches and trunk to pupate with pupae being seen around the base of the tree. Adult beetles start to hatch after 8-10 days with adult damage again occurring.</p> <p><b>January – March</b> Depending on summer temperatures, a second life cycle can occur. In late summer it is possible to see all life stages present on a single tree. Adult beetles will start to hibernate as the weather cools around mid March.</p>	
<p>Maintenance</p>	<p>It is important to maintain a treatment program for your Elm Tree. Leaving more than three years between treatments may allow Elm Leaf Beetle populations to return in high numbers not only affecting the health and appearance of your tree, but provide a safe haven for beetles that may then infect neighbouring trees.</p>

Tree Logic also offers a wide variety of plant health care solutions, please contact us for more information or visit our web site.