City of Garden Ridge

Garden Ridge, TX

Mayor Lisa Swint

Pledge Summary

The City of Garden Ridge is located in southern Comal County with a population just under 5,000 and a total area of 7.3 square miles. Located in Comal County and 12 miles south of New Braunfels, we pride ourselves in our tradition and history. Garden Ridge is known for its community and rural style -- where neighbors love helping neighbors. We strive to preserve the natural beauty of the landscape, making Garden Ridge "Naturally Home". There are four pocket parks nestled within the neighborhoods in addition to the beautifully landscaped Paul Davis Park that provides pavilions, picnic tables, grills, playground equipment, a variety of sports fields, a brick garden, as well as a Butterfly Meadow. The Comal Master Gardeners also maintain a butterfly garden on City Hall grounds filled with foliage and flowers to attract butterflies and birds.

Action Items Committed for 2025

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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

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

Communications and Convening

- 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.
- 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.)

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement

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Mayor Lisa Swint	2025	2/11/2025	Signatories
Mayor Larry Thompson	2021	12/14/2020	

Action Items

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

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

To revitalize and promote the program. To continue to encourage habitats vital to the support the monarch population.

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 continuation of encouraging the natural beauty of Garden Ridge to residents.

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.).

0

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.

City Hall, Library, Paul Davis Park

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

Not specifically leveraging the program to engage marginalized communities.

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.)

0

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

We have not advertised the Monarch Pledge in the last year. We are now revitalizing the promotion for 2025.

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.

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

The Comal Master Gardeners maintain the butterfly garden that is located in front of the Library and around City Hall. Workday is the 1st Thursday of each month, February through November at 8 or 8:30 am, depending on temperature.

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

Comal Master Gardeners

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)

9400 Municipal Parkway, Garden Ridge

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

Comal Master Gardeners

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

Library 1.jpg

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

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Library 2.jpg

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

Library 3.jpg

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.

.25

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

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

9

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

Garden Ridge Library, Haeley Giambalvo, Comal Master Gardeners

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

Feb 20 2025 Lunch and Learn.png

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

Seed Library.jpg

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

Approximately 27

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.)

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

April Grapevine.pdf

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

4-10-25 Monarch Post.jpg

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

10-1-25 Council Proclamation.pdf

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

Social media, print media (Grapevine newsletter), Proclamation

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.

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

Ordinance No. 13-102024 Zoning Ordinance.pdf

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.

Ordinance 13-102024, Page 57, Residential Landscaping Considerations (Revised October 2, 2024)

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

Ordinance 13-102025 was revised 10-2-25.

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

Library, Comal Master Gardeners

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

Complete

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