City of College Park

College Park, MD

Mayor Fazlul Kabir

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 has undertaken initiatives to engage residents in No Mow April to help early season pollinators as well as renovating existing plantings to incorporate more pollinator friendly native plants. Committee members are developing partnerships with other nearby jurisdictions to implement pollinator corridors in the metropolitan area.

Action Items Committed for 2023

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.
- 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
Mayor Fazlul Kabir	2023	2/24/2023	Signatories
Mayor Patrick Wojahn	2022	12/21/2021	Signatories
Mayor Patrick Wojahn	2021	4/22/2021	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.).

150

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, 100 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.

0.02

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, 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?

Free pollinator friendly seed pack giveaway at College Park Day, free pollinator friendly plant giveaway during pollinator week, storm drain painting depicting pollinators painted by Latino group

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

Restoration of pollinator friendly habitats in urban areas.

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?

Xerces Society website, National Wildlife Federation website. Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) grant funding will help provide for tree planting in underserved & disadvantaged areas.

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

The College Park Bee City committee is advocating for residents to transition parts of their lawn area to more pollinator friendly plantings, which is supported by the City code that permits for natural managed residential landscapes.

Selected Action Items

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.

Pollinator week 2023 plt giveaway.jpg

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

135

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

70

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

University of Maryland Bee Campus group, University of Maryland Entomology club, University Park Bee city group, Berwyn Height Bee City group, Prince George's County Beekeepers group

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 19, 2023

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Proclamation

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

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Mayors Monarch Pledge Proclamation 2023 (Signed).pdf

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

ESC sign 53 Lackawanna.jpg

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

ESC sign Calvert Hills 2023.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).

Pollinator Friendly Garden signs from the Endangered Species Coalition (ESC) to identify plantings funded by the ESC that provide beneficial plants and habitat for various species of pollinators. Both signs are posted at heavily used pedestrian areas to serve as an educational identifier of the plantings' purpose.

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.

22-R-13 No Mow Month.pdf

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 City of College Park, MD

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete as an ongoing annual volunteer initiative

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

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below.

Completed December 2022 for April 2023

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