City of College Park

College Park, MD

Mayor Patrick Wojahn

Pledge Summary

The City of College Park, Maryland is located between Washington D.C. and Baltimore, MD. with a population of about 30,000. It is home to the University of Maryland, College Park campus. College Park has received Bee City USA affiliate status, and has a dedicated committee focused on the conservation & protection of pollinators. The Bee City committee works to educate the public about the plight of pollinators and increase awareness of their ecological importance especially in urban areas. The committee is undertaking initiatives to engage residents in a No Mow Month to help early season pollinators as well as renovating existing plantings to incorporate more pollinator friendly plants. Committee members are developing partnerships with other nearby jurisdictions to implement pollinator corridors in the metropolitan area.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- 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

- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Fazlul Kabir	2026	6/15/2026	
Mayor Fazlul Kabir	2025	4/20/2025	Signatories

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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.).

250

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.)

100 youth, 150 adult

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.

parks, roadsides

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

Distributing local milk weed seed for give-away in little free libraries. Bilingual social media posts

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

Improve awareness of Monarch 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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Xerces Society website, National Wildlife Federation website

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

Staffing shortages have negatively impacted planting, maintenance & training

Selected Action Items

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

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)

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

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.

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 27, 2022

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

MonarchPledgeDay.pdf

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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

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21-R-24 Pollinator Friendly Habitat.pdf

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

Participating in No Mow Month smaller.png

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

Bee City Committee, Mayor and City Council, Code Enforcement department

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

The Mayor & Council approved resolution 21-R-24 on December 7, 2021 to begin a No Mow April pilot initiative that encouraged residents to delay lawn mowing during the month of April and suspended code enforcement of lawn area in excess of one foot in height as identified in Section 125-10(J) of the City Code. The Bee City Committee is scheduled to make a recommendation to the Mayor & Council on 12/6/2022 to request No Mow April as a permanent initiative that will include suspension of tall grass enforcement during the month of April.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

New pollinator garden sign.jpg

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

Pollinator garden 2 signs.jpg

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

2

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

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Volunteers created a pollinator garden using a roadside seed mix in November 2021. In the spring of 2022 nearby residents questioned why the new pollinator garden looked somewhat unkempt. Therefore, the Bee City committee thought educational signage would be helpful to describe how a new pollinator garden develops. Two signs were installed at the same location so that people could learn and watch the garden transform. The pollinator garden underway sign was created by DPW staff using the same background as the No Mow April sign.

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.

IMG_20220511_081105635.jpg

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

IMG_20220511_083407379_HDR.jpg

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

Help our local pollinators seed packet front and back.pdf

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

1000

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

1000

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

Bee City committee, City Communications Dept., City Council

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.

Girl Scouts planting pollinator garden.docx

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

GS Troop 96 poll plnt 2022.jpg

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

Girl Scout Troop 96

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

44

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Assisted with planting layout, ordered and funded plants, provided mulch and after planting watering

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