City of Toledo

Toledo, OH

Mayor Wade kapszukiewicz

Pledge Summary

The City of Toledo is located in Northwest Ohio in the Western Lake Erie Basin (WLEB) along the Maumee River. Some sections of the City are in the Oak Openings Region which is a globally rare ecosystem composed of over 130 square miles of Michigan and Ohio. The natural habitat of this ecosystem consists largely of oak savanna and grassland prairie with diverse plants and wildlife species. We recognize our City is on a significant corridor for the Monarch Butterflies and other migratory wildlife. Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz of Toledo, OH is committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with the signing of the Mayors Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in preserving, establishing and adequately maintaining pollinator gardens in the City.

Action Items Committed for 2021

Communications and Convening

- Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species’ need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch 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.)

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

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.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz	2025	12/6/2024	
Mayor Wade Kapszukiewicz	2023	12/8/2022	Signatories
Mayor Wade kapszukiewicz	2021	4/14/2021	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.).

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." (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.)

50 youth 150 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). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.25

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.

Places of worship, schools, public places including City parks.

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

Several of our gardens are located in area of low income and also in blighted areas.

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

To provide habitat for wildlife and to engage communities in environmental stewardship.

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

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help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

Having garden templates that were developed by the local Sacred Grounds team.

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

It was challenging to organize a garden tour during a pendemic.

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.)

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

Using press conference, post on City and associated organization social media. Also handed Monarch Watch print materials

Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Date of Proclamation:

April 22, 2021

Title of Proclamation (i.e. – Monarch Day or Pollinator Week):

Earth Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation Document.jpeg

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.

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How many estimated individuals participated in your challenge? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 100).

70

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

NWF Sacred Grounds Toledo, Wildones, Lucas County Soil and Water District, Raingarden Initiative

When did this challenge take place?

Summer

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. Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.25

Please describe your challenge and the results.

Because of the pandemic, we organized a garden tour. Our affiliated organization also offered rain barrel making workshops.

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?

Funding for maintenance of green infrastructure was provided by City budget.

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

250

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Developing a request for proposal, reviewing bids, awarding contracts and monitoring the maintenance process.

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?

Department of Public Utilities

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

On going

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.

On going

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

This activity is a part of City operation

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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

Toledo Lucas County Sustainability Commission and Toledo Metropolitan Council of Govermment

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

In progress

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.

in progress

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

In progress

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