City of Waukesha

Waukesha, WI

Mayor Shawn Reilly

Pledge Summary

The City of Waukesha is a community of approximately 70,000 residents. Residents are committed to protecting the Monarch Butterfly. The Mayor has supported their efforts and that of staff by endorsing the pledge for several years. The City has a Community Butterfly Garden, milkweed plantings and low mow areas to assist the Monarch. Educational sessions are also offered as part of the Arbor Day Celebration and has been incorporated into the Environmental Education Programs.

Action Items Committed for 2022

Communications and Convening

- Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.
- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- 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

- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Shawn Reilly	2026	2/3/2026	
Mayor Shawn Reilly	2025	4/4/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Shawn Reilly	2024	2/20/2024	Signatories
Mayor Shawn Reilly	2023	3/14/2023	Signatories
Mayor Shawn Reilly	2022	5/7/2022	Signatories
Mayor Shawn Reilly	2021	3/15/2021	

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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.).

28500

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.)

30 youth, 20 adults, 28,000 household with Activity Guide

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.

0.1

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.

Maintained 2 acres. EB Shurts Environment Center, Fox Riverbank in Frame Park, Owens Dr. (public right of way), Rivers Crossing Park and Heyer Park.

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

EB Shurts is open to the public for all to use. As part of our Arbor Day Celebration area school's are part of this tree planting. All students are involved with the Environment Education at EB Shurts and have learned about pollinator's as part of their curriculum.

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

Pollinators such as the Monarch, are important to our ecosystem and thus worthy of informing, educating and demonstrating ways to assist as part of our mission.

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?

Overall informational resources have been helpful.

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

We will be looking forward to 2023, when we make an additional plea for help with our Community Butterfly Garden at EB Shurts by having the community plant pollinator friendly items from their home gardens at EB Shurts.

Selected Action Items

Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Date of Proclamation:

May 3, 2022

Title of Proclamation (i.e. – Monarch Day or Pollinator Week):

Monarch Butterfly Proclamation

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Council Minutes 05.03.22.pdf

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Butterfly Month- 2022-signed.pdf

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Monarch Butterfly Article - Fall Activity Guide 2022.pdf

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

The Parks Supervisor and City Forester presented to Spring City Garden Club on September 18, 2022. An article on pollinators and Monarch Butterflies was featured in our Fall 2022 Activity Guide sent out to 28.000 city resident households. A copy of the page is provided.

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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.

One - Spring City Garden Club

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

Continue the low mow and no mow areas along the Fox Riverbank in Frame Park as well as along Owens Drive. Spring City Garden Club assisted in planting bulbs in the Frame Formal Gardens that are pollinator friendly. Maintain natural areas at Rivers Crossing and Heyer parks.

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Butterfly Garden.jpg

Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)

EB Shurts Environmental Education Center, 810 W. College Ave., Waukesha, WI 53186

What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?

Waukesha School District, Spring City Garden Club, Carroll University

What is the size of the demonstration garden (in acres)? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 0.5 acres). For reference, 1 acre = 43,560 square feet and is about the size of a football field without the end zones. Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.25

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

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Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

Owens Drive by Police Station (1901 Delafield St, Waukesha, WI 53188. This is also an entrance to Parks, Recreation and Forestry maintenance center.) Also planted at Rivers Crossing (3703 Rivers Crossing Dr., Waukesha 53189) and Heyer Parks (1121 Heyer Dr., Waukesha 53186) along pathways and natural areas in 2021. Pollinator friendly plants and milkweed planted around EB Shurts Building (810 West College Avenue, Waukesha 53186). Started in 2021, finished in 2022. Amount of plants unknown for 2022.

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

0

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

Maintainged 1/2 acre area along the public right away. Also, maintained milkweed along the Fox Riverbank and continued with the no mow efforts.

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Areas are cut once in the Fall to keep invasive plants under control.

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