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Protecting Habitats Protects Life: New *Habitat* Exhibit Arrives at Green Bay Botanical Garden This May

Traveling Exhibit Highlights Importance of Habitats & Local Ecosystems in northeast Wisconsin

(GREEN BAY, WI) (March 31, 2022) — Explore unique habitats found throughout northeast Wisconsin and learn the importance of protecting these natural environments with the exhibition *Habitat*. This traveling exhibit arrives at Green Bay Botanical Garden for its Wisconsin debut this spring and will feature eight different displays highlighting habitats in nature, from birds and butterflies in the air to bugs and fungi underground.

Developed by <u>Smithsonian Gardens</u>, made available by the <u>Smithsonian</u>
<u>Institution Traveling Exhibition Service</u> (SITES), and presented locally by Nature's
Way, *Habitat* will be open to the public starting Sunday, May 1 and will be at the
Garden during regular hours of operation through April of 2023.

The eight displays were hand-crafted by local artists and our Garden Team of staff and volunteers. Sign of the Dragonfly, Monarchs & Meadows, Bug B&B, Dead Wood is Life, and several more displays will be placed at different areas throughout the Garden. These displays will also have educational signs highlighting facts about plants, animals, and organisms along with their specific habitats, how their lifelong homes are being affected, and actions people can take to help protect these habitats.

"There's a delicate ecological balance that's been created over time," says Linda Gustke, Director of Education & Guest Experience. "While our ecosystems face a variety of threats, including pollution, deforestation, and climate change, there's much we, as humans, can do to protect these interconnected habitats, and that's what this exhibit aims to share."

In addition to the exhibit, guests can enjoy a number of family-friendly drop-in and hands-on activities highlighting habitats found in Wisconsin and how to be better stewards of the environment.

The exhibit is included with daily admission to the Garden and is free for Garden members. For more information on the exhibit or the displays, visit GBBG.org/Habitat.

Local Exhibit Sponsors

Nature's Way; Nicolet National Bank; Boldt Construction; Cornerstone Foundation of Northeastern Wisconsin, Inc.; Green Bay Packers Foundation; US Bank – Terri Trantow; Insight Creative, Inc.; Monster Tree Service; Meissner Landscape, Inc.; Robert E. Lee & Associations, Inc.; Cellcom Green Gifts; and Rotary Foundation of Green Bay Inc., Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

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About Green Bay Botanical Garden

Green Bay Botanical Garden connects people with plants by providing year-round educational and recreational experiences for everyone in an environment that engages, inspires, and refreshes. First opened in 1996 and now featuring 47-acres of display gardens and natural areas, the Garden touches the lives of more than 150,000 visitors annually on average from northeast Wisconsin and beyond. For more information about other happenings, visit <u>GBBG.org</u> or call 920.490.9457.

Editors, please note: Captions follow photos below. Interviews, virtual interviews (i.e. Zoom, FaceTime, etc.), pre-recorded videos, story leads, and additional high-resolution digital images are available by contacting the media representative at the top of this release.



Caption:

Garden Team (both staff and volunteers) with completed a life-sized eagle's nest replica to be included in the Nests display of the *Habitat* exhibit. (Photo courtesy Green Bay Botanical Garden)



Caption:

Monarchs & Meadows, one of the eight displays to be located in the Garden, will highlight how meadow habitats are often overlooked, yet critical homes to many wildflowers and pollinators. (Photo courtesy Green Bay Botanical Garden/John Oates Photography)