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Managing Ash in Syracuse



Take Home Message

- Gradual removal is more cost effective
- Emergency response is traumatic, expensive
- Crisis mode impacts routine management

EAB is Hard to detect

- Infestations often 7-10 y.o. when discovered
- Scottsville : ~10 y.o.
- Rochester : ~ 5 y.o.







EAB appeared to move slowly at first, and we only removed a few hundred trees. In years 3 and 4, infestations grew significantly. By year 5 we scrambled to remove trees before they toppled over. The number of dead and dying trees on our streets and in our woodlots was staggering.

Bill Roesel, Manager of Forestry and Horticulture, Windsor, Ontario



Ash trees damaged by EAB come crashing to ground at once when they die. - [Rosemary Parker Kalamazoo Gazette](#)

Operations and Waste Management Considerations



1. Harder to move, reuse after quarantine
2. Dead ash create fine dust when chipped
3. Lumbering not feasible if you wait until dead

SYRACUSE'S URBAN FOREST

Street Trees

1951 = 49,000 ← Loss of elm

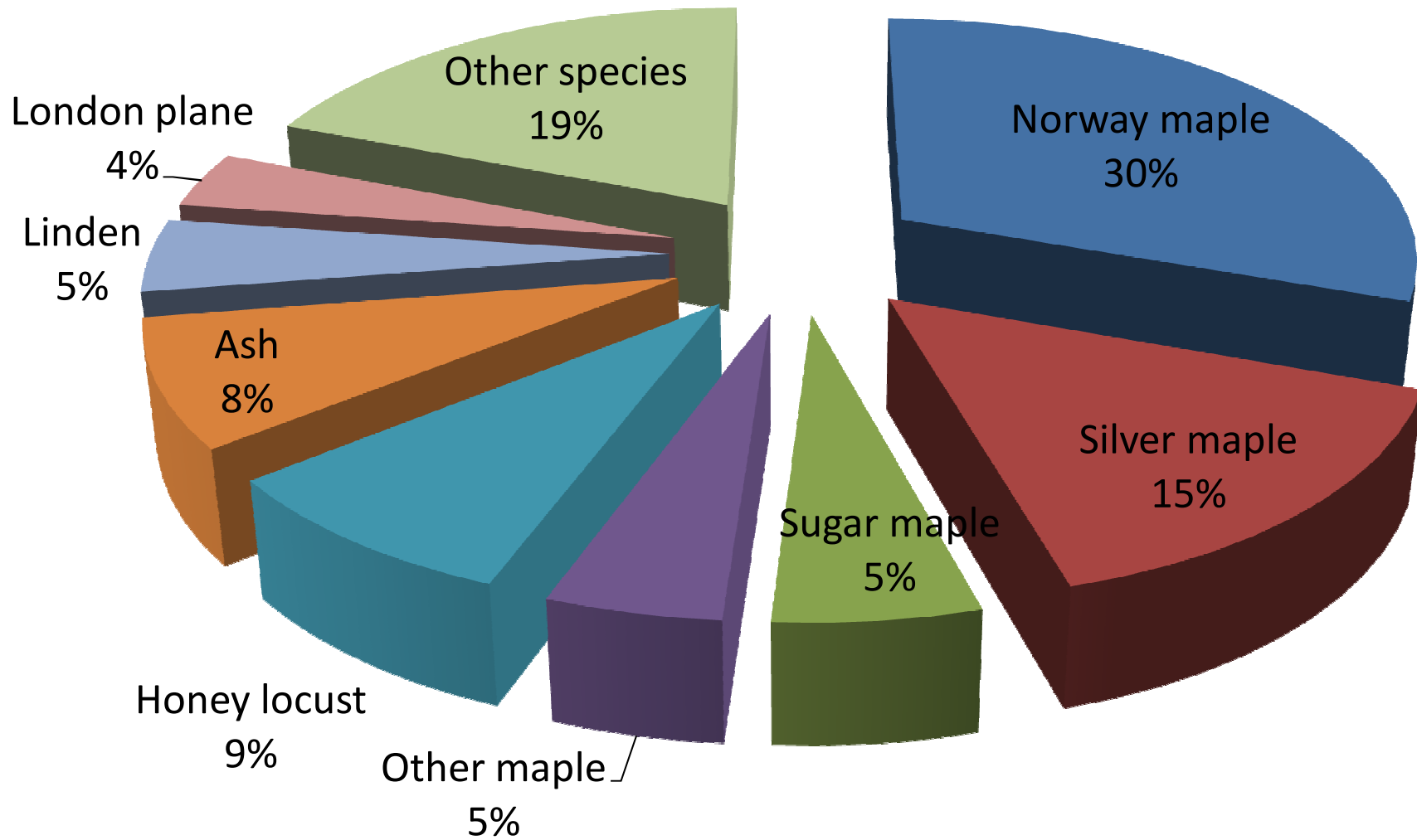
1978 = 39,000 ← Labor Day Storm

1999 = 32,000 ← Planting = Removals

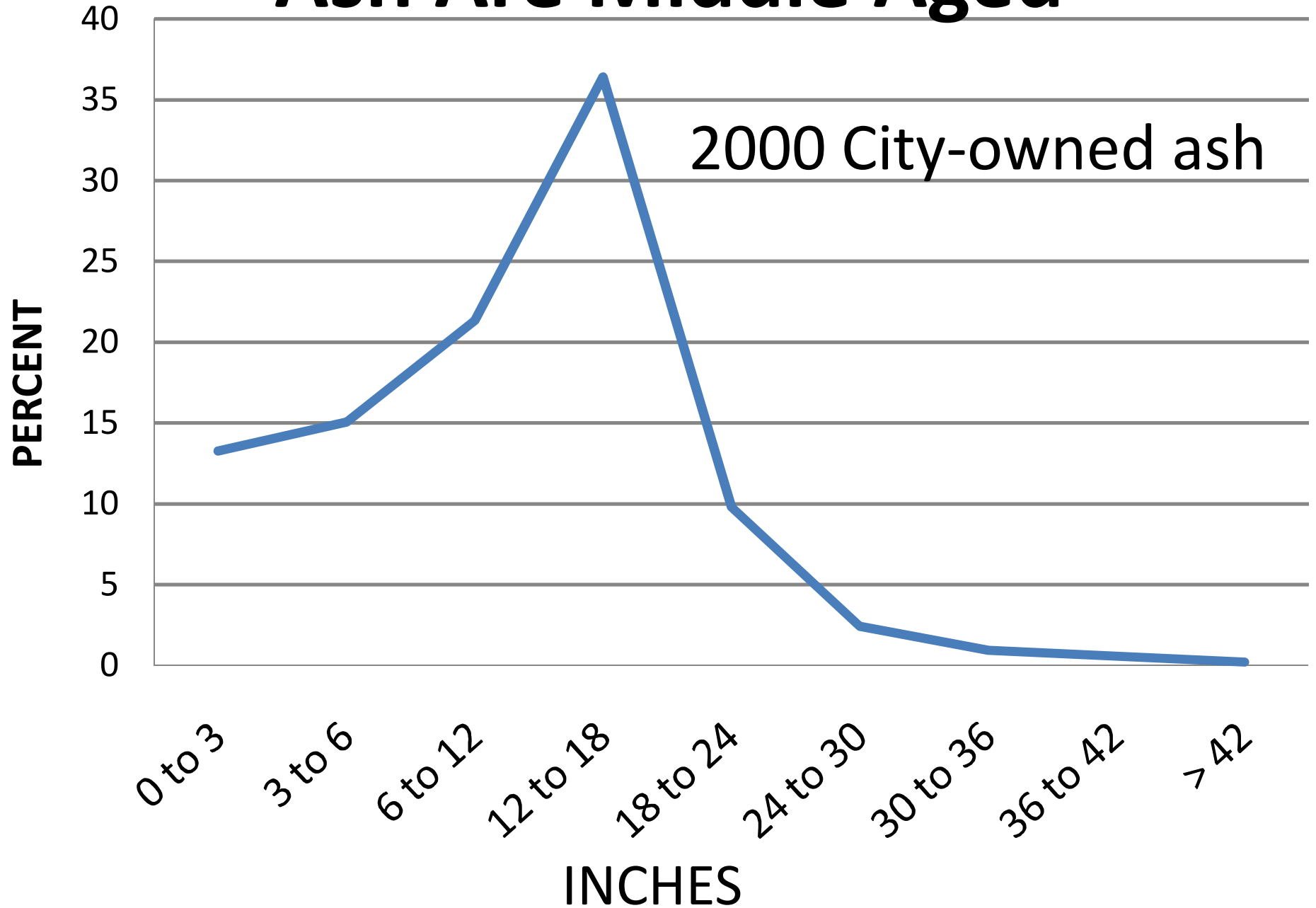
2011 = 31,500

Year	Number of Street Trees	Event
1951	49,000	Loss of elm
1978	39,000	Labor Day Storm
1999	32,000	Planting = Removals
2011	31,500	

Street trees 13"+ in diameter



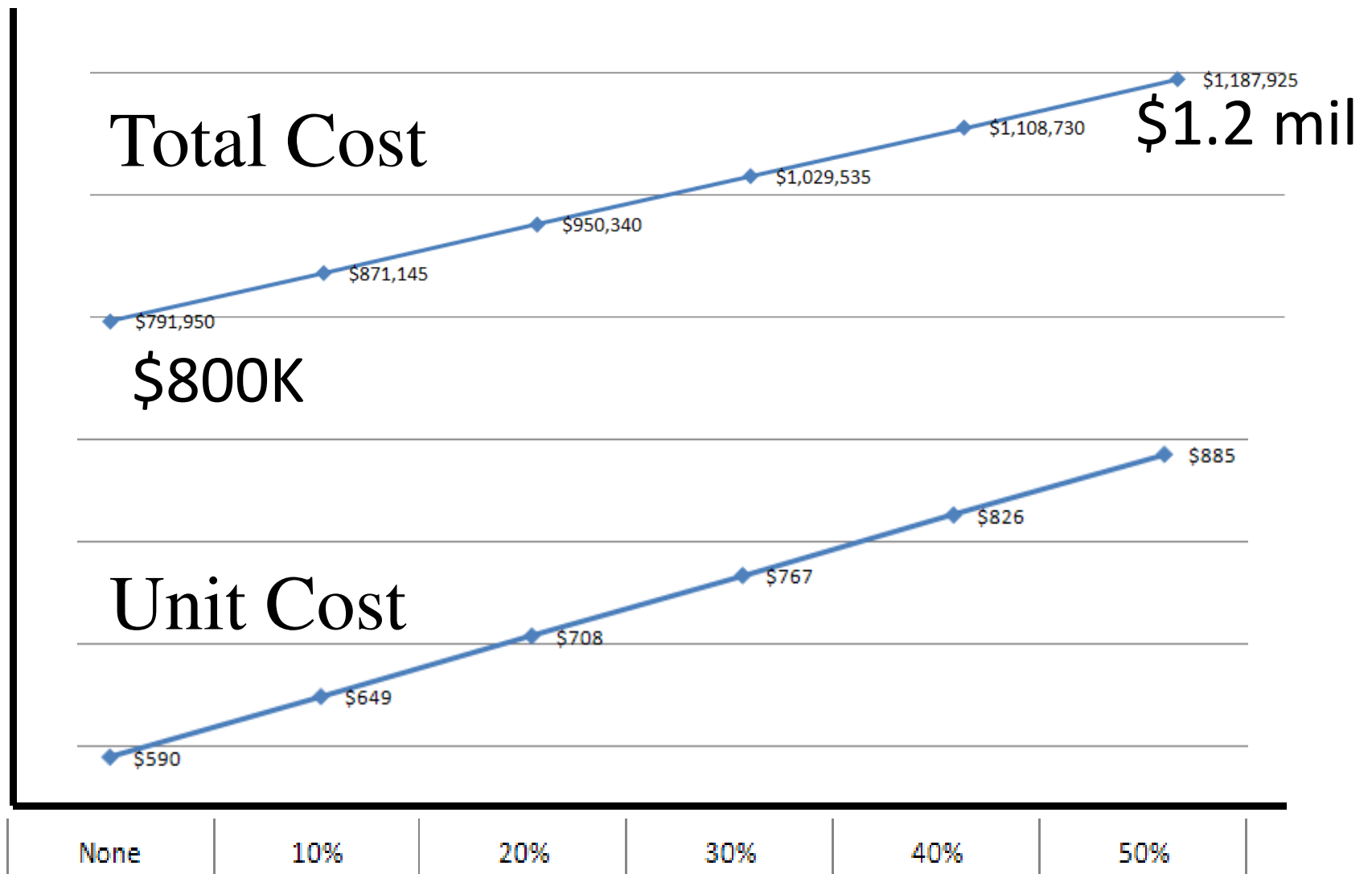
Ash Are Middle Aged



Ash Contract Removal Estimates 2011 Rates, 2000 Inventory

D-Class		Cost
13 to 18	971	\$ 461,225
19 to 24	288	\$ 230,400
25 to 30	53	\$ 56,975
31 to 36	16	\$ 21,200
37 to 42	12	\$ 18,600
43 to 54	2	\$ 3,550
Totals	1342	\$ 791,950

Estimated Removal Costs Ash 13"+



Removal Rates

Diameter	Removal Rates 2003	Removal Rates 2009	Rate Increase
13 to 18	\$ 145	\$ 475	328%
19 to 24	\$ 195	\$ 800	410%
25 to 30	\$ 280	\$ 1,075	384%

What happens to rates once EAB is established?

Treatment Costs

- Important tool in the toolbox
- 2 years of protection
- Removal on our schedule
- \$10-20/inch at DBH



Syracuse's Response Plan

**GOAL: Remove
and replace ash
over 10 years**



Syracuse's Response Plan

- 1. Remove over 10 years, treat as needed**
 - One-tenth from every district**
- 2. Treat park and median trees indefinitely (?)**
- 3. Replace**

Policies

1. Assessment
2. Develop Policy for Ash on Private Land
3. Establish Tree Replacement Policy
 - a. Species Diversity
 - b. Priority of planting if resources are scarce
 - c. Sometime place should not be replanted
 - d. Can you use smaller stock in certain places to lower unit cost of replacement

Step 2 – Private Tree Policies

- Review ordinance for public condemnation of dead ash trees
- Education & technical assistance to public
 - 4000 private and institutional trees!
 - Whose phone do we want to ring off hook?
 - How to ID ash, hire contractors, avoid abuse