What Basic Validator training is all about

1. This workshop will train your staff how to recognise trees with **obvious tree risk features** that need a closer look by an Arborist. It’s an invaluable tree risk management asset for any organisation that has staff who spend a lot of time working outside. That’s because it’s these people who are best placed to first pick up on tree risks that might not be Acceptable or Tolerable as they go about their daily routines.

2. The training helps a tree owner or manager to fulfil their duty of care. It fits seamlessly into VALID’s **Tree Risk-Benefit Management Strategies**. Some key elements of these strategies are staff carrying out **Passive Assessment** whilst they’re going about their usual job. And carrying out an **Active Assessment** at a Basic level.

1.1 ISO 31000 – Risk Management

3. In ISO 31000 - Risk Management language, the training emphasises these 'Principles'. It’s an integrated, structured and comprehensive, customised, and inclusive approach, based on best available information, to manage tree risk at all levels of an organisation. At the 'Process' level, it’s the risk identification and risk analysis stages that are being carried out.

1.2 What’s Passive Assessment?

4. Passive Assessment is picking up on obvious tree risk features you can’t help but notice as you go about your day-to-day working routine.

1.3 Active Assessment | Basic > Detailed > Advanced

5. Active Assessment is a structured approach where you’re looking for trees with obvious risk features where the risk might not be Acceptable or Not Tolerable. It starts at a Basic level. Apart from emergency work where a tree or branch is obviously about to fall, Basic Validators only need to report trees with obvious risk features. It’s up to their Contact Arborist or manager to decide whether to increase the level of risk evaluation to a Detailed Assessment.

1.4 What you’ll learn

6. You don’t need to have any knowledge about trees or risk to benefit from this training. The main learning objectives are;

   - Tree risk and what the law says about it
   - Passive & Active Assessment and how they work in the Tree Risk-Benefit Management Strategies
   - Recognising high-use and high-consequence zones
   - How trees live and die and what affects their likelihood of failure
   - What obvious tree risk features you need to pick up on and what not to be concerned about
   - Last thing we do - a live firing exercise carrying out a Basic Assessment

1.5 Who would benefit in coming along?

7. The training is open to anyone, including tree contractors who are looking to widen their knowledge about tree risk assessment. It’s particularly useful to those of you who spend a lot of time working outside.

We’ve equipped a wide range of professions and trades around the world to be Basic Validators. From State Roads Highways Inspectors, who carry out Active Assessment at a Basic level as part of their job. To Wildlife Park Rangers, who carry out Passive Assessment whilst going carrying out duties on their patch. And everyone in between.