City of Mansfield

Mansfield, TX

Mayor Michael Evans

Pledge Summary

Action Items Committed for 2023

Communications and Convening

- 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.
- 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

- 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.
- 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).
- 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

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Michael Evans	2025	4/28/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Michael Evans	2023	1/23/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor Michael Evans	2022	2/11/2022	Leadership Circle
Mayor-Elect Michael Evans	2021	12/9/2020	Leadership Circle

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.).

4000

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.)

3000 youth and 1000 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.

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.

parks, garden, prairies

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

planting gardens in these areas

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

We want to see our citizens helping to protect the pollinator's habitat as well as creating new habitats.

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?

The hand outs to give to the public at our events.

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

We work together with many departments within the city to make these actions items come to life.

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).

Pollinator plant seeds made available through library seed bank (seeds donated by TRWD) ; several pounds of pollinator and vegetable seeds provided for the seed library, along with literature, bookmarks Gardening for Pollinators On demand class available 4.15-22.23; 136 participants; in conjunction with TRWD

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.

Mansfield Garden Club MISD Ag students and teachers Butterfly Garden planted at Donna Shepard Leadership Academy; lessons with all of the Ag students (75 students and 1 teacher) on Monarch life cycle, selection of plants, maintaining nectar and host plants in garden Earth Day Mansfield Festival features a butterfly release, native plant sales, demo garden showcase - estimated attendance was 600 Butterfly Garden planted at Linda Jobe Middle School; lessons with one class of the Ag students (30 students and 2 teachers) on

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Monarch life cycle, selection of plants, maintaining nectar and host plants in garden Monarch Festival - hosted a booth with pollinator plant craft, butterfly house, games & crafts 100 Hours of Play - hosted a booth with butterfly craft, discussed butterfly life cycle

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.

We improved our mowing to later in the year. We seed all our prairies, and we held a community planting day where we planted milkweed as well as other pollinator plants at Oliver Nature Park in Spring 2023.

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

Parks & Rec

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.

We offer a free event to the community in the spring, Monarch Festival, where families can come enjoy a day of games, crafts, learning, a butterfly house, nature hikes, storytime, and more.

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?

the community

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).

50

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

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installations, type of art).

Pollinator photo contest with all the photos of the winners displayed at our Monarch Festival

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)

200

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

600

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

City Library, TRWD who donates the seed; Mansfield Garden Club and MISD FFA teacher and students grow and sale plants at the Earth Day Mansfield festival

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)

Wildlife Habitat, Monarch Waystation

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)

0.01

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

MISD

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

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planting gardens in the schools

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).

50 students and 10 educators

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

MISD

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?

The students and their teachers maintain the gardens once we helped to establish them.

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?

Demo gardens at the Service Center and Mansfield Activities Center are a certified Wildlife habitat & Monarch Waystations

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

maintained the two above

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?

milkweed added to the Demo garden at the Chris. W. Burkett Service Center, as well as the MISD butterfly gardens and Oliver Nature Park gardens

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

45

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Discussed the need for milkweed with Garden Club Members who then added plants at the Service Center Demo garden; I wrote a Keep Texas Beautiful Green Bag grant to secure finding for installing butterfly gardens on selected MISD campuses, then worked with teachers and students on those campuses to understand the need for milkweed as a host plant and how to plant and maintain it. I purchased milkweed using the grant funds, then teachers monitored students in planting and maintaining.

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.

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)

2000

What was the date of your festival?

May 13, 2023

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

City Library, TRWD, Cross Timbers Master Naturalist, MISD Key Club, Oliver Nature Park volunteers, Water Department, Environmental Services

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).

This is a 3 hour free event for the community. We have activities such as: a butterfly house, games, crafts, nature walks, story time, and more. We shuttle guests in for the event as well. It is held at Oliver Nature Park.

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)

200

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

We have plant signs at Oliver Nature Park, Service Center, Mansfield Activities Center, and MISD gardens with the plants common and scientific names on them.

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?

PARKS

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.

2024

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?

Code Compliance & PARKS

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.

2024

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

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

Code Compliance & PARKS

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.

2024

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)

Planted 2 additional buttefly gardens at MISD schools and worked with a previously planted MISD garden on maintaining - see above; Demo gardens at Service Center focus on pollinator plants. MISD butterfly garden planted at Donna Shepard Leadhership Academy - coordinates: 32.59117, _97.16443; MISD butterfly garden planted at Linda Jobe Middle School - Coordinates: 32.60068, -97.17683. Also - MISD butterfly garden planted at Tarver Rendon Elementary - cooridinates: 32.562080921275495, -97.23218983427033; Chris W. Burkett Service Center - cooridinates: 32.555230369918334, -97.12319747329309

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

PARKS, Environmental Services, MISD

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.

0.05

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