

Urban Forest Resilience Conference

4th June 2014 1000-1630 Kew Gardens

Nowhere are tree populations under more pressure than in urban areas. For example, the urban forest has to cope with the urban heat island effect; challenging environments for establishment and increased entry points for pest & disease introduction... but with 80% of the population living in urban areas, the urban forest provides vital services to society, the environment and the economy.

This conference looks to build upon some of the messages from the "Tackling the threat to London's trees" conference in January 2013. It aims to draw together research and expertise that will help decision makers and practitioners develop a more resilient urban forest for the future.

Whilst the conference will look at a range of aspects of resilience, Kew Gardens offers a unique opportunity to look in more detail at alternative species.

Conference Objectives

- Review the current resilience of London / England's urban forest
- Consider the wide range of factors needed to secure a resilient urban forest
- Highlight opportunities to increase resilience
- See real example alternative species in Kew Gardens
- To discuss what else we can do to increase resilience and develop a vision of a resilient urban forest

How to book

To book a place, please email jeanette.hawkins@forestry.gsi.gov.uk giving your details (name, organisation, email address, telephone number)

The conference is free of charge. Places will be limited and filled on a 'first come first served' basis.

Conference programme

See overleaf for the conference programme

Conference Programme

We have an excellent set of eminent speakers from a range of sectors that will provide an interesting programme. The day will consist of presentations in Jodrell Theatre, followed by an afternoon tour of Kew Gardens.

0930 -1000 Registration and refreshments

1000 Introduction and welcome including keynote speech

Session 1 – introduction to Urban Forest Resilience

- Jago Keen, Ian Keen & Associates
- Dr Joan Webber, Forest Research
- London Tree Officer Association representative

Session 2 – Alternative species choices

- Tony Kirkham, Kew Gardens
- Richard Jinks, Forest Research
- Gabriel Hemery, Sylva Foundation

~1245 Packed lunch (provided)

Session 3 – Resilience through implementation

- *Keith Sacre, Barcham Trees*
- Martin Gammie, Consulting with Trees

Session 4 – Tour of Kew Gardens

- Looking at potential alternative species on the ground. The tour will be led by Tony Kirkham with input from the other conference speakers

1630 Close