The City of Rochester Hills

Rochester Hills, MI

Mayor Bryan Barnett

Pledge Summary

Established in 1984, the City of Rochester Hills, in Southeast Michigan, has a population of roughly 75,000. Rochester Hills is committed to sustaining its position among the nation's preeminent places to live, work and raise a family. The community continues to value its natural resources and green spaces. The City sees the importance of not only protecting and enhancing these resources; but acting as a leader and model to residents and the community. As part of this effort, the city is committed to taking actions to conserve and maintain pollinator habitats. Actions include supporting local native plants sales, seed collection programs, and continued stewardship efforts in our City Parks and Green Spaces.

Action Items Committed for 2021

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- 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

- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Bryan Barnett	2026	12/3/2025	
Mayor Bryan Barnett	2025	2/6/2025	Signatories
Mayor Bryan Barnett	2024	12/22/2023	Signatories
Mayor Bryan Barnett	2023	12/14/2022	Signatories
Mayor Bryan Barnett	2022	12/13/2021	Signatories
Mayor Bryan Barnett	2021	12/11/2020	Signatories

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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.).

100

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.)

100 adults (programs) and unknown for youth (park gardens)

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.

0.10

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.

Park Pollinator Garden

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

This Pledge continues to drive our use of partnering with local non-profits, like the Clinton River Watershed Council, to provide outreach to our entire community about pollinators and native Plants. The Gardens created will be visited at our Bloomer Park by our youth camps, which include sponsored kids from low income families. Additionally, our invasives program provide cost effective resources to have invasive species treated in our community.

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

The City values its natural resources and green spaces. We see the importance of not only protecting and enhancing these resources; but acting as a leader and model to residents and the community.

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?

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Regular social media content would be helpful that we could post or share. Examples provided in Resource center are helpful.

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

We continue provide outreach on social media regarding invasive species, national pollinators week, and general environmental stewardship.

Selected Action Items

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

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

Bloomer_Pollinator_Garden_Photo_Collage.png

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

Innovation_Hills.jpg

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)

Maintained Pollinator Garden - Innovation Hills Park (2800 W. Hamlin Rd.) , Established New Pollinator Garden - Bloomer Park (345 John R Rd.), Maintain Children's Garden - Van Hoosen Museum (1005 Van Hoosen Rd.)

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

City of Rochester Hills Museum at Van Hoosen, Rochester Garden Club

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.

0.25

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native

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nectar producing plants at city properties.

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

Parks Staff, Stewardship Contractors

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

Stewardship Plans are being written for each of our parks natural areas. Projects, including native plantings and pollinator habitat, for future consideration and implementation.

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.

Native Plantings and Bioswales complete at City's new park - Innovation Hills Park

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

All Parks will have a stewardship plan completed by 2024 (3 / 6 written thus far).

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.

10 - 20 acres

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.

1. Provide Phragmites program to HOA's interested in removing Phragmites and promoting native species. 2. Invasive treatment program of Native prairies on Green Spaces and Parks to promote native species and native flowers.

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)

Native Plant Sale with CRWC - 682 Plants, + Museum Native Plant Sale

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

40

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

Clinton River Watershed Council, Plants for Ecology, Museum at Van Hoosen Farm, Rochester Garden Club

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

29

What species were collected or propagated?

Milkweed, Ironweed

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

Clinton River Watershed Council

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

For the second year in a row, The City partnered with the Clinton River Watershed Council to host a Native Seed Collection Event at our Avon Prairie. We had 29 people register and participate in the training. Unfortunately, the actual collection dates were rained out twice. We did have CRWC staff and 2 volunteer collect seeds still as part of the effort.

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