City of College Park

College Park, MD

Mayor Fazlul Kabir

Pledge Summary

College Park is a city in Maryland. It is home to the University of Maryland College Park campus and has several community gardens. It has a population of roughly 35,000 people. Mayor Fazlul Kabir is committed to saving the Monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayor's Monarch pledge. He is looking forward to continue engaging citizens in building more pollinator habitats in the city.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- 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 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

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.).

500

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.)

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50

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.

0.1

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.

Kenesaw Food Forest, there was a garden expansion that included a Monarch garden. With our plant and seed giveaways, we expect that several residences have started and/or expanded their available habitat. There is an existing pollinator garden at City Hall and other community gardens and parks.

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

We are engaging all our residents, including our marginalized communities, through our plant and seed giveaways. Through our plant and seed giveaways, we reach our marginlized communities and are able to educate them on types of plants and the benefits of each to pollinators, especially butterflies. Additionally, we have resources in both English and Spanish to reach non-English speakers with information about Monarchs and other pollinators. Several of our members speak Spanish fluently and are able to help Spanish speaking residents pick out the best plants and seeds for their yard.

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

Our community's motivation for taking and continuing to work on the Mayors' Monarch Pledge is environmental stewardship: taking care of our environment and the creatures in it.

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?

The policy advocacy aspect has been most helpful. The Mayors' Monarch Pledge has become an accessible way for mayors and local government officials to actively participate and it provides a strong foundation for moving forward with monarch conservation efforts. These officials can be influential in pushing policies that support both environmental goals and community engagement. Multilingual and culturally adapted materials and resources would be most helpful to meet our goals. We have found that resources that help residents with existing problems (mosquitoes, poor drainage, expensive lawn care, etc.) and also highlight the benefit to Monarch butterflies seem to be persuasive, though any resources would be appreciated for our plant and seed giveaway events.

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

The Bee City USA Committee is responsible for expanding and maintaining pollinator friendly gardens in the city, advocating for more pollinator garden spaces, advocating for no mow April, slow mow Summer and Leave the Leaves over the winter. We reach residents via monthly articles about pollinators in the city newspaper. We also advocate for environmentally friendly policies to be adopted by the City, including promoting battery powered law equipment, loosening restrictions on lawn codes and purchasing land for garden expansion in the city.

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.

DSCF4501.JPG

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

DSCF5019.JPG

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

636 total plants given away at four separate plant giveaways

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

318

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

Hollywood Farmers Market hosted the giveaways

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

318

What species were collected or propagated?

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Asclepias tuberosa, asclepias incarnata

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

Tree and Landscape Board Members and Bee City USA Members

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

Held more than 4 seed giveaways at the Hollywood Farmers Market that included milkweed. Additionally, we partnered with an College Park resident that collected native seeds to give away to the community, which we also gave away at the Hollywood Farmers Market.

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)

Kenesaw Food Forest (39°00'26.0"N 76°54'56.2"W)

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

Bee City USA Committee, Tree and Landscape Board and interested/engaged citizens of College Park

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

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