City of Prairie Village

Prairie Village, KS

Mayor Eric Mikkelson

Pledge Summary

The City of Prairie Village is a first-ring suburb near the heart of the Kansas City metropolitan area. With a population of 22,000, Prairie Village preserves the ambiance of a village with the livability of a neighborhood. The "village' lifestyle is enhanced by quality education, a variety of housing options, recreation and local commerce in pedestrian friendly centers. Since 2021, the City of Prairie Village, under the guidance of the Prairie Village Environmental Committee, has participated in the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge in an effort to support monarch and pollinator conservation.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- 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.

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.)
- Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.
- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2026	3/30/2026	

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Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2025	3/25/2025	Signatories
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2024	3/27/2024	Signatories
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2023	4/6/2023	Signatories
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2022	4/4/2022	Signatories
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2021	4/29/2021	Signatories

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.

0.05

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

Our motivation is to support monarch conservation.

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?

Valuable resources include our city newsletter, which enables us to disseminate information to most households in Prairie Village, our annual Fourth of July Festival, which is an opportunity to interact in person with a large number of area families, and our relationship with the local non-profit Deep Roots KC.

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.).

12600

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.

Private Residences

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

This has not been addressed.

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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.)

200

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

This year we were able to increase the number of community members we educated about monarch conservation.

Selected Action Items

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:

April 7, 2025

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation - Mayor's Monarch Pledge - April 2025.pdf

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.)

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

July-August 2025 Village Voice.pdf

Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).

The Prairie Village Voice is the community newsletter for the City of Prairie Village. It is mailed to every business and residence in Prairie Village and is also available

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electronically. It is published every two months and allows residents and businesses to keep up to date with significant events and activities in the city. It is distributed to approximately 11,500 households and businesses in Prairie Village. One article was published in 2025 promoting native habitats for monarchs. Plant Sale and Garden Tour Supports the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. The Prairie Village Voice, July-August 2025, page 4. https://www.pvkansas.com/home/showpublisheddocument/14116/638876707727170000

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

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

200

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

1) For over 25 years, Prairie Village has held Village Fest, an annual Fourth of July event. During the event, the Prairie Village Environmental Committee had a designated event tent, with activities to support of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. 1) The city sponsored the giveaway of approximately 150 Asclepias tuberosa seed balls (individuals who accepted seed balls were also given soil, a biodegradable pot, and planting instructions). Participants, who were primarily children, had the opportunity to make their own seed ball or take a pre-made seed ball. 2) A children's craft activity was offered that promoted native gardening and pollinator habitats. Over 200 paper bookmarks embedded with native plant seeds were distributed. The children could color the bookmarks and then take the bookmarks home to plant. The seed varieties embedded within the bookmarks included: Jacobs Ladder, Spider Milkweed, Sweet Black Eyed Susan, Orange Butterfly Milkweed, Wild Bergamot, Lavender Hyssopp, Purple Coneflower, Smooth Aster, Indian Blanket, Prairie Coneflower, Mexican Hat, and Lace-Leaf Coreopsis. 3) Other activities at the Village Fest event included tabling by Johnson County Master Naturalists who provided native plant and monarch education, a beekeeper who brought a beehive with live bees for display and education, a community member who brought live monarch chrysalises for display and education, and a large monarch photo prop was displayed. 2) The Prairie Village Environmental Committee offered free native seeds to attendees of two native plant sales held in the parking lot of the Prairie Village City Hall (organized by Deep Roots KC). Seeds offered included Sweet Black Eyed Susan, White False Indigo, Orange Butterfly Weed, Green Milkweed, Red Swamp Milkweed, and White Swamp Milkweed. Approximately 375 seed packets were given out between both events.

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

Seed packets 2025 MMP.jpg

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

20250913_091019.jpg

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

2025 VillageFest (514).JPG

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

2025 VillageFest (525).JPG

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

2025 VillageFest (526).JPG

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

525

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

25

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

There was an increase in 3 registered Monarch Watch registered waystations on private property in Prairie Village over the past 12 months (an increase from 22 to 25 waystations). www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/

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

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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.

This action item is in progress. The Mayors' Monarch Pledge sub-committee is in the process of developing a plan to expand pesticide-free parks in the city from one park to two parks, and to incorporate a registered Monarch Waystation in the current pesticide-free park. Once the plan is complete, the committee plans to engage the city Public Works department in a discussion about how to work towards implementation of these goals.

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

In progress

Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and their monarch butterfly conservation efforts.

1) The Johnson County Master Naturalists tabled at our city's annual Fourth of July event, Village Fest. Their display included information about monarchs and native plants. 2) The City of Prairie hosted two native plant sales organized by Deep Roots KC, a local nonprofit organization whose mission is to promote the use of conservation and native plants to support a healthy planet. Sales were held on April 12th from 10 am – 2 pm and September 13th from 10 am – 2 pm. The event took place in the parking lot of the Prairie Village City Hall and was advertised via social media, the Deep Roots KC newsletter and website, and The Prairie Village Voice city newsletter. Multiple vendors sold native plants, and during the fall sale, Johnson County Stormwater offered discounts to Johnson County residents who purchased native trees that support wildlife and stormwater management. The Prairie Village Environmental Committee tabled the events and offered free native seeds to attendees and provided literature about planting and maintaining a monarch waystation. In conjunction with the native plant sales, Deep Roots KC sponsored native garden tours of Kansas City area residents, including the yards of several Prairie Village residents. The tour enabled community members to tour the properties of residents to see examples of how to incorporate native plants, shrubs, and trees into private property landscaping.

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

Johnson County Master Naturalists Deep Roots KC

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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)

Action item is in progress

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

Action item in progress

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.

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