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 8,000. 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 borough.

Action Items Committed for 2023

Communications and Convening

- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.
- 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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- 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 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.
- 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

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- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- 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.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- 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.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- 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 native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- 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).
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

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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

Action Items

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.

2

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

Each year community interest increases. The Pledge is very special to Mayor Riley. She is committed to its continuation.

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?

NWF's online resources, webinars, meetings, and grants for plants as well as the NWF habitat certification program.

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.).

500

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 Borough Building, Carnegie Municipal Park, East and West Main Parking Lot Medians, Parklet on East and West Main Streets, Empty Lot on West Main, and private lawns.

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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 the farmers market where Fresh Access enables shoppers to use SNAP benefits. Two of Carnegie's three census tracts are distressed. All events took place at walkable locations.

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.)

unknown

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

We were so happy again this year to find even more interest from all community segments including residents of all ages and the business community. We are thrilled with the amount of additional interest since signing up for NWF habitat certification program.

Selected Action Items

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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

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

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:

August 14, 2023

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day in Carnegie

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

proclamation2023A.pdf

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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.

Shade Tree Commission volunteers maintained our borough butterfly garden located at our municipal building. Native nectar producing plants and milkweed were given away at our annual butterfly festival to residents and garden groups.

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

BoroughButterflyGarden.pdf

Create a community art project to enhance and promote 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.

public-art-project.jpg

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).

Carnegie artist and Shade Tree Commission Vice President Alicia Kesneck created a Monarch butterfly display featured at the Carnegie Library. The display was unveiled at the 2023 Earth Day Celebration and depicts the life cycle of the Monarch Butterfly. The Andrew Carnegie Free Library's programs and events specifically target low-income and immigrant communities, children, and seniors. They provide free internet access to residents who are unable to afford at-home service. Large crowds of all ages, abilities, and ethnicities visit the library each week making this public art piece highly visible to the community. The Library is the location of every annual Earth Day Celebration.

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

Carnegie Shade Tree Commission, Carnegie Library Director and Children's Librarian, Junior Council, Carlynton School District

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).

8

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

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

800

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

Shade Tree Commission, Carnegie Elementary PTA, Artist Alicia Kesneck, Mayor Stacie Riley

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

bf2.jpg

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

bf3.jpg

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

bf11.jpg

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

bf13.jpg

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

400

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

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.

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

Shade Tree Commission, Department of Public Works, Mayor Riley, Carnegie Borough Council

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

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in progress

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

Shade Tree Commission, Climate Action Task Force, Carnegie Planning Commission

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 have discussed with the planning commission on inclusion in our next comprehensive plan which is currently in the planning stage. Planning commission members and community attendees were very receptive to the idea.

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.

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

Carnegie Shade Tree Commission, Carnegie Elementary PTA, Artist Alicia Kesneck, Mayor Stacie Riley, Climate Action Task Force

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

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

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

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

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

bf13.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)

800

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 Monarch Butterfly Festival took place during our Farmers Market on August 20, 2023 from noon to 3:00pm. Over 400 native nectar and milkweed plants were given to attendees along with watering cans, and watering globes by the Carnegie Shade Tree Commission and volunteers. Artist Alicia Kesneck made tie dye butterfly shirts, created chalk art with children, and handed out coloring books and crayons. The Carnegie PTA provided monarch butterfly face painting. Shade Tree volunteers and State Rep Anita Kulik were in attendance to answer questions and discuss monarch butterfly conservation. A-Frames with educational information were available. Local news crews showed up but had to leave quickly before interviewing us because of an accident in downtown Pittsburgh. The festival took place near a butterfly mural on the side of building. A Monarch Princess was available for photos. The location was in a flat parking lot with 6 handicap spaces next to the East Main Street Farmers Market, a walkable distance for most residents. Pictures and information https://carnegieborough.com/monarch/ and https://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch/festival23.html

What was the date of your festival?

August 20, 2023

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

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

450

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

In 2022 more than 300 and in 2023 150 milkweed plants were planted in public spaces and many were also given to residents who planted them on their private property. Public Space Milkweed Map https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1d2UyKBpv_-oGzCuHy6t3NfTbrfk6wks&ll=40.407004770976776%2C-80.08706875003051&z=16

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

Shade Tree Commission, Mayor Stacie Riley, Borough Administration

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, Borough Administration

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

National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program - https://www.nwf.org/communitywildlifehabitat/Community?communityId=403

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.

When did this challenge take place?

July 9, 2023

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).

250

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.

2

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

Shade Tree Commission, Department of Public Works, PTA

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Please describe your challenge and the results.

Members of the Shade Tree Commission gave away milkweed seeds and handed out educational material on opening day of our farmers market. Recipients were challenged to monitor milkweed they planted at home and report to the Shade Tree Commission when eggs, caterpillars, and monarchs appear. Members of the Shade Tree Commission report that many of the milkweed recipients reported the numerous stages throughout the summer. At this event, volunteers also discussed volunteer rain/butterfly garden clean up events and joining the NWF Community Wildlife Habitat program and certified gardens.

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

Shade Tree Commission, Climate Action Task Force, Carlynton School District, Bishop Canevin High School, Junior Council

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)

Milkweed Plant Giveaway and Monarch Butterfly Creative Competition

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.

2

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

Virtual Classrooms and outdoor gardens, printed and digital material.

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

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

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

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(e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

400 students 8 educators

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)

4

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

Carnegie Elementary Carlynton High School Bishop Canevin High School Carnegie Elementary PTA - new Carnegie Boys and Girls Club - hope to have participation for next year.

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

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.

2

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Carnegie Department of Public Works Page 9-14 https://carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

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

The Shade Tree Commission and volunteers planted periodically throughout the spring and with their help borough administration created a milkweed map for the community. Skatepark Rain Garden Veterans Memorial at Carnegie Park Behind Outer Fence at Dog Park East Main Rain Garden medians East Main Parklet right of way Lot Next to Historical Society West Main Parklet right of way Carnegie Borough Building Plants include: Coneflowers, Cardinal Flowers, Mexican Sunflowers, Blue Mistflower, New England Asters, Salvia, Hyssop, English Lavender, Spanish Lavender, Common Milkweed, Swamp Milkweed, Showy Milkweed https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1d2UyKBpv_-oGzCuHy6t3NfTbrfk6wks&ll=40.40528096975207%2C-80.08301325&z=16

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

500

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Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

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.

.13

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

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

511 Diamond Alley

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

Shade Tree Commission, Borough Administration

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

Milkweed was planted during the summer. Soil testing is in progress. This spring the area will be planted with vegetables, native nectars, monarch friendly bushes, and more milkweed. We have identified 3 additional locations and will explore those options in 2024.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

400

Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.

Carnegie Library Earth Day Celebration - visitors were instructed how and when to collect the seeds and when to replant. This project is in progress.

What species were collected or propagated?

Common Milkweed, Swamp Milkweed

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

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Shade Tree Commission, Carnegie Library, Junior Council

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?

Borough Administration

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

complete - https://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Carnegie_LCAP_August1-2022.pdf

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.

August 8, 2022 - adopted by council

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Met with Planning Commission members (April meeting) who are currently organizing data for new municipal comprehensive plan regarding the inclusion of monarch habitat and climate action items in new plan. Resident also in attendance discussed his lawn which he transformed into a natural native wildflower habitat that no longer needs mowing.

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.

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

The Shade Tree Commission continues to plant and maintain milkweed in our East and West Main Street Rain Gardens, Parklets on East and West Main Street, a monarch garden at the borough building, Carnegie Park Rain Gardens, and various public spaces. They continued discussions on garden maintenance with Carnegie Public Works Department. Members of the department completed maintenance in November directed by a maintenance plan created in 2021 with input from our Shade Tree Commission, Western

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PA Conservancy, and Landforce.
https://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

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

Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

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, Parklets on East and West Main Street, a new monarch garden at the borough building, Carnegie Park Rain Gardens, and various public spaces between April-June. They continued discussions on garden maintenance with Carnegie Public Works Department. Members of the department completed maintenance in September directed by a maintenance plan created last year with input from our Shade Tree Commission, Western PA Conservancy, and Landforce.
http://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-ManagementBioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf

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).

Borough administration, Shade Tree Commission members, and junior council participated at the Carnegie Library's annual Earth Day event where they gave away butterfly garden planting kits, educational material, and coloring books. Visitors were directed to view the borough's Monarch public art display on the first floor and were given contact information for Shade Tree members. Communications are made through printed materials available at the borough building, library historical society, local businesses; social media - Facebook, NextDoor; online event listings; print publications Pittsburgh City Paper and Pittsburgh Magazine, as well as flyers sent to the school district and private schools. Methods completed by borough administration and junior council. Monarch Butterfly booklets were passed out at our Butterfly Festival in August along with native plant and milkweed care sheets. A-Frame signs were on display at the Monarch Butterfly Festival and Earth Day at the library. Our Monarch education page at https://carnegieborough.com/monarch/ contains animations explaining diet, migration, and history along with links to proclamations, milkweed map, and event photos.

Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other

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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.

Several discussions with Shade Tree members on native plants, milkweed, maintenance education and pollinator habitat conservation with Mayor Riley, borough administration, public works department, and residents. Several trees were planted near pollinator gardens by WPC and the Shade Tree Commission in the summer. Shade Tree president Gina Thornberg has met with community members and gardeners and has spoken with the Western PA Conservancy in regards to the NWF Habitat Certification program. The location for our community garden has been confirmed and Shade Tree vice president Alicia Kesneck has submitted soil for testing and begun drawing plans for Monarch friendly plants, native nectars, and vegetables. She has additionally begun to plan for murals on three sides of a building located between our Irishtown playground and the future community garden space.

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

CarnegieNWF-CertifiedGardenProgram.pdf

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

Several discussions with Shade Tree members on native plants, milkweed, maintenance education and pollinator habitat conservation with Mayor Riley, borough administration, public works department, and residents. In 2023 twelve trees were planted throughout the borough and near pollinator gardens by WPC and the Shade Tree Commission. Borough administration and Shade Tree members secured funding and a location for a community garden to be planted in 2024. Shade Tree Commission president joined the NWF certified garden program and has been promoting and working with the community to complete action items and get gardens certified.

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

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

The Borough of Carnegie does not have a noxious plant list

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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

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)

Carnegie Borough Building, 1 Veterans Way, Carnegie, PA 15106

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

Carnegie Shade Tree Commission, Borough Manager and Administration

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

CARNEGIE_MONARCH_POLLINATOR_GARDEN-2023Photos.pdf

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.

.02

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

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

Mayor Riley, administrative borough staff, and Shade Tree Commission volunteers supplied educational material, coloring pages, milkweed seeds, wildflower seeds, and gardening supply bags to promote monarch butterfly conservation at the Carnegie Library Earth Day

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Celebration (Saturday, April 22, 2023) at the Carnegie Library which is also the site of our monarch public art project. http://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch/ The Shade Tree Commission, borough administration, PTA, and volunteers provided educational information, milkweed plants, native nectars, watering cans, and watering bulbs at our Monarch Butterfly Festival held on August 20, 2023. Both events included art projects, face painting, environment-themed coloring books and crayons. Attendees were encouraged to watch for monarchs and many have reported to borough staff and the Shade Tree Commission on their findings. Residents, borough administration, and Shade Tree Commission members verbally reported and discussed increases in Monarch caterpillar and butterfly sightings at the butterfly festival. A few reported and discussed a decrease.

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).

1200

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

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

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

2

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.

Each spring, summer, and fall our department of public works removes poison sumac, oak and ivy from parks, public rain and butterfly gardens. Public works employees cut and pull invasive plants by hand. They do not use pesticides or insecticides. Protective measures include gloves, long sleeves, vests, hats, and masks. Each year 1-2 employees report reactions to the poisonous plants at our safety meetings and on rare occasion have to visit Urgent Care for prescription treatment. Public works employees report that the bulk of poisonous plants are removed from the East and West Main rain/butterfly gardens.

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

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

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booklet-inside.jpg

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

booklet-outside.jpg

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. One member of our junior council is Ukrainian-born and fluent. Using the Environmental Justice Areas Viewer tool, we've identified Census Tract 4689, located entirely within the Borough of Carnegie as an Environmental Justice Area with 30% Poverty and 19% Minority populations. The total population for this tract is 3,641. Census tracts 4688 (population 2,553) and 4687 (population 1,538) also entirely located within the Borough of Carnegie are not EJ areas. All students at the Carlynton School District are eligible for the free/reduced lunch program through grant funding. Our Monarch Education Program was made available to all Carlynton students. Elementary teachers and high school teachers used https://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch in their classrooms for exposure specifically to at least 420 students. Our mayor, administrative staff, and shade tree commission participated in monarch education activities at the Library's Earth Day celebration where more than 1,000 visitors attended. Our Monarch Education Program is available to all Carnegie residents through https://www.carnegieborough.com/monarch that was promoted through our website and social media, as well as events held by the Shade Tree Commission and the library. The Andrew Carnegie Free Library's programs and events specifically target low-income and immigrant communities, children, and seniors. They provide free internet access to residents who are unable to afford at-home service. The Shade Tree Commission gave away native nectars and milkweed plants at our annual Monarch Festival that was promoted on social media and our website targeting all residents of all abilities and incomes. Our annual Butterfly Festival took place in a parking lot adjacent to our Farmers Market. Each week, the Farmers Market draws hundreds of low-income and senior shoppers who utilize community bucks and SNAP benefits through Fresh Access and senior coupons. All shoppers had easy and ADA access to the Butterfly Festival from the Farmers Market. This location is also a short walking distance from a HUD building and two senior buildings.

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)

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6

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

Dog Park Rain Garden WPC Garden corner of Mansfield and Chartiers WPC Garden corner of Lydia and Chestnut East Main and West Main Parking Lot - in progress Municipal Garden - in progress Skatepark Rain Garden was eaten by deer and needs to be replanted with new sign

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

chestnut-sign.jpg

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

dog-park-sign.jpg

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

dog-park-sign1.jpg

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

raingardens1.jpg

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

A2023-aframe1A.jpg

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

A2023-aframe2.jpg

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

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

complete

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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

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

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

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 works department to review the plan.

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.

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, 2021 - https://carnegieborough.com/documents/Stormwater-Management-Bioretention-ParkingLots2.pdf - August, 2022 Climate Action Plan https://www.carnegieborough.com/documents/Carnegie_LCAP_August1-2022.pdf

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

Rain Garden Maintenance Policy - used in all rain gardens in the borough including East and West Main Parking Lots, Carnegie Park, and the borough building. All rain gardens are monarch butterfly habitat gardens. Climate Action Plan Native planting - pages 10, 29, 30, 40, 42, 44, 48, 49

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

Shade Tree Commission, Climate Action Task Force, Department of Public Works, Mayor Riley

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

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complete

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

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

complete - The lighting pollution ordinance is to benefit all living things including humans and is not specific to urban wildlife.

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.

November 13, 2017 - Page 26-27

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

Carnegie_Zoning_Ordinance-FINAL.pdf

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

Carnegie Borough Council, Code Enforcement, Planning Commission, Mayor

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