# City of Joplin

Joplin, MO

City Manager Nick Edwards

## Pledge Summary

Joplin, a community over 50,000 people, is located in the southwest region of Missouri. We share borders with Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas. Our residents and area communities are passionate about nature and the well-being of the Monarch Butterfly. We have provided habitat and pollinators that will help the Monarch Butterfly thrive in our area now, and for years to come!

## Action Items Committed for 2025

### Communications and Convening

- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)
- Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

### Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

## Past Pledge Archive

| Mayor Name | Program Year | Pledge Date | Achievement |
|---|---|---|---|
| City Manager Nick Edwards | 2025 | 1/24/2025 | |
| Mayor Douglas Lawson | 2023 | 4/18/2023 | |
| Mayor Ryan Stanley | 2021 | 3/9/2021 | |

## Action Items

**In total, how many individuals have been reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan-Dec)? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).**

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100

**Of the total number of individuals engaged, how many youth (0-18) were reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan. - Dec.)? If none, please write 0." (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.)**

0

**In total, how many acres of monarch habitat have been created in your city in the last 12 months? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 3). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.**

4

**Where was the habitat created this year? Example locations may include residences, schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, shared public spaces, and more.**

roadside

**How are you leveraging the Mayors' Monarch Pledge program to engage marginalized communities, such as low-income communities or communities of color?**

teaching them the importance of pollinators to our community

**What was your community's motivation for taking and continuing to work on the Mayors' Monarch Pledge?**

better place to live

**What resources have been most helpful to you thus far and what new resources would you like to see to help meet your goals? What resources would be useful to help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?**

plant sales and our local utility group, Conversation department and partnerships with nature groups

**What else should we know about your monarch butterfly conservation efforts over the last year?**

We are always looking for other areas to add monarch butterfly conservation areas.

## Selected Action Items

### Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you

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## have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

**Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).**

most of our communication is through social media and hosting events.

## Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

**How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)**

was not tracked

**How many people attended your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)**

500

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to host the event?**

Liberty Utilities, Missouri Department of Conservation, Wildcat Glades Nature Group

## Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

**How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.**

Parks and Recreation, along with Public Works for the City of Joplin participated. We also have the Wildcat Glades Nature Group.

**Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions/maintenance implemented for mowing or planting programs.**

Host classes and programs. We have implemented a Parks Maintenance program that includes maintaining prairie areas and habitat.

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