Town of Southampton

Southampton, MA

Select Board Chair Christine Fowles

Pledge Summary

Southampton is a small town in Western Mass. that values its rural agricultural heritage and open space/hiking trails. This is our fourth year of being involved with the Pledge effort and we are committed to continuing to educate our residents about the importance of pollinators and conservation of species such as the monarch butterfly.

Action Items Committed for 2024

Communications and Convening

- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Select Board Chair Christine Fowles	2024	3/30/2024	
Select Board Chair Christine Fowles	2023	3/3/2023	Signatories
Select Board Chair Christine Fowles	2022	4/6/2022	Signatories
Chair, Selectboard Maureen Groden	2021	4/18/2021	Signatories

Action Items

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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.).

36

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

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.

.05

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.

at a local park and at three residential spaces currently but also reclaiming a 0.2 acre, town-owned, overgrown and vacant parcel in the center of town, a portion of which will be for planting in the spring

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

not yet able to do this-we are not a diverse community and would need to do more outreach

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

Town is highly committed to preserving its open space and conservation areas, this is a natural complement.

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?

Engaging more this year with county conservation districts both for plants and guest speakers

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

Have just received a $500 Bee-Utiful grant to do a demonstration pollinator garden at library.

Selected Action Items

Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

we were not able to engage in this activity this year as originally hoped.

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 50).

0

Please describe the community art project that was implemented in your community and how it contributed to cultural awareness and recognition (e.g., number of art installations, type of art).

we hope to do this project in 2025.

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.

geg sale928.pdf

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

plant sale.jpg

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

50

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

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25

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

Good Earth Gardeners held a fall plant sale at the Library in September featuring perennials and native plants.

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.

conant coneflowers.jpg

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

labrie natives 3.jpg

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

natives 1.jpg

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

labrie pollinators 1.jpg

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

milkweed.jpg

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

lupine conant.jpg

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

library flowers.jpg

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

lasagna garden workshop.jpg

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

lasagna garden workshop 2.jpg

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

workshop group 2.jpg

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

winter sowing workshop1.jpg

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

Southampton Good Earth Gardeners took the lead and collaborated with the Town's Highway and Water Dept. Park Commission, Edwards Public Library. Continued the work done last year with planting more perennials at the town's Conant Park, very visible along the state highway through town, maintained/mulched the 64 perennials at Labrie Field received through the NWF Garden for Wildlife program, negotiated limited mowing of the watershed area meadow, letting natural grasses and flowers to appear seasonally, and planted perennials milkweed and other flowers on median strip of the Edwards Library driveway entrance.

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

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

labrie pigeon pea.jpg

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

labrie asters.jpg

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

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labrie pollinators 5.jpg

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

conant bergamot.jpg

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

IMG_2996.jpg

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

Good Earth Gardeners (GEG) with Highway Dept, Edwards Library and Parks Commission

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

100

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

GEG maintained all plantings at Conant Park and Labrie Field especially mulching the 64 pollinators received from Garden for Wildlife that had been planted as plugs in the fall of 2023. Also cared for a small stand of common milkweed in the new library location and planted several native pollinators. Extended the plantings along the Conant Park split-rail fence another 60 feet. GEG members also extended their own home plantings of perennials, milkweed and native plants.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

IMG_2995.jpg

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

IMG_3241 pollinator signage.jpg

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

2

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

Two signs are on permanent display at the entrance to Labrie Field and on a private property (GEG member) on Gunn Rd. Wording on signs is Pollinator Friendly Native Plant Garden and Pollinator Friendly Garden. We intend to increase signage in the spring.

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?

Park Commission

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.

The Park Commission engaged a landscape design/engineer firm to develop a conceptual Master Plan and cost estimates for Conant Park.

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

The conceptual Master Plan and cost estimates were received in April 2004. Among the many improvements recommended is the addition of a pollinator meadow in one area and in another, a rain garden with appropriate plantings. Even though this is just the concept design, projected costs are more than the town can manage at present time. In 2025, we will see through GEG and the town's Ad Hoc Grant Committee whether it is possible to fundraise locally or apply for state funding through parks and recreation programs to make these features a reality.

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