City of Manassas

Manassas, VA

Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger

Pledge Summary

Manassas is an urban habitat of 45,000 people located 30 miles southwest of Washington, DC. The city is 10 square miles and has 230 acres of parkland and open space. In 2020 the City adopted a goal that Manassas would be a sustainable and resilient city that values the environment, encourages access to nature, and provides a safe, pleasant and healthy community for residents of all ages, abilities and incomes. A strategy to achieving that goal includes "supporting the conservation of local and regional biodiversity by promoting the protection and enhancement of native plant communities and pollinator and wildlife habitats while managing invasive plant and animal species.

Action Items Committed for 2026

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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger	2026	5/4/2026	
Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger	2025	3/13/2025	Signatories
Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger	2024	3/29/2024	Signatories
Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger	2023	2/15/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger	2022	3/16/2022	Signatories

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Mayor Michelle Davis-Younger	2021	3/22/2021	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 number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

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.)

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.

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.

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

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

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?

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

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.

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

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

Mon1.jpg

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

mon3.jpg

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

50

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

1000

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

Beautification Committee, Manassas Bee Festival Committee, Master Gardeners

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Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

mon2.jpg

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

Mon1.jpg

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

mon3.jpg

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

mon4.jpg

How many estimated individuals attended the event? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field ((Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only), e.g. 500)

1000

What was the date of your festival?

June 20, 2026

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

Beautification Committee, Manassas Bee Festival Committee, Master Gardeners

Please describe the details of your monarch butterfly festival and how you ensured the event was accessible by all residents in the community (e.g., events, length, notable successes, outreach, location).

The City of Manassas celebrates Pollinator's and Bee preservation each year in June. The event was held at the Historic Liberia Manor and grounds, with many vendors and festivities. The event is broadcasted through many committees to include City of Manassas Beautification Committee, Bee Festival Committee, Master Gardeners, Social Media and

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the Cities Official Website. The event was held on June 20th 2026 with roughly 1000 visitors.

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