

Montréal's Ruelles Vertes — Resident-Led Green Alleys, With Uneven Reach and Variable Ecological Returns

PES & Nature-Based Solutions · Good practice · Canada

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Residents convert paved back alleys into vegetated shared spaces: 341 were officially recognised by May 2020 and about 500 by 2021, but they cluster in affluent areas and 2026 field data show only variable ecological gains.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Carbon — sequestration / storage, evidenced	0/3
Biodiversity — conservation / improvement, evidenced	2/3
Water & soil — retention, infiltration, erosion control	1/3
Fire resilience — risk reduction, evidenced	0/3
Governance, certification & transferability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[City of Montréal boroughs / community groups \(Éco-quartiers\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[VRM — Les ruelles vertes de Montréal: spatial disparities](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[Richmond et al. 2026 — Green alleys in Quebec \(Ecosystems & People\)](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

[City of Montréal — Ruelle bleue-verte](#) — accessed 2026-10-01

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