

# Town of Apex

Apex, NC

Mayor Jacques Gilbert

## Pledge Summary

The Town of Apex North Carolina is a town in located in Wake County, RTP area, of central North Carolina. The Town is in the piedmont region of NC and a critical waypoint for the eastern Monarch migration. Mayor Gilbert and Town Council are committed to saving monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and look forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the town.

## 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 Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing 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.
- 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.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

## 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).**

200

**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.)**

125 youth, 50 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?**

The Town works with our DEI Department and our Strategic Plan to ensure all our programs engage marginalized communities and serve ALL our residents. One of the Town's Strategic Goals, is to create "A Welcoming Community". The Mayor's Monarch Pledge helps us to create community connections where everyone can be involved in efforts to support pollinators and especially the monarch butterfly.

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

The Town of Apex NC developed a Strategic Plan for 2023 and beyond consisting of 5 overarching goals. One of these goals is "Environmental Leadership". The Town is

committed to sustaining natural resources and well-being. The Mayor's Monarch Pledge provides objectives in support of this goal.

**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?**

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 troops 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

**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.)**

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

[Town of Apex Pollinator Friendly Habitat Certification 6-23-21.pdf](#)

**Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).**

This item will be pushed to 2024. The Town is currently hiring a Volunteer Coordinator which will work directly with this project. Hiring date is January 2024. Attached is the draft "Pollinator Habitat Certification Program".

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

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

[Girlscouts2023-4.jpg](#)

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

[Girlscouts2023-3.jpg](#)

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[Girlscouts2023-2.jpg](#)

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[GirlScouts2023.jpg](#)

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

[GSTroop4076.jpg](#)

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

Two Girl Scout Troops on 4 different work dates in the pollinator demo garden.

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

The Girl Scouts along with volunteer master gardener provided valuable new plantings and seasonal garden maintenance on 4 dates in 2023

**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.**

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

[Town of Apex Pollinator Friendly Habitat Certification 6-23-21.pdf](#)

**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).**

0

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

To start in 2023

**When did this challenge take place?**

To start in 2023

**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.**

0

**Please describe your challenge and the results.**

This action item will begin in 2023. We are currently advertising and hiring for a Volunteer Coordinator position, to begin January 2024 who will lead this effort

**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)**

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

**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.**

**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.**

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

Two Girl Scout Troops on 4 different work dates in the pollinator demo garden.

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

The Girl Scouts along with volunteer master gardener provided valuable new plantings and seasonal garden maintenance on 4 dates in 2023

**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?**

Girl Scouts Troops and Local Apex Garden Club

**How many plants were planted?**

50

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

On four different work dates, local girl scout troops, under the guidance of Master Gardeners, planted 50 new native pollinator plants and installed two "pollinator hotels". The Girl Scout groups earned their "Silver Badge" as a result.

**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).**

Signs located on-site at Pollinator Demo Garden all made in-house.