City of Cedar Park

Cedar Park, TX

Mayor Corbin Van Arsdale

Pledge Summary

Cedar Park is a city in Central Texas with a population of approximately 100,000. The city is on the edge of the Texas Hill Country, is home to over 1000 acres of parkland and preserve areas and maintains two community gardens. The Mayor and Councilmembers of Cedar Park are committed to saving the Monarch population by signing the Mayors Monarch Pledge and engaging the residents in providing pollinator habitat throughout the city.

Action Items Committed for 2021

Communications and Convening

- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.
- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- 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.)
- Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

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.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor James Penniman-Morin	2026	3/30/2026	
Mayor James Penniman-Morin	2025	4/8/2025	Signatories

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Mayor James Penniman-Morin	2024	12/7/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor James Penniman-Morin	2023	12/16/2022	Leadership Circle
Mayor Corbin Van Arsdale	2022	12/15/2021	Leadership Circle
Mayor Corbin Van Arsdale	2021	4/23/2021	Leadership Circle

Action Items

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.

10

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

Cedar Park is in the Central Texas Flyway

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?

Monarch posters and educational materials for event kiosks.

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

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.

ROW's and Park Preserves

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

Not yet defined

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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Unknown

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

Positive support received from City Council

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).

Public communication involved social media platforms as well as the City of Cedar Park website

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

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

Public meetings with "Friends of the Garden" groups at Milburn and Veterans Parks.

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions/maintenance implemented for mowing or planting programs.

Worked with Parks Superintendent (Cody Anderson) to defer mowing in selected ROW's and other areas that have milkweed populations.

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

Milkweed.jpg

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

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Parks Department Operations Division, Garden Clubs at Veterans and Milburn Park, Hill country Bloomers

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

Quarterly HOA meetings included 13 neighborhood associations throughout the City

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions implemented for mowing and maintenance programs.

During one of the 4 meetings each year, Monarch updates are presented to the group.

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

Monarch Poster.jpg

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.

Monarch Mural.jpg

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).

PACE Board approved installation of mural at Milburn Community Park

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

PACE Advisory Board

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).

10

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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

2000

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

Parks and Recreation Department

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

500 seed packets

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

7

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

Ripe seed pods were collected by Parks Department employees along Blockhouse Drive and dispersed in selected Buttercup Creek Preserve areas.

What species were collected or propagated?

Green Milkweed

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

Parks Department

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

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

20

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Pollinator beds maintained at Veterans and Milburn Community Gardens

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

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Hill Country Bloomers and Boy Scouts of America.

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