

NORTH AMERICAN TRI-NATIONAL SUPPORT FOR BIODIVERSITY *and* ACCESS TO NATURE



Featured projects from

San Antonio, USA
Montreal, Canada
Guadalajara, Mexico

October 27, 2020

BIODIVERSITY WITHOUT BORDERS
A NATURAL PATHWAY FOR COOPERATION



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CO-HOSTED BY



BIODIVERSITY WITHOUT BORDERS

SAN ANTONIO, USA



Now in its 5th year, San Antonio's annual Monarch Butterfly & Pollinator Festival is a community event that teaches about migration, pollinators' connection to human food, and our international connections.

This year the Texas Butterfly Ranch will tag 600 butterflies in honor of neighbors and friends lost to COVID-19, social injustice and other causes as part of the Festival.

Photo: courtesy Drake White, the Nectar Bar



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The Howard W. Peak Greenway Trail System in San Antonio is a growing network of approximately 80 mi (129 m) of developed multi-use and accessible trails .

Incorporating approximately 1,500 ac (607 ha) of creek-side open space, there are over 50 trailheads, connecting dozens of local parks and natural areas on all sides of the city.

Photo: courtesy City of San Antonio



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The 150 ft (46 m) wide vegetated land bridge at San Antonio's Phil Hardberger Park will connect the two sides of the 311-acre urban natural area for people and wildlife.

Costing USD \$23M, the feature will include an elevated Skywalk, an accessible trail, native habitat, rainwater catchment and interpretive educational opportunities. It is scheduled to be completed in the fall of 2020.

Photo by Justin Moore, Airborne Aerial Photography



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Located in a historically under-sourced area of San Antonio, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center was formerly a wastewater disposal site.

It is along the Central Flyway migratory route, and 340 of the 640+ species that migrate through Texas stop at Mitchell Lake to rest and refuel.

The 1,200 ac (486 ha) natural area consists of the 600 ac (243 ha) Mitchell Lake, 215 ac (87 ha) of wetlands and ponds, and 385 ac (156 ha) of woodlands, grasslands and south Texas brush.

Photo: courtesy Sean Fitzgerald, Mitchell Lake Audubon Center



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SAN ANTONIO, USA



The San Antonio River Watershed begins in the heart of the city and connects 5 separate ecoregions on its way to the Gulf Coast of Texas.

Hundreds of acres of restored riparian habitat along the Mission Reach just south of downtown supports native, migratory, and aquatic plants and animals.

The river connects 11 parks and 4 paddling trails accessible from the urban core.

Photo: courtesy San Antonio River Authority



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GUADALAJARA, MEXICO



Guadalajara's main environmental public policy is directed to protecting its trees.

In the Arboretum, at the heart of the city, 83 native tree species and a pollinator garden have been established.

The city has also initiated the program 100 PARQUES (100 parks), with the help of neighbors, government and civil associations to recover and increase the number of quality public spaces within the city.

Photo: courtesy City of Guadalajara



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GUADALAJARA, MEXICO



Guadalajara is a Ciudad Árbol, Tree City of the World.

The Tree Cities of the World program is an international effort to recognize communities committed to ensuring that their urban forests and trees are properly maintained, sustainably managed, and duly celebrated.

The city considers this both an honor and a commitment to develop cities with trees and nature as main elements, that not only beautify the city but also improve the city's public health.

Photo: courtesy City of Guadalajara



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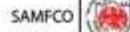
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO



Guadalajara's Green Corridors project, guarantees the ecosystem connectivity between the parks and the green areas across the city.

It is focused on placing new native trees, from the city's nursery, while managing already existing urban trees with the best practices on arboriculture.

Photo: courtesy City of Guadalajara



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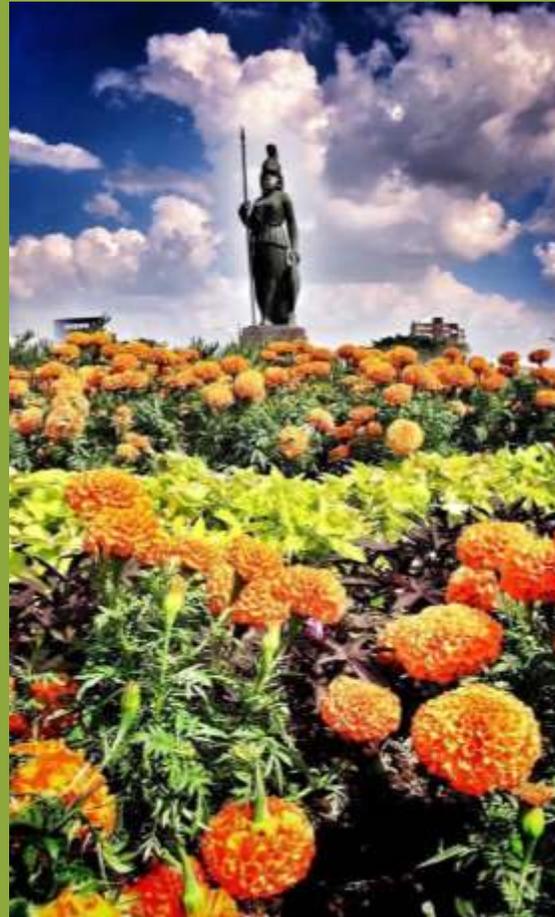


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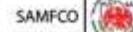
GUADALAJARA, MEXICO



In addition to supporting pollinators, the city is creating diverse habitats for urban species, such as bats and parrots, which help keep the population of mosquitoes in check.

Whereas previously a dead tree would have been removed immediately, now the city does an evaluation before withdrawal and manages it as an asset for urban habitat.

Photos: courtesy City of Guadalajara



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GUADALAJARA, MEXICO



Guadalajara understands that in order to have healthy urban ecosystems, they should give different habitats to the pollinator species, which have been displaced due to urban expansion.

Knowing that all species maintain a balance in their ecosystem services, Guadalajara created the “CONECTANDO CON ALAS” public policy.

Photo: courtesy City of Guadalajara



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MONTRÉAL, CANADA



The **City of Montréal** is in the process of developing a strategy for protecting pollinators.

This strategy will include measures, such as

- the regulations for the number of beehives present in its territory;
- the protection of pollinators into all greening programs from the city;
- the plantation of native and nectar-bearing plants with overlapping flowering period;
- raising awareness of the importance of pollinators.

*Photo: courtesy Robin Beauséjour,
City of Montreal*



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BIODIVERSITY WITHOUT BORDERS MONTRÉAL, CANADA



Monarch Fiesta is an annual family festival put together by the **Insectarium | Montreal Space for Life**.

This event celebrates the monarch butterfly—the iconic species of the Insectarium’s conservation efforts.

This weekend festival is filled with Mexican culture, games and workshops for the whole family, gardening tips and other educational activities.

It represents a great opportunity to learn more about the monarch and raise awareness regarding this endangered species.

Photo: courtesy Mathieu Rivard, Space for Life



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MONTRÉAL, CANADA



Mission Monarch is a citizen science program documenting the monarch's reproductive success across Canada.

This knowledge will allow researchers to identify the monarch's breeding hotspots and implement efficient conservation actions.

The program, run by the **Insectarium | Montreal Space for Life**, is part of an international research and education effort aimed at saving the migratory populations of this endangered species.

Photo: courtesy André-Philippe Drapeau Picard, Space for Life



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BIODIVERSITY WITHOUT BORDERS MONTRÉAL, CANADA



My Space for Life Garden is an initiative that invites Québec's residents and organizations to manage gardens that offer diverse and ecological landscapes in order to foster biodiversity in urban environments.

Their actions can be recognized by the certification of their gardens according to the theme(s) chosen, under established criteria.

Here is an example of a *Monarch Oasis Garden* that renewed its certification this fall.

Photo: courtesy [Isabelle Desrosiers](#),
Space for Life



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