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To

Date

November, 12, 2010

*2 pages from Jeanette Merrick*

**Pacific Northwest ISA Chapter Conference**



*Tree Academy  
Workshop  
September 26, in  
Tacoma, WA.  
Held as part of  
annual PNW ISA  
conference.*

*The 4 hour  
lecture was  
attended by 125  
persons.*

**Veteran Tree Management**

Neville Fay, is the managing director and principal consultant at Treework Environmental Practice. <http://www.treeworks.co.uk/>

He initiated the *Innovations in Arboriculture* series and is chairman of the Ancient Tree Forum. <http://frontpage.woodland-trust.org.uk/ancient-tree-forum/atfecology/ecology.htm>

**Ancient and Veteran Trees**

An ancient tree is a classification of a tree that is old for its species.

Not all *veteran* trees will have entered into the *ancient* age class.

Veteran trees are like ‘battle-scarred survivors’. They provide habitat. Through the process of wood decay, trunk hollowing, branch cavities, shattered branch ends and a range of rot types are the ‘veteran features’.

**Veteran Trees Initiative**

A project designed to raise public and professional awareness of good management, conservation and protection.

Natural England, “*Veteran Trees: A guide to good management.*”

<http://naturalengland.etraderstores.com/NaturalEnglandShop/publications/wildlife%20species-plants-trees>

Trees are habitat. A management strategy for the benefit of biodiversity is to enhance tree longevity by improving structural and physiological conditions.

## The Ageing Process

*The Ageing Process: From Infancy to Death*

By Neville Fay of Treework Environmental Consultancy, designer Christine Kirkley

Reference	Age stages	Classification	Features
A to D	Germination to Fully-mature	Non-ancient	High vitality. Low habitat contribution.
D and E	Mature to Fully Mature	Transition veteran	With veteran features. Saproxylic habitat possible.
D and E	Early ancient	Ancient	Constant decrease in size.
E and F	Late ancient		Decline in crown and trunk diameter. Heartwood decay. Low wind resistance.
F and G	Senescent		Increased habitat capacity.

## Natural Retrenchment Process

The original crown becomes smaller, developing into the post-mature crown. The branch tops become dry, light and without new growth.

