# Deerfield Township, Warren County

Deerfield Township, OH

President - Board of Trustees Kristin Malhotra

## Pledge Summary

Deerfield Township spans 16 square miles in the southwest corner of Warren County, Ohio, and has borders with both Hamilton and Butler Counties. It is currently the most populous jurisdiction in the county with over 38,000 residents. Deerfield Township is committed to helping preserve the monarch butterfly and looks forward to working with community members to make Deerfield Township as attractive to monarch butterflies as it is to its residents and visitors.

## Action Items Committed for 2021

### 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 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.
- Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

### Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

## Past Pledge Archive

| Mayor Name | Program Year | Pledge Date | Achievement |
|---|---|---|---|
| President - Board of Trustees Kristin Malhotra | 2021 | 3/17/2021 | Signatories |

## 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**

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**number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).**

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.)**

30 youth and 70 adult

**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.**

30

**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.**

Kingswood Park, Roberts Park,

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

The pledge is a Township wide program and our goal is to encourage participation from the Loveland Park Community along the Little Miami River which is primarily a low income area in the Township.

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

The Township Trustees are active in supporting Parks programs and they have an emphasis on promoting sustainability and increasing pollinators in the Township

**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?**

Partnering with the Ohio River Foundation and the Cincinnati Nature Center have proved to be a huge resource to us because of their extensive knowledge and capable workers that give us direction and advice. and

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

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Visiting the parks, we have seen an increase in butterflies and wildlife in general through the efforts started this year under the Monarch Butterfly conservation efforts. We look forward to advancing monarch butterfly activities in the upcoming year.

## 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:**

April 6, 2021

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge Day

**Upload a copy of your proclamation.**

MONARCH.pdf

### 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.

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

ORF Kingswood invoice 09142021.pdf

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

ORF Kingswood invoice 11042021.pdf

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

Deerfield Township Service Department Ohio River Foundation Various Deerfield Township Volunteer Groups

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

Ohio River Foundation held several community volunteer events at Kingswood Park which is roughly 80 acres of parkland. Approximately 1,500 harmful invasive bushes and trees

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were removed at each event and they targeted honeysuckle, Callery Pear, Multiflora Rose and Russian Olive. The Service Department provided equipment and followed up with chip[ping the items that were generated by the volunteers.

## Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

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

Cincy Nature Center Prairie Mix.pdf

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

Kingswood Prairie.pdf

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

Cincinnati Nature Center Various Volunteer Groups Service Department

**Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and their monarch butterfly conservation efforts.**

The Cincinnati Nature center increased the plant diversity and improved the natural habitat at Kingswood Park. This work includes the creation of a native prairie, which we spotted the three common milkweeds commonly seen in this area, and also created a prairie trail along with pollinator gardens along the trails.

## Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

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

Kingswood CNC.jpg

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

KINGSWOOD CNC1.jpg

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

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KINGSWOOD CNC2.jpg

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

Cincinnati Nature Center. Service Department

**How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)**

2500

**Please describe your effort in completing this action.**

We partnered with the Cincinnati nature center to plant acres of native grass seed that attract pollinators and wildlife to the area.

## Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

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

ORF Kingswood invoice 09142021.pdf

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

ORF Kingswood invoice 11042021.pdf

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

Kingswood - General Info Flier.pdf

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

Kingswood-Flier-Final.pdf

**What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.**

20 acres

**Please describe the extent of revisions or maintenance to invasive species removal programs, as well as the practices or techniques used to remove the invasive plants.**

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Invasive species such as honeysuckle, Callery Pears etc., will be cut, chipped and removed from property without removing the understory plants.

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