City of Mountain Park

Mountain Park, GA

Mayor Jim Still, Jr

Pledge Summary

Mountain Park is a small City of less than 800, a Wildlife Refuge and part of Tree City USA. We encourage our citizens to participate in growing milkweeds and protecting Monarch Butterflies. All year long and especially during yearly Earth Day celebrations, we make milkweed plants and milkweed seeds available. We encourage our citizens to NOT Grow the Common milkweed (asclepias syriaca) nor the Tropical or Scarlet Milkweed (Asclepias curassavica). Both are not native to Georgia and have the potential to escape from gardens and take over the habitats where our native milkweeds now grow! We have been planting and growing from seed NATIVE milkweed here in our Mountain Park Community Garden, right at City Hall and now also on the Mountain Park Green and along right of ways in the city proper starting in 2016.

Action Items Committed for 2023

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

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- 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.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Systems Change

- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Charles Kolbrener	2026	1/27/2026	
Mayor Charles (Bill) Kolbrener	2025	4/14/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Jim Still, Jr	2023	3/3/2023	Signatories
Mayor Jim Still, Jr	2022	2/9/2022	Leadership Circle
Mayor Jim Still Jr	2021	12/8/2020	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.).

30

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.)

5

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.

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.

residence gardens, balconies, rights of way, community garden

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

Our city is integrated, very small

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

Mountain Parkers love the environment, since we are living in a Wildlife refuge. Also, some old-timers remember that we used to have lots and lots of monarchs every year stopping

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by.

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?

It would be helpful to receive a insightful and fun tip each month that I could ask the mayor to add to his newsletter about Monarchs and Milkweeds emailed to me.

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

The spread of milkweeds is slowly growing and increasing around town and new people are showing an interest. Many kids are better informed than the parents and have learned about Monarchs in school.

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 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).

Maybe we could issue it in Spanish also. Monthly mayor's letter, but mostly around Earth Day.

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

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

Community Garden, Civic Club

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)

10

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

25

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

Council members, civic club, community Garden leaders

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.

Chrysalis.jpg

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:

08MAR23

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Pledge 2023.pdf

Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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

Civic Club, Mountain Park Organic Garden

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

in progress

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If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

It will be ongoing in order to keep expanding the milkweed program in Mountain Park

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

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)

Outside city hall and the civic Center

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

Civic Club, Garden Club

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.

0.5

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

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

Milkweed.jpg

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

Several neighbors have contributed in this effort to plant milkweeds behind Stop Signs

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

10

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

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of a football field.

1

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

none except some watering during droughts

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