Town of DeWitt

DeWitt, NY

Town Supervisor Edward Michalenko

Pledge Summary

The Town of DeWitt sits in the heart of New York State between the Finger Lakes, the Adirondacks, Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. Bordered by the City of Syracuse in the west and the Town of Manlius in the east, it has been a desirable suburban community for more than 185 years. If parks, trails, and greenspaces are “natural capital,” DeWitt enjoys a wealth of beautiful, natural spaces. Several parks, a robust trail system, greenspaces and access to the Erie Canalway and the Empire State Trail are all available within the Town of DeWitt. Ryder Park, one of the most popular in DeWitt, has been home to the town’s butterfly garden for over 20 years. Town Supervisor, Ed Michalenko has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with his signing of the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge and looks forward to partnering with the Recreation Department and DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission to engage residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the town.

Action Items Committed for 2021

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 city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.
- Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Town Supervisor Edward Michalenko	2021	3/31/2021	

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u954: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.).

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.)

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.

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.

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

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

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?

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

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).

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u954:v1.14.0.49966]

mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

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

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

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)

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

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.

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

21 Spring_Summer Web 35.pdf

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

IMG_8001.JPEG

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

IMG_8004.JPEG

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

IMG_8007.JPEG

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

IMG_8011.JPEG

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u954:v1.14.0.49966]

DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission (DACC), Tree Committee, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Onondaga County Master Gardener

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

Members of these organizations helped develop a plan to revitalize the Town's butterfly garden located adjacent to the DeWitt Town Hall. They developed a map of current plants in the garden and a timeline for the overall project; Spring 2021: Clean up dead debris and reinstall rocks lining the walkway. Identify what is still growing and what needs to be removed. Remove invasive exotic plants and aggressive native plants. Fall 2021: Plants any additional plants that may be necessary in the open areas. They also participated in a clean-up event on May 15, 2021.

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)

Ryder Park adjacent to the DeWitt Town Hall at 5400 Butternut Drive, East Syracuse, NY 13057

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

Parks and Recreation Department, DeWitt Advisory Conservation Commission, Tree Committee, Master Gardener

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.

.04

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u954:v1.14.0.49966]