



Peter Del Tredici

Peter Del Tredici holds a BA degree in Zoology from the University of California, Berkeley (1968) and a Ph.D. in Biology from Boston University (1991). He has been doing research with woody plants since 1972 first as a research technician at the Harvard Forest in Petersham, Massachusetts and then for thirty-five years at the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University in Boston where he worked through 2014 as Plant Propagator, Curator of the Larz Anderson Bonsai Collection, Editor of *Arnoldia*, Director of Living Collections, and finally as Senior Research Scientist. During his time at the Arnold Arboretum, he has made numerous seed collecting and ecological research expeditions to China, Japan and Korea. Peter was also an Associate Professor in Practice in the Landscape Architecture Department at the Harvard Graduate School of Design from 1992 through 2016. and taught in the Urban Planning Department at MIT from 2016 through 2019.

Photo by Susan Klaw.

Dr. Del Tredici has published over a hundred articles on a wide variety of botanical subjects including: the taxonomy and cultivation of *Magnolias*, hemlocks (genus *Tsuga*) and *Stewartias*, the history of plant introductions from Japan and China, and the morphology of basal sprouting (resilience) in temperate trees. His PhD thesis (1991) was on the ecology and evolution of the *Ginkgo* tree and he is now considered a world authority on the ecology and cultivation of this amazing tree. Recently, his research has focused on climate change and urban ecology which resulted in the publication of the widely acclaimed, "Wild Urban Plants of the Northeast: A Field Guide" (Cornell U. Press, 2010; 2nd ed. 2020).

In 1999, he was awarded the **Arthur Hoyt Scott Medal** presented annually by the Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College and in 2013, he was not only awarded honorary membership in the **Garden Club of America**, but also the **Veitch Gold Medal** from The Royal Horticultural Society "in recognition of services given in the advancement of the science and practice of horticulture."

Cary Award Recipient Lecture: Rejuvenation and Resilience in Trees & Shrubs

WCHS Annual Meeting June 26, 2025

Based on the author's nearly fifty years of experience working with woody plants, this lecture examines the morphological aspects of basal sprouting in trees and its practical implications in terms of forestry, arboriculture, ecology, and conservation. In particular, the lecture will address the topic of how the production of secondary trunks allows trees to survive many different kinds of traumatic disturbance. Sprouting is something most trees do, especially when they are young. It not only extends their life spans but also allows them to survive the ravages of naturally occurring catastrophes and those produced by people. There is no doubt that trees with a strong ability to resprout are going to play an important role in stabilizing landscapes that are impacted by the unpredictability of climate change.