

## HOLMDEL TOWNSHIP

2023

March 22, 2022 Holmdel Township passed a resolution supporting the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, with a public proclamation to raise awareness and educate our residents in order to engage them in their own gardens.

Working with Eagle scouts, we are building a Monarch butterfly sanctuary at Bayonet Farm, a preserved historical park. This will be a beautiful area sectioned off and when completed, it will have signage, explaining how this field is now dedicated to helping save the monarch butterfly, its plight and how we can all help! This will be a special and very beautiful place! The scouts are creating this unusual place in hopes of having it full of butterflies by spring 2023!!!

After meeting with our local community gardeners, they planted milkweed and pollinator-friendly plants. An entire section of this space is dedicated to the monarch butterfly!! The entire community watches as these bloom!

We continue to work with our Public Works department pointing out how they should avoid mowing where milkweed exists, especially on medians.

Through work with local scout troops, and social media, we have continued to raise awareness about the decline of the species, the dangers of chemical herbicides on our lawns, fields and gardens. The importance of education and giving away free milkweed seeds!!!!

We are very excited to be a part of this program and look forward to more projects and developments as we all move forward towards a butterfly friendly world!!

Sincere thanks,

Laurie LaRussa

For Mayor Greg Buontempo, the Holmdel Township committee and community!!