

*Laudato Si', Care for Earth*  
*October 11, 2024*

***Our land needs protection from invasive species, part 2***

CSA maintenance workers Jack Mohr and Jim Immel demonstrate the damage done by an invasive insect species, the emerald ash borer, EAB, which is found in our CSA woodlands. This invasive wood-boring beetle from Asia is responsible for the death and decline of tens of millions of ash trees in North America. Some forty ash trees on the St. Agnes Convent land have been treated. EAB lays its eggs in the bark crevices of ash trees. The eggs hatch and the larvae burrow into the tree where they feed, which is what damages the trees. EAB infestations have been detected in 36 States and the District of Columbia.



Source:

<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/eab>

S. Lael Niblick wrote “our prairies need to be protected. Our prairies shelter insects, birds, endangered species and small animals. The invasive species need to be eradicated”.  
(*Hearts Transforming*, Sept. 2024, p. 11)

[Learn about invasive species in your area](#)

[Contact your local National Forest or Grassland, state or county government officials to learn about invasive species in your area.](#)

## ***Do you know the opening lines of Laudato Si'?***

'LAUDATO SI, mi' Signore' – 'Praise be to you, my Lord'. In this prayerful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share life and a beautiful mother who embraces us.

This defines the hope of the Laudato Si' Action Platform: to praise the Lord through meaningful acts for our common home, inspired by St. Francis.

[What are your meaningful acts in support of care for our earth?](#)



S. Patricia Weidman, CSA, Laudato Si' Animator, guest writer  
Special thank you to:

Chelsea Koenigs, Laudato Si' Animator  
S. Julie Ann Krahl,  
S. Patricia Bogenschuetz

Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes,  
[www.csasisters.org/our-values/creation.cfm](http://www.csasisters.org/our-values/creation.cfm)