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 2023

Communications and Convening

- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

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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.).

687

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.)

230 youth

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.

Under our Sacred Grounds programs, gardens are created in houses, community gardens or public shared spaces.

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

This year, we offered monarch education programs to afterschool and summer camp participants that were in DAC census tracks.

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

Bring nature education to places where people work, play and raise their families. We aspire for all residents to have quality opens spaces in their neighborhood and life.

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?

More programing and capacity building funding to empower afterschool and sum camp service provide.

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

Please clarify the status of monarch per IUCN or any other organization so that we are consistent in our messaging..

Selected Action Items

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)

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

What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? 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.

How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)

Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.

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.

Monarch Waystationd Certification Requirement Summary.pdf

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)

1113 Huron Toledo.

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

We engage members of our Toledo Sacred Grounds Houses of Worship and the general public.

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

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

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

Monarch Waystationd Certification Requirement Summary.pdf

How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).

209.094

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

St. Catherines Church and Salem Lutheran Church hosted our community education workshops.

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

As part of our pollinator protection strategy, we will work with our local partners using MonarchWatch recommendations. We have simplified the requirements so that it is easier for residents to follow. We are working with our community to increase the number of certified Monarch Way-Stations.

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

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

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

Toledo Pollinator Protection Strategies - Draft.pdf

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

For this project we partnered with members of Toledo Sacred Gounds program, the Toledo Metroparks, Lucas County Soil and Water Districts, Raingarden Initiative and the Local WildOnes Chapter.

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.

on going.

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

Yes, we are continuing to educate residents on nature stewardship.

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions implemented for mowing and maintenance programs.

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

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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.

Seed-Swap-2023- Sponsor COT Public Utilities.pdf

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

1130

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

1130

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

ToledoGrows, Raingarden Initiative, Sacred Grounds, WildOnes, Lucas County Soil and Water District

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

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

2023 Toledo Mayors Monarch Pledge Final.pdf

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

As part of our pollinator protection strategy, we work with our local partners using MonarchWatch recommendation materials. We participated in education and outreach events, garden tours, and classroom activities with other local partners. We are working with our community partners and residents to increase the number of certified Monarch Way-Stations. We have simplified the requirements so that they are easier for residents to follow. In 2023, we reached over 200 residents at events that were focused on pollinators or raingardens.

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