

Willow Borer

This borer can infest their preferred hosts in large numbers, causing high levels of mortality in a stand. Hosts include willow, poplar, alder and birch.



Larvae grow to 1/4 inch long.

DAMAGE

- Frass-plugged entrance holes
- Fading foliage
- Broken, dead or dying limbs
- Dead patches of bark that are often cracked open and oozing sap at points of attack

LIFE CYCLE

The adults emerge in spring and feed just inside the bark of new shoots. In the summer, females chew holes in the bark of stems where they deposit a single egg.

The larvae hatch from the egg and excavate long tunnels inside the stem. Sometimes you can see the sawdust and frass that they push out of the holes. In larger branches or trunks, damage from boring can girdle and kill the tree.

Branch swollen from feeding by larvae of poplar and willow borer

Adults are about 1/5 to 1/3 inch long.

