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 2022

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.

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

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.).

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795

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.)

765 adults and 30 youths (programs)

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.

0.5

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.

Green Spaces and Parks

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 maintained 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, green spaces, and the wildlife that relies on them. We see the importance of not only protecting and enhancing these resources; but acting as a leader and model to residents and the community. The Mayors Monarch Pledge is a great program to accompany with our Tree City USA designation.

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?

I have watched some webinars and have had conversations with the neighboring community that also participates to discuss actions and future plans. Regular social media content would be helpful that we could post or share.

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

The numbers provided above do not include the tens of thousands of people (kids and adults) that visit Innovation Hills, the Museum, and Bloomer Park that are exposed to the gardens in these locations. We continue provide outreach on social media regarding invasive species, national pollinators week, and general environmental stewardship. We have started conversations with local residents that have particular interest in this program and we are in the process of creating a resident group to help future efforts.

Selected Action Items

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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

2022 half page poster FINAL.pdf

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

IMG_3845.JPG

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

IMG_3846.JPG

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

Native Plant Sale with CRWC - 554 forbs, Native Plant Sale and Garden Walk at The City of Rochester Hills Van Hoosen Museum - 350 Native Plants

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

715

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

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

Collected seeds 2022.jpg

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

Seed collection volunteer 1.jpg

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

Flyer_Ocotober_Seed Collection_2022.pdf

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

14

What species were collected or propagated?

11 different native species - including Milkweed.

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.

The Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC) took lead on this program. It was held near our City Hall at our Avon Nature Area where we have established and continue to maintain a native prairie. The City worked with CRWC to promote the program, provide the collection site, and provide equipment. A training was first held by CRWC and then the seed collection occurred the following week. We had 14 attend the training and 10 people available to help the day of collection.

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

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

monarch on swamp milkweed Avon Prairie 7-7-22.jpg

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

Garlic Mustard Pull Volunteers.jpg

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

Prescribed Burn of Green Space Wet Meadow.jpg

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

Prescribed Burn of Native Planting Buffer.jpg

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

Volunteer Mustard Pull.jpg

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.

Several locations within our Green Spaces/ Parks are maintained as Native Prairies / wet prairies (approx. 10 acres) and include annual invasive species removal through our Green Space stewardship program. This includes prescribed Burns, herbicide treatment, and mechanical removal. In addition to this, we host an annual volunteer Garlic mustard pull to remove invasive garlic mustard in these spaces. The City also offers a phragmites program to residents and HOA's to encourage and assist private landowners in Invasive removal to ultimately promote native species.

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.

Innovation_Hills.jpg

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

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Bloomer.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.) , Expanded New Pollinator Garden - Bloomer Park (345 John R Rd.), Maintain Children's Garden - Van Hoosen Museum (1005 Van Hoosen Rd.) - combined size of all gardens is approx. 0.3 acres

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

Rochester Garden Club, Bloomer 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.

0.3

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