

# Town of Apex

Apex, NC

Mayor Jacques Gilbert

## Pledge Summary

### Action Items Committed for 2022

#### 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.
- 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

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

## Past Pledge Archive

| Mayor Name            | Program Year | Pledge Date | Achievement       |
|-----------------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Mayor Jacques Gilbert | 2026         | 1/12/2026   |                   |
| Mayor Jacques Gilbert | 2025         | 3/28/2025   | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Jacques Gilbert | 2024         | 3/6/2024    | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Jacques Gilbert | 2023         | 3/30/2023   | Signatories       |
| Mayor Jacques Gilbert | 2022         | 2/7/2022    | Signatories       |
| Mayor Jacques Gilbert | 2021         | 4/1/2021    |                   |

## 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 (e.g., 50).**

500

**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." (Only allow numerical values.)**

200 youth, 300 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).**

1

**Where is your habitat being created? This may include residences (yards, containers, balconies, etc.), schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, culturally-significant locations, shared public spaces and common areas or parks.**

Community Park

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

Working with the Town's DEI

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

The Town of Apex is in the pathway of the annual Monarch migration patterns. Apex is committed to protection, preserving and enhancing monarch and pollinator habitat.

**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 region has a networking group that meets quarterly to discuss pollinator protection best practices and share innovative ideas. Need knowledge of resources: Standards for home yards for pollinator protection

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

Working with local girl scout troop this past year on pollinator and butterfly garden has been such a great community partnership, so much has been learned on all sides.

## 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.

**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 (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.

Please describe your challenge and the results.

**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.**

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

[watershed\\_protection.pdf](#)

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

2 Local Girl Scout Troops

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

Created Town Watershed Protection brochure for the public which included information on planting native, non-invasive plants and encourage mowing programs that maintain appropriate plant heights.

**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.**

[Girl Scout Pollinator Garden.pdf](#)

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

3 - Two Girl Scout Troops, 1 Garden Club

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

Girl Scout troops worked with master gardeners, local nursery, and parks staff to plant, sign and create a 1 acre pollinator garden within a Town park. The girl scouts made a presentation of their 6 month experience and shared with Town officials.

**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?**

2 Girl Scout Troops, 1 garden Club

**How many plants were planted?**

50

**Please describe your effort in completing this action.**

In addition to a variety of pollinator plants that were planted as part of the Girl Scouts Silver Project, there were 50 milkweed plants added to the park garden to include varieties of Swamp, Tropical and Common Milkweed.

**Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.**

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

[Girl Scout Pollinator Garden.pdf](#)

**How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located?**

3

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

There were 3 educational signs as part of the Girl Scouts Silver project which was a creation of a 1 acre pollinator/butterfly garden in an Apex Town Park. One of those signs include a QR code which will be linked to a future Town web page focusing on education of habitat protection for homeowners.