Township of Carling

Carling, ON

Mayor Susan Murphy

Pledge Summary

The Township of Carling is a rural municipality located in Northern Ontario. This will be the fifth time we have taken the Mayors Monarch Pledge. We will continue to promote a monarch friendly environment within the Township by educating our ratepayers and our staff. We will continue to grow our monarch garden and will encourage our ratepayers to do the same.

Action Items Committed for 2023

Communications and Convening

- 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

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

Systems Change

- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Susan Murphy	2023	3/28/2023	Signatories
Mayor Mike Konoval	2021	3/25/2021	Signatories

Action Items

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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.).

2000

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.)

300 youth; 1700 adults

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.

0.15

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.

Township Office, Recreation Centre, Waste Sites and Ball Field.

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

Researching how to take seeds from existing plants to package and give away. (example seed bombs)

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

For the love of the monarch butterfly. Monarchs are pollinators and without them many wildflowers and crops would not exist.

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?

Seeing how other communties are finding ways to engage their communities. Researching fun new ways to reach, spike interest in the children during school and community events.

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

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Currently have another canoe getting supports and painted. This canoe will be ready come spring to be placed at another water access site in the township. Our water access sights get hundreds of people each year.

Selected Action Items

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.

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

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

Every year we have Georgian Bay Biosphere come and assess, work in our butterfly gardens. They offer great advice on how to maintain the gardens and which plants we should consider adding.

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

Georgian Bay Biosphere

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)

Township Office

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

Georgian Bay Biosphere

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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.

0.15

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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

Canoe Butterfly Garden.jpg

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

Township Public Works, Roads Manager

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

In Progress.

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

Although safety is the township's main focus while maintaining the roads, the township road manager has been very receptive and is aware of the roadside milkweed locations. The township will continue to NOT over brush. The majority of the milkweed is far enough back that it remains untouched throughout the monarch reproduction cycle.

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