Albuquerque

Albuquerque, NM

Mayor Tim Keller

Pledge Summary

Albuquerque is the largest city in New Mexico. Its varied landscape, from the banks of the Rio Grande to Chihuahuan desert mesas and the foothills of the Sandia Mountains, supports diverse wildlife communities. Our city is home to many endemic and migratory species, including a diversity of butterflies and other pollinators. Mayor Keller is committed to advancing Albuquerque as a leader in resilient, equitable and long-term environmental solutions, and he pledges to raise awareness and community support for the conservation of monarchs and other pollinators. A hive mind of leaders from the ABQ BioPark and other community stakeholders will build upon existing education and engagement programs to advocate for pollinator protection.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Communications and Convening

- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- 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 native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- 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 Tim Keller	2026	5/4/2026	
Mayor Tim Keller	2025	3/10/2025	Signatories
Mayor Tim Keller	2024	3/15/2024	Signatories
Mayor Tim Keller	2023	3/13/2023	Signatories
Mayor Tim Keller	2022	12/15/2021	Leadership Circle
Mayor Tim Keller	2021	4/7/2021	Leadership Circle

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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.).

300

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.)

125

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.

2

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.

Right-of-ways, cultural institutions such as the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden, Zoo and Tingley Beach, Open Space Visitor Center

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

Tingley Beach is a city owned free public park managed by the ABQ BioPark, in which a pollinator garden was installed with associated interpretive signage. The interpretive signage copy is in both Spanish and English.

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

The ABQ BioPark is the number one visited cultural attraction in New Mexico with over 1 million visitors annually. Furthermore, the ABQ BioPark's mission is to foster meaningful connections between people and nature. Additionally, the ABQ BioPark vision is to envision a future where are communities are connected to nature and committed to its protection. By having the City of Albuquerque signing onto the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors Monarch Pledge, guests are able to better understand the importance of pollinators and subsequently help protect them for future generations. In addition, constituents urged the City of Albuquerque to continue its commitment to the Mayor's Monarch Pledge.

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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 guide, "Grounding Habitat Work in Environmental Justice, Equity, and Inclusion: A Guide for Communities" has been particularly useful as the City of Albuquerque expands its strategies for increasing equity and inclusion at community-based events taking place at various cultural institutions across the City of Albuquerque.

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

The New Mexico BioPark Society's Species Survival Officer for Invertebrates Pollinators, Quinn Bane, has continued the collaborative work on the endangered Sacramento Mountain Checkerspot, an endemic New Mexico species. The effort was reported on by numerous large media outlets around the globe, including the New York Times, among others. Additionally, the ABQ BioPark Entomology Department in cooperation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service have been participating in the captive rearing of the Sacramento Mountain Checkerspot Butterfly, which currently habitats in designated Critical Habitat of the Sacramento Mountains. By proxy, this work brings greater awareness to the efforts being made in regards to monarch butterfly conservation efforts.

Selected Action Items

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.

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

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

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

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)

15

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

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ABQ BioPark has continued its partnership with Jackalope (local retail store) to have several pollinator displays throughout the Botanic Garden and Zoo with associated QR codes with pollinator information, to include the importance of pollinators, nighttime pollinators, how to install a pollinator garden, beneficial insects, and beneficial pollinator plants to install in a pollinator garden. Similar signs are installed at Tingley Beach, a free public park with an associated pollinator garden. In addition, educational signs are located in the ABQ BioPark Botanic Garden's "Power of Pollinators" Butterfly Pavilion explaining the various types of pollinators, the importance of pollinators, and what one can do at home to support pollinators.

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.

Complete_with_Docusign_NM_Arbor_Day_-_Dicoun.pdf

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

NM Arbor Day 2025 AAEMG.PNG

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

Arbor Day 2025 ABQ BioPark.PNG

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

500

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

1200

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

City of Albuquerque Parks & Recreation - Urban Forestry, Let's Plan ABQ initiative, ABQ BioPark, Albuquerque Area Extension Master Gardeners, Friends of Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge, US Forest Service, NM State Forestry, TreeNM, City of Albuquerque Solid Waste/Clean Cities

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

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

City of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation, City of Albuquerque Solid Waste Management Division

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

2500

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

The City of Albuquerque's wildflower project supports the local pollinator populations and helps weed control on city medians. Snapdragons, whirling butterflies, vinka, petunias and other native wildflowers seeds were planted throughout select medians. The wildflower project has the following guiding principles: To continue to make Burque a bee friendly city, reduce the amount of water needed for median maintenance, and reduce the amount of herbicide needed for weed control.

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