



In a Nutshell...

- Why the Peace Corps?
- Sharing of our experience with the Mexican Culture
 - Life in Mexico
 - Our work
- What We Learned

Why Peace Corps?

- Previous experiences
 - Bolivia
 - Habitat for Humanity
- Influence of family and friends
- Desire for more connection to the people and culture
- Peace Corps' goals seemed right for us

Where is Queretaro?

Queretaro

Training: Peace Corps Goals

- Help the people of interested countries in meeting their need for trained men and women;
- Promote a better understanding of the United States and its people on the part of the people served;
- Promote a better understanding of other peoples on the part of people from the U.S.

Spanish Language Instruction

30 el estado
31 la ciudad
32 el padre
33 el padrino
34 la madre
35 el capatzen
36 el conde

Este idioma, a la hora de ser...

Mexico:

Geography, Politics, Religion, Culture, History

Health and Security...

Toma de Protesta

Swearing In Ceremony

Finding a house and furnishings...

Before and After...

Kitchen

Bathroom

CIDETEQ

(Center of Research and Development in Electrochemistry)



Working together as Counterparts

English Classes

Basic, Intermediate, Advanced

- Four Basic Skills
 - Reading
 - Writing
 - Listening
 - Speaking
- Pronunciation
- TOEFL Preparation
- Cideteq Newsletter

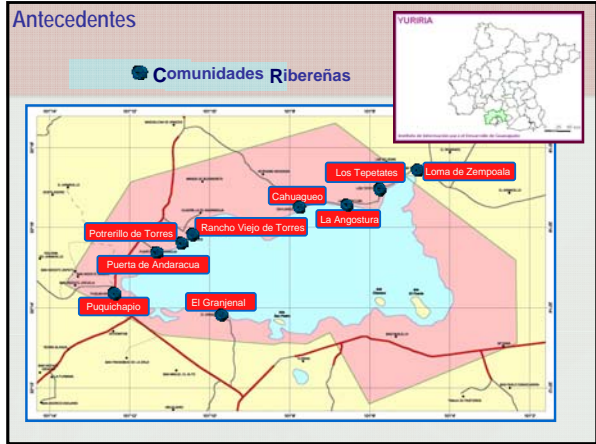
Working at CIDETEQ

- Helping the engineers and researchers
- Training
- Working with graduate students
- Editing papers
- Setting standards

Sustainable treatment systems for small communities

Lago de Yuriria

Loma de Zempoala



Resultados

Humedal FWS : Construcción de la Planta Piloto

Densidad	8.8 Plantas/m ²
Composición	25cm arena 20cm grava
Caudal	3.3 m ³ /d
Dimensiones	1m x 14.48m x 3.13m
Tiempo de residencia	4 días

Diagram illustrating the layout of the FWS (Floating Wetland System) showing the flow direction and the placement of the plant beds. The diagram is labeled with 'FWS' and 'SF'.

Primera Etapa Segunda Etapa



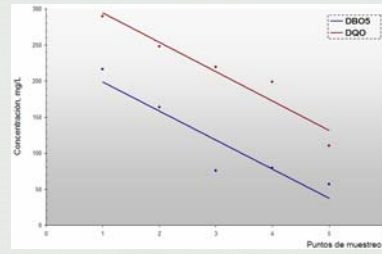
Pilot testing a wetlands treatment system



Resultados – Nivel Planta Piloto

Comportamiento observado

REMOCIÓN DE DBO₅ Y DQO A TRAVÉS DEL TREN DE TRATAMIENTO PROPUESTO



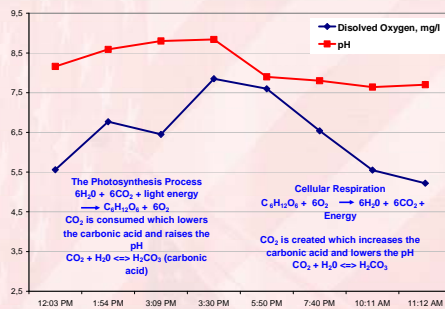
Número de pruebas: 15

Primera Etapa Segunda Etapa

El Límon



Eutrophication is Taking Place



The Photosynthesis Process
 $6H_2O + 6CO_2 + \text{light energy} \rightarrow C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2$
 CO_2 is consumed which lowers the carbonic acid and raises the pH
 $CO_2 + H_2O \leftrightarrow H_2CO_3$ (carbonic acid)

Cellular Respiration
 $C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 \rightarrow 6H_2O + 6CO_2 + \text{Energy}$
 CO_2 is created which increases the carbonic acid and lowers the pH
 $CO_2 + H_2O \leftrightarrow H_2CO_3$

Rio Lerma





Environmental Improvements in Mexico

- Some progress is being made
- Sustainable technology is needed
- New technology is promising



An opportunity to meet native English speakers...

Share ideas and ask questions

Learn about the U.S. Election Process







Super Tuesday



Election Night 2008

Learn how to play





Enjoy a Thanksgiving Feast and Pie Night








Sing Karaoke in English...



Meet new people...



Practice English...



Get to know other Peace Corps volunteers...








Things we learned...

- Mexicans are extremely patriotic and proud of their country



- Mexicans are proud of their birthplace




Things we learned..

- Mexicans love to prepare and eat their regional dishes



Things we learned...

- People in Mexico make do with what is available



What we learned...

- The concept of time in Mexico can be very confusing to gringos

En un rato!

What we learned...

- Eating is a process, not just a means to the end



What we learned...

- Mexicans take their children everywhere with them and they love to go into the town squares



Summary

- We miss the people that we got to know and the richness of their culture
- Change happens one person at a time
- If you ever have the opportunity to volunteer in a new culture, go for it!

