

ASSESSING TREE RELATED SUBSIDENCE CLAIMS©

A One Day Training Course for Local Authority Tree Officers (Maximum Number of Learners is 12)

Aims:

To provide detailed knowledge of tree related subsidence (TRS) and to provide a system for assessment of tree related subsidence claims made to a local authority

Learning Outcomes: The learners will:

1. Understand the mechanisms of TRS and be able to recognize the symptoms:
2. Understand the evidential tests in TRS
3. Know how to assess TRS claims objectively
4. Become familiar with the decision making processes in TRS

Course Outline:

Time	COURSE ELEMENTS
09.00	What is Tree Related Subsidence? -Causes and Mechanisms -Symptoms -Investigations (Using real case examples)
10.15	BREAK
10.30	Evidential Assessment - Evidential Tests - Site Investigations (Engineering) - Site Investigations (Arboricultural) - Data Collation (Using real case examples)
11.30	BREAK
11.45	Assessing Claims - Required Evidence - Desirable Evidence - Interpretation of Evidence - Decision Making - Options Available
12.30	LUNCH
13.30	Practical Exercise 1 – Making a Claim
14.00	Practical Exercise 2 – Assessing a Claim Exercises will be based on real case data and done in groups
15.00	BREAK
15.30	Feedback
16.15	Close & Depart

Delivery:¹

The course will be delivered as a series of Socratic style sessions that allow for continual interaction between trainer and learners. Interaction is positively encouraged and is part of the assessment.

Frequent comfort breaks are scheduled because the sessions deliver a lot of detailed information and breaks facilitate assimilation of the information, and prepare the learners to engage in the following session relatively fresh.

The practical exercises will be done in groups, i.e. two groups of six; or three groups of four; or four groups of three. The composition of the groups will be decided on the day. Each group will have an appointed facilitator.

A certificate of successful attendance will be issued to each learner upon completion of the course.

Requirements:

The course can be delivered at the Local Authority and the LA will provide classroom to accommodate 12 learners equipped with a digital data projector, screen and a flip chart. Also required is either a chalk board or a dry wipe board. The hosting authority is expected to provide tea & coffee for the breaks and a light lunch.

Trainer:

The trainer is Dr Dealga O'Callaghan, FICFor., F.Arbor.A. Dr O'Callaghan is a Chartered Arboriculturist and has over 20 years experience in the area of TRS. He has handled hundreds of claims and has given expert evidence in Court of the subject. He has also published numerous papers on the subject in peer reviewed journals.

Continuous Professional Development

This course carries a value of **6 hours CPD** and **5 CEUs** for the ISA Certified Arborist Programme

Cost

The cost of the course is calculated on a per head basis with a minimum number of 10 attendees.

¹ This Course and the Intellectual Copyright is the sole property of Dr Dealga O'Callaghan

