City of St. Augustine

St. Augustine, FL

Mayor Nancy Sikes- Kline

Pledge Summary

Founded in 1565, St. Augustine is the oldest continuously occupied settlement of European and African-American origin in the United States. Forty-two years before the English colonized Jamestown and fifty-five years before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth Rock, the Spanish established at St. Augustine this nation's first enduring settlement.

Action Items Committed for 2025

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.)
- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Nancy Sikes-Kline	2026	3/31/2026	
Mayor Nancy Sikes- Kline	2025	3/25/2025	Signatories
Mayor Nancy Sikes-Kline	2024	3/4/2024	Signatories
Mayor Nancy Sikes-Kline	2023	3/30/2023	Signatories
Mayor Tracy Upchurch	2022	4/28/2022	Signatories
Mayor Tracy Upchurch	2021	4/16/2021	Signatories

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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.).

317

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.)

80

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.

0.01

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 property and shared public spaces

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

Gardens are planted in public spaces for all to enjoy

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

City residents and commission are supportive of this effort

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?

New resources such as pre-made social media posts & ready-to-print flyers would be helpful

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

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This year we spent additional time working with City Grounds staff on the importance of our milkweed plantings.

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.)

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

Pollinator week post.png

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

Earth Month Snapshot Milkweed.jpg

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

Snapshot Milkweed.jpg

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

The Break Room.jpg

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

Local 4th grade students attended an Enviro Stations Rotation event during Earth month, where one of the topics included was Monarch Butterflies. The City's Sustainability Specialist was interviewed on The Break Room podcast, which also broadcasts on the local WFCF 88.5 radio station. Printed materials were provided for Earth Day; social media posts were made in April.

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

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

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Community garden groups were contacted with an encouragement to plant native milkweed and nectar plants.

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

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

City Streets & Grounds, Utilities & Public Works, Sustainability staff

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

City Grounds staff were educated on the importance of the City's native milkweed planting program and advised to modify their mowing to support the growth of the milkweed. Grounds staff assist with the annual planting of milkweed.

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.

Milkweed.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)

City Hall, 75 King Street, St. Augustine, FL 32084

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

City of St. Augustine Streets & Grounds staff

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.

0.01

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

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incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Date of Proclamation:

November 10, 2025

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

Monarch Butterfly Month

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Proclamation 2025.pdf

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