City of College Park

College Park, MD

Mayor Patrick Wojahn

Pledge Summary

The City of College Park, Maryland is located just north of Washington D.C and south of Baltimore, MD. with a population of about 30,000. It is home to the University of Maryland, College Park campus. College Park has become a Bee City USA affiliate in 2021, and has a committee dedicated to the conservation & protection of pollinators. The Bee City committee is working on public education information to increase the awareness of the plight of pollinators, especially in our urban area and is discussing several initiatives to engage residents in creating pollinator gardens at their homes. The committee is also exploring partnerships with other nearby jurisdictions to create pollinator corridors in the metropolitan area.

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

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Fazlul Kabir	2026	6/15/2026	

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Mayor Fazlul Kabir	2025	4/20/2025	Signatories
Mayor Fazlul Kabir	2023	2/24/2023	Signatories
Mayor Patrick Wojahn	2022	12/21/2021	Signatories
Mayor Patrick Wojahn	2021	4/22/2021	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 and 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.

0.11

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.

parks, roadsides

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

Collecting and packaging local milk weed seed for give-away in little free libraries. social media post was bilingual

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

Initiate awareness of pollinator population decline & create urban habitats

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?

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College Park Bee City Committee members, College Park Communications Coordinator, National Wildlife Federation webinars

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

It was difficult to engage with residents and groups of people due to the Covid pandemic.

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).

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

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:

September 28, 2021

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

Monarch Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Pledge Proclamation 2021 (002).pdf

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

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

20211123 mural.jpg

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

mural info.png

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

College Park City University Partnership (CCUP), City of College Park, Prince George's County, Downtown College Park Merchants Association (DCPMA)

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).

23

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).

A mural was commissioned by 4 local entities, College Park University Partnership, City of College Park, Prince George's County, and the Downtown College Park Merchants Association, designed & painted by local artists on the side of a building on Route 1 in the downtown business district to increase awareness about the endangered Checkerspot butterfly species in Maryland. The mural includes the mature butterfly, a chrysalis and it's preferred host plant the White Turtlehead. The mural also includes the Maryland state flower, the Black eyed Susan and a Terrapin turtle, the University of Maryland mascot.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

facebook post monarch seed.png

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

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milk weed seed pak.jpeg

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

145

What species were collected or propagated?

Swamp milk weed

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

Bee City Committee, Communications Coordinator

Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.

Due to Covid pandemic, local milk weed seed was collected by a Bee City committee member from a neighborhood park and prepared for packaging and distribution. Seed pack labels were created by the Bee City secretary and another Bee City committee member affixed the labels to the seed packs and disseminated the seed packs at little free libraries in College Park

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

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.

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Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

The newly seeded pollinator planting is located in the road side median at Cherokee St and 49th Pl, College Park, MD 20740

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

27

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What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0.01 acre

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

The newly seeded planting was prepared by volunteers by removing existing grassy vegetation by raking and loosening the soil surface. A commercially prepared pollinator friendly partial shade roadside mix was spread over the soil surface and covered with a thin layer of compost, then overseeded with a cover of rye seed. The area will be marked to prevent mowing and allowed to grow undisturbed. Plant stalks and seed heads will be left to overwinter to provide habitat. Educational signage will be installed to identify the planting and describe the cultural practices.

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