



Botanic Gardens and Sustainability: Providing a Pathway Forward for Humanity and the Planet

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Message from the Guest Editors

If the 20th Century is seen in retrospect as a century of profligate use of natural and other resources, then the 21st Century is being defined as a time of increasing awareness of their diminishing supply. Whether it is energy, water, food, plant and animal species, or biocultural diversity, global struggles at preservation are underway just as countervailing forces are causing their further diminishment and challenges to their sustainability.

This Special Issue will address various approaches botanic gardens across the globe are taking to mitigate these crises and provide for a more livable planet. Often, these progressive programs are conducted in collaboration with other agencies or organizations, and many of them have multiple sustainability targets. Each paper will be structured around the challenges of sustaining a particular resource, and proven approaches to addressing those challenges. The issue seeks to inspire readers toward a vision of a more equitable and sustainable future, based on the key roles botanic gardens can play.

