Borough of Carnegie

Carnegie, PA

Mayor Stacie Riley

Pledge Summary

The Borough of Carnegie is located in southwestern Pennsylvania and has an estimated population of 7,800. The borough is home to the beautiful Carnegie Municipal Park as well as three additional community parks and rain gardens located throughout the business district. Mayor Riley of Carnegie, PA has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with her signing of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the city.

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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.
- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

- Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- 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.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- 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.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Samuel Bigham	2026	1/8/2026	
Mayor Stacie Riley	2025	12/11/2024	Monarch Champions
Mayor Stacie Riley	2024	12/5/2023	Monarch Champions
Mayor Stacie Riley	2023	12/8/2022	Monarch Champions
Mayor Stacie Riley	2022	12/15/2021	Monarch Champions
Mayor Stacie Riley	2021	3/29/2021	Leadership Circle

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

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.).

8134

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.)

ages 0-18 - 16.6% adults 83.4%

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.

Carnegie Municipal Park, East and West Main Parking Lot Medians, Parklet on East Main Street, Empty Lot on West Main, and Yards

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

Our butterfly festival took place at opening day of the farmers market where Fresh Access enables shoppers to use SNAP benefits. All Carnegie census tracts are distressed.

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

Community interest as well as the Shade Tree Commission and Mayor Riley.

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?

We used NWF's online resources to gather information for our virtual monarch butterfly conservation classroom.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

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

We were so happy to find so many members of our residential and business community showing interest in our butterfly conservation efforts.

Selected Action Items

Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.

How many estimated individuals participated in your challenge? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 100).

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

When did this challenge take place?

What is the total acreage of habitat created? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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.

Please describe your challenge and the results.

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 12, 2021

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

Mayor Stacie Riley Monarch Pledge Proclamation

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation-Monarch-StacieRiley-4-12-21.jpg

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

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).

Monarch Butterfly Conservation Page http://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch/

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.

Added a butterfly rain garden through the Shade Tree Commission and volunteers with funding from PA American Water and DLC Community grants. 88 natives including milkweed were planted on two different weekends. http://www.carnegieborough.com/raingarden/plants.htm

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.

The Shade Tree Commission planted milkweed in our East and West Main Street Rain Gardens in April and May and discussed maintenance with Carnegie Public Works Department. Land Force completed maintenance in October. A maintenance plan was created with input from our Shade Tree Commission, Western PA Conservancy, and Landforce. http://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

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

Public Works received copies of the maintenance plan and met with Land Force, Western PA Conservancy, and members of the Shade Tree Commission to learn to identify milkweed and native nectars and differentiate weeds from beneficial plants and to understand maintenance revisions and additions.

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.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

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)

500

What was the date of your festival?

July 11, 2021

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

Mayor Stacie Riley, Carnegie Shade Tree Commission, Carlynton National Honor Society,

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).

Our Butterfly Festival took place in the East Main Parking Lot, the site of butterfly rain gardens. Nearby East Main Street was opening day of our farmers market. Our Shade Tree Commission handed out milkweed seeds and education information to attendees of all ages. A local artist helped attendees of all ages create butterflies on canvas using acrylic paint. Our junior councilperson and a member of Carlynton's National Honor Society made monarch butterfly masks with children. Market vendors promoted the event with butterfly themed products and graphics.

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

Shade Tree Commission

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

complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

Meetings between Shade Tree Commission and Public Works revealed that harmful chemicals were already not being used.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

Shade Tree Commission

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

complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

The Borough of Carnegie does not have a noxious plant list.

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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

Shade Tree Commission

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.

We do not have a master parks plan but we are currently working on a climate action plan and in the near future will begin working on a conservation plan. Both plans will include monarch butterfly conservation integration.

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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

The Shade Tree Commission, Land Force and the Western PA Conservancy collaborated to create a rain and butterfly garden maintenance plan and met with Carnegie's public

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

works department to review the plan.

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

complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

October 22, 2021 - http://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).

500

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

Carnegie Elementary, Carnegie Library, Carnegie Shade Tree Commission and the community at large

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

Our junior councilperson introduced our virtual rain garden classroom to 5th grade science teacher from Carnegie Elementary who uses it to teach students last year and this year. Walking excursions to the skatepark rain garden will take place in the spring. http://www.carnegieborough.com/raingarden/ Mayor Riley and administrative borough staff supplied educational material and art projects to promote monarch butterfly conservation on Earth Day (Thursday, April 22, 2021) at the Carnegie Library. http://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch/ The Shade Tree Commission provided educational information on milkweed and handed out milkweed seeds at our Monarch Butterfly Festival held on July 11, 2021.

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.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

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

Shade Tree Commission

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.

The Shade Tree Commission has been working with our public works department on how to identify native milkweed and nectars as they continue to plant more in each rain and butterfly garden.

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)

West Main Street, Carnegie, PA

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

Shade Tree Commission and Carnegie Community Development Corporation

What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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

How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)

1

Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.

The entire 5 lots have not been converted but a large section is being used as a butterfly garden. Native nectars and milkweed were planted by the Shade Tree Commission. Lot and Block 103-R-162 103-R-160 103-R-158 103-R-156 103-R-154

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.

Please describe the process to create the strategy , the strategy goals and content, and/or results of implementation. Please also identify who was engaged in this process, what partnerships were established, and how you engaged these groups. Provide a link, if possible.

http://www.carnegieborough.com/raingarden/ http://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch/ Our virtual classrooms were developed by administration, junior council, the Shade Tree Commission, and Mayor Riley. Our goal is to educate the community on the importance of habitat creation, native plants, beneficial pollinators, and stormwater management. Currently we have engaged students at Carnegie Elementary and the community at the Monarch Butterfly Festival and Earth Day at the Library. We have plans to continue that engagement along with translations into Ukrainian, Arabic, and Spanish.

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?

Shade Tree Commission

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.

Mayor Riley and the borough manager are currently discussing how to implement this ordinance in 2022.

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.

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

Shade Tree Commission

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

Several discussions with Shade Tree members on native plant and maintenance education and how to perform community outreach.

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

Shade Tree Commission

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

We are working with the Shade Tree Commission to complete action items for the National Wildlife Federations Community Wildlife Habitat application.

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)

Lot and Block 103-L-75 - This is a parklet that spans from East Main Street to Brown Way

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

176

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.

1

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

The Shade Tree Commission will maintain this garden throughout the year with more work completed during Spring and Summer months. Parklet - 4 milkweed, 4 coneflower, 6 cardinal flower, and 2 bee balm with several wild goldenrod and ironweed. East Main Street Parking Lot Medians - 150 plants West Main Street Parking Lot Medians - 100 plants Plants include: New England Asters, Service Berry, Praire Star, Common Milkweed, Swamp Milkweed, Showy Milkweed

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

Shade Tree Commission

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 50).

15

Please describe the community art project that was implemented in your community and how it contributed to cultural awareness and recognition (e.g., number of art installations, type of art).

We are currently working on a plan for a community art project that contributes to cultural awareness and recognition that will be displayed at the butterfly garden located at 17 E Main or one of the gardens located in parking lots or at Carnegie Park. Administrative Assistant Deneen Underwood is a former school art teacher and currently teaches afterschool art programs using her multi-cultural curriculum.

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)

Skatepark and Dog Park

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

Shade Tree Commission, Junior Council, Carlynton School District

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.

.5

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? If you are involved with another National Wildlife Federation program, please mention that below. (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

Virtual Rain Garden and Monarch Butterfly Conservation Virtual Classrooms

How many schools, community groups, leaders, or centers were engaged in this effort? How many of these collaborations and partnerships are "new"? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

3

Please list the names of the schools you are working with.

Carnegie Elementary Carlynton High School Boys and Girls Club of Carnegie

What resources, if any, are you providing to educators?

Virtual Classrooms and outdoor gardens, printed material will be added in the spring.

How many students and educators would you estimate are being reached? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

150 students and 4 educators

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

Carlynton School District and Boys and Girls Club of Carnegie

How many acres of monarch and pollinator habitat have been planted through this effort? 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

What is the maintenance schedule to ensure planted habitat is maintained?

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

http://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

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

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

Shade Tree Commission

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

12

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Milkweed was planted in the vacant lot next to the Carnegie Historical Society on West Main Street as well as a parklet nearby on East Main Street.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

1

Please describe the educational information on the sign(s), and provide any links to externally purchased sign(s).

Currently there is a sign at the Dog Park Rain Garden in Carnegie Park. We are in the design stage for signs for the following locations: Carnegie Park Skatepark Rain Garden East and West Main Parking Lot Rain Gardens Future 7th Avenue Park Rain Garden

Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

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

Carnegie Borough Council and Shade Tree Commission

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

in progress

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

n/a

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

We are currently in the discussion phase.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u321:v1.14.0.49966]