

*Craftsbury
Ash Tree Inventory
Working Group*

Update: 7 November 2023

Rob Libby
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Ash Tree Inventory WG

- Purpose: begin preparing the town for looming expense of maintaining safe right-of-way as Ash trees die from EAB
- Not included in WG mandate:
 - Monitoring recommendation(s)
 - Management plan(s)
 - Contractor identification
 - etc., etc...

Ash Tree Inventory WG: Timeline

05 October 2021

Preliminary plan presented to Craftsbury Selectboard
And WG formed

05 June 2022

Inventoried North end of Wylie Hill Road

20 June 2022

Inventoried middle segment of Wylie Hill Road

19 July 2022

Inventoried South end of Wylie Hill Road

20 June 2023

Ride-out with Steve Perkins: additional high-Ash areas

25 July 2023

Inventoried North end of North Craftsbury Rd

09 Sept 2023

Inventoried East Craftsbury

15 Sept 2023

Inventoried West Craftsbury

16 Oct 2023

Update to Conservation Commission

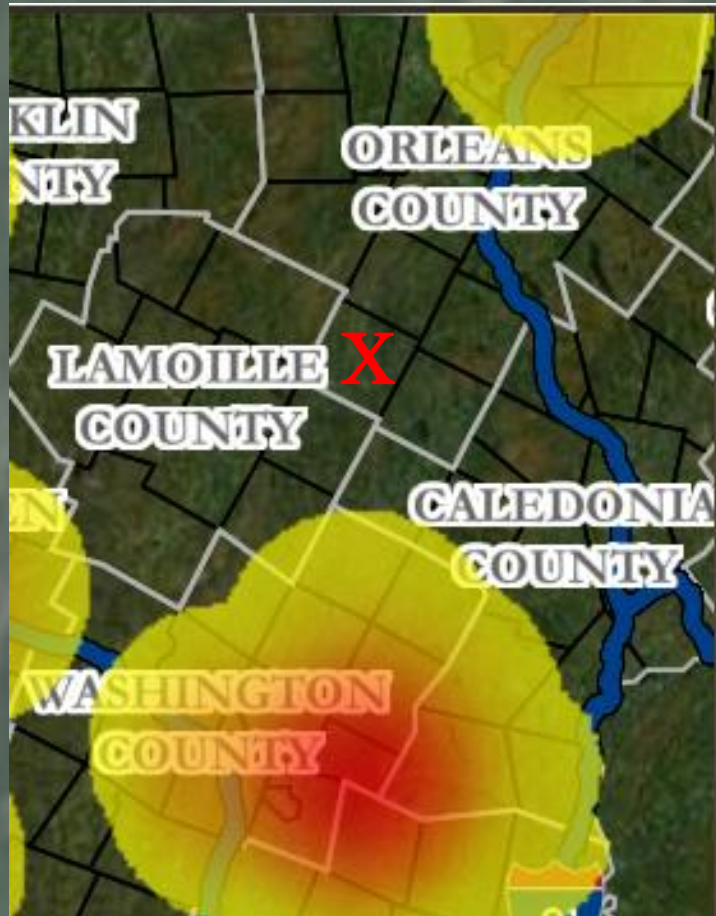
07 Nov 2023

Update to Selectboard

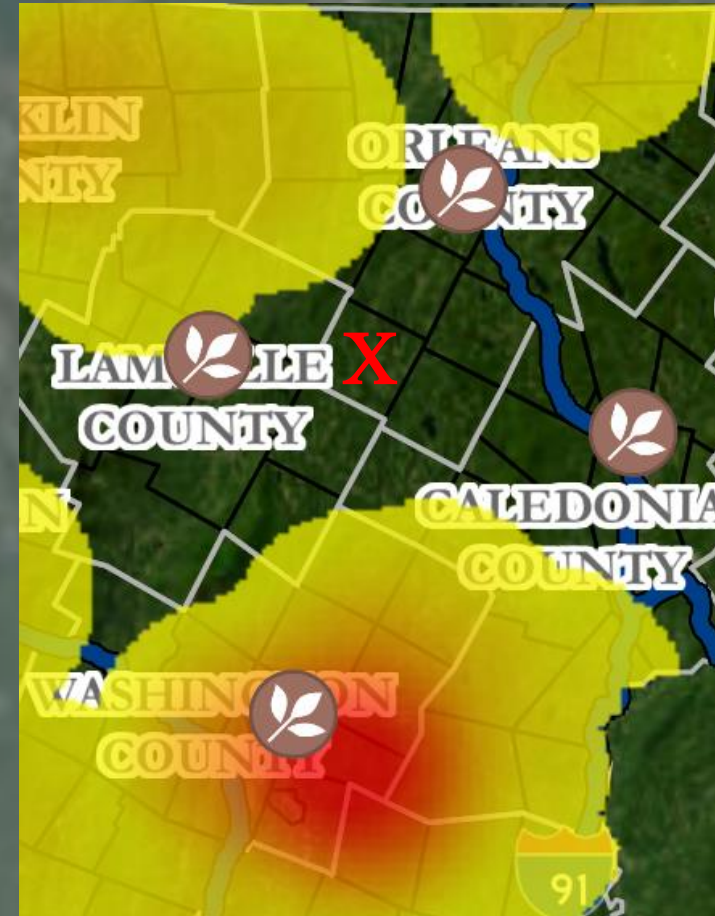
**Over 80-hours
expended,
to date**

EAB Reports: Closing in on Craftsbury

2021



2023



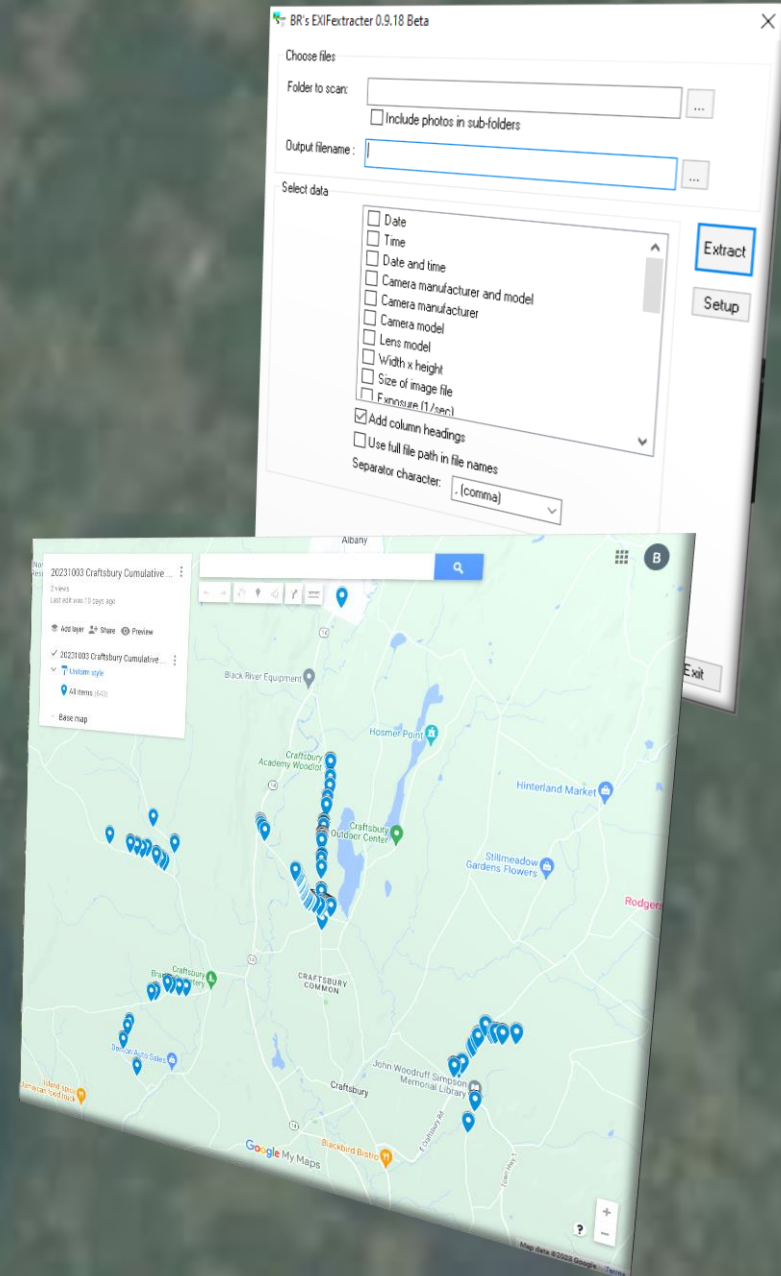
Source: Vermont Invasives website

Ash Tree Inventory Plan: Simplified

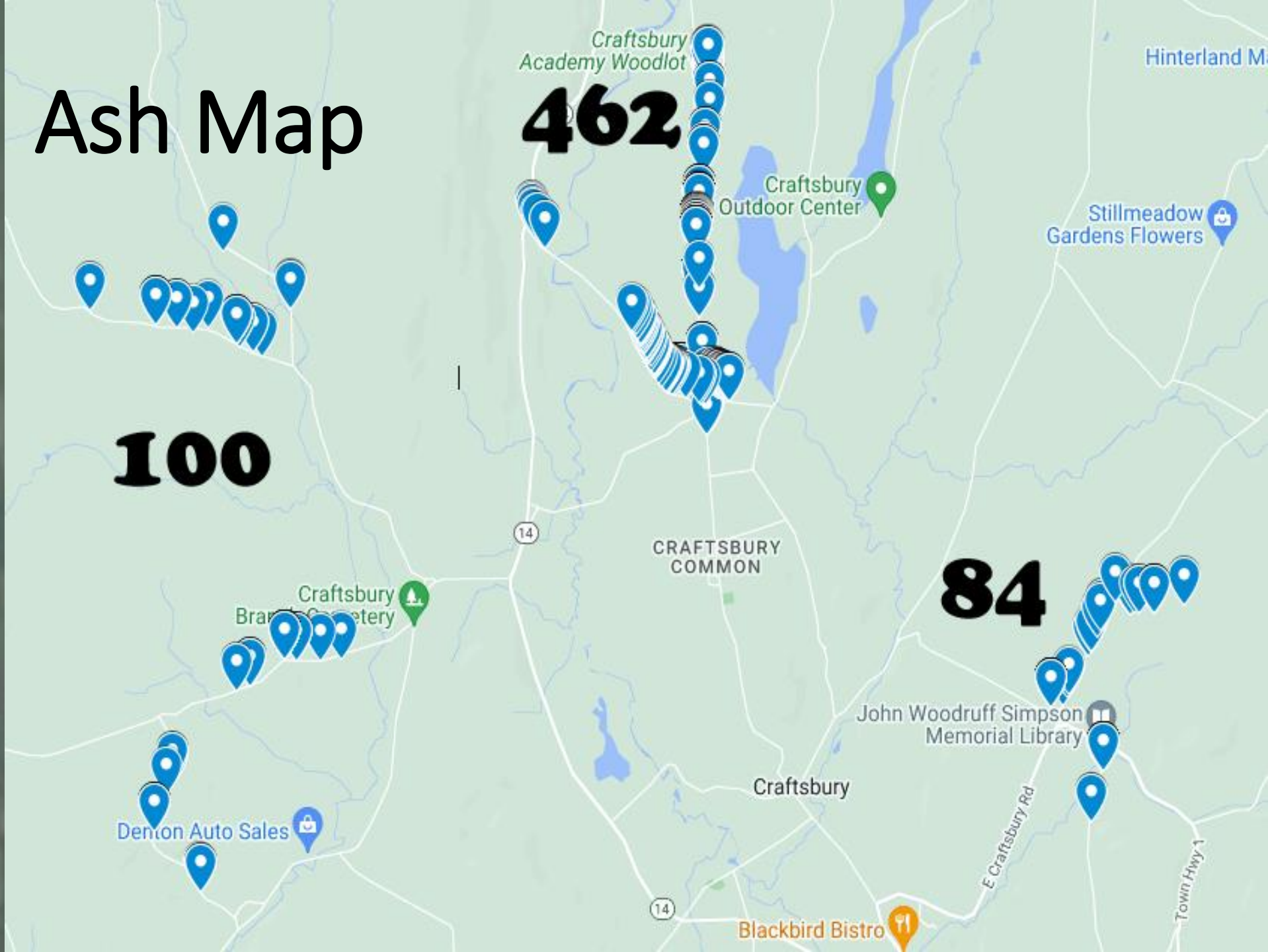
- ~~• Train volunteers~~
- ✓ Photograph trees ~~and threats~~
- ✓ Transfer photos to PC and cloud
- ✓ Transform data for assessments

Map the Inventory

- Smartphone: photo of each tree includes location “metadata”
- “BR’s EXIFextractor”: strip and tabulate location metadata
- Google Maps: upload location metadata



Ash Map



Results to Date

- 646 Ash stems counted
 - <5% “error” rate: misidentified, too small, outside RoW, uncounted
- No EAB observed
- Ash health appears to be declining – cause(s) unknown
- Note: many areas with no “pins” have few or no Ash trees

To-Do List

- Spring 2024: inventory remaining areas
 - South Craftsbury Road
 - King Farm Rd
 - Craftsbury Common
- <100 additional counts expected