Veteran Tree Management Skills Certification (VETcert)

Creating a Pan-European accreditation scheme
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Erasmus + funded project 2016-2019

- Total budget 398 000€
- 1 Dec 2016 - 31 Aug 2019
  - 33 months
- ATF budget 53 000€
- Funding 75%-80% of total value.
- Seeking match funding in region of £10k to £13k (any offers welcome).
10 Partners from 7 Countries
Main Partners

- Ancient Tree Forum (UK)
- Inverde (Belgium)
- ProNatura (Sweden)
- Arboricultural Association (UK)
Ancient Tree Forum

- Project lead on developing and setting veteran tree management standards

10 Partners from 7 Countries
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Inverde

- Project lead on analysis of existing best practice in certification/accreditation schemes and follow-up of veteran tree management certification.
10 Partners from 7 Countries

ProNatura

- Project lead on developing new training material to complement the existing material.
Arboricultural Association

- Project lead on developing a certification and examination procedure.

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Other Partners
- Swedish Tree Association
- Swedish Arborist Federation
- European Arboricultural Council
- Conseil Départemental des Côtes d’Armor (France)
- Asociacion de Espanola de Arboricultura (Spain)
- Safe Trees (Czech Republic)
Raising standards in veteran tree care across Europe

Photo: Brian Cleckner
Objectives

- Recognise skills and knowledge in veteran tree management
- Define minimum skills and knowledge at 2 operational levels:
  - practicing and
  - consulting tree work professionals.
- Increase the opportunities for tree work professionals across Europe
- Raise standards in veteran tree management across Europe
What will be done

- Survey of existing certification/accreditation schemes
- Set minimum standards for skills/knowledge at two levels
- Develop training material
- Develop the certification and examination procedure
- Sustainability plan
Two workshops to be held to ensure there is continuity across all partner countries:

- Veteran Tree Management Standards
- Calibrate Assessors
Other outcomes

- Better management of veteran trees
- Higher quality of the work performed
- Increased awareness
- Increased transparency in tender/contracting
- Continued personal development (CPD) encouraged in the workplace
- Vocational education available
- Training for the assessors
Challenges ahead

Providing consistency across all partner countries. Challenges include differences between:

- Types of Veteran trees
Challenges ahead

Providing consistency across all partner countries. Challenges include differences between:

- Climate
Challenges ahead

Providing consistency across all partner countries. Challenges include differences between:

- Cultural Heritage
Challenges ahead

Providing consistency across all partner countries. Challenges include differences between:

- Existing professional standards in tree management
Accreditation Scheme - Two levels

Practicing

Consulting
Scheme Roll Out

Project completion - August 2019
Certification scheme will be available upon project completion.
Contact - training@ancienttreeforum.co.uk

Visit - http://www.ancienttreeforum.co.uk/
and
http://www.vetree.eu
Veteran Tree Management - Demonstration Sites

A PROJECT FUNDED BY CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION
Funding Secured

- £12700 secured from City of London Corporation
- Project starts September 2017 and concludes March 2019. Trails will be available in perpetuity
Aims

- Develop four self guided trails for professionals.
- Launch events for professionals
- Guided walks for members of public

Creating Good Practice
Veteran Tree Demonstration Sites
Target audiences

Arborists
Foresters
Site managers
Students
General public
Develop four self guided trails for professionals.

- Self-led trails, which can be used on any day, at any time.
- Hard copy information pack available at each site; or
- Participants can download pack onto smart phone or tablet.
Launching events for professionals

- Tours of demonstration sites to increase awareness and facilitate usage of trails.
- Potential for on-site demonstrations during launch events.
Guided walks for members of public

- Designed to encourage local users to engage with the sites, recognise the importance of the veteran trees and sites, and educate the public on the on-going management and potential dangers of BBQs and other recreational activities.
Creating Good Practice
Veteran Tree Demonstration Sites

Sites

- Ashtead Common
- Burnham Beeches
- Epping Forest
- Hampstead Heath
Creating Good Practice
Veteran Tree Demonstration Sites

Find out more

• Sign up for the ATF newsletter for updates.
• Like Ancient Tree Forum on Facebook and follow on Twitter
• Come and have a chat
Creating Good Practice
Veteran Tree Demonstration Sites

Find out more

- Contact - training@ancienttreeforum.co.uk
- Visit - http://www.ancienttreeforum.co.uk/