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 2026

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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- 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.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2026	3/30/2026	
Mayor Eric Mikkelson	2025	3/25/2025	Signatories

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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 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.).

13500

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.)

250

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.

A City Park, Schools, Community Gardens, 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.

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

Our motivation is to support the conservation of monarchs and other pollinators.

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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Valuable resources include financial support from the City of Prairie Village (through the Environmental Committee budget), our city newsletter (this enables us to share information with Prairie Village households), our annual Fourth of July Festival (this is an opportunity to interact in-person with a large number community members), our relationship with the local non-profit Deep Roots KC (the lead organizer for the Native Plant sale held in Prairie Village), and large city events where we can distribute native seed packets (Village Fest, Prairie Village 75tjh Anniversary parade, and the Native Plant sale).

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

This year we were able to establish a native garden in one of our city parks; we have been working on this project for the past 3 years. Eight new Monarch Waystations were registered in our city through Monarch Watch. This is an increase from three new stations in 2025 and has brought the total registered Monarch Watch stations to 33 since the first station was registered in 2005. This is also the largest number of stations registered in Prairie Village within one year since 2005. https://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/

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 19, 2026

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

Earth Day/Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation - Earth Day - April 2026.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.)

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

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The Prairie Village Voice is the community newsletter for the City of Prairie Village. It is published every two months and allows residents and businesses to keep up to date with significant events and activities in Prairie Village. It is mailed to every business and residence in Prairie Village and is also available electronically. It is distributed to approximately 11,500 households and businesses. In 2026, an article was published to promote the Native Plant Sale held at our Municipal Offices and a Native Garden Tour of selected yards of Prairie Village homeowners: Deep Roots KC garden tour & native plant sale coming soon. (2026, May/June). The Prairie Village Voice, page 5. https://www.prairievillageks.gov/DocumentCenter/View/980/May--June-2026-Village-Voice-PDF Advertising for the Native Plant Sale and Garden Tour was also posted on the City of Prairie Village social media accounts.

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.

Prairie Village Community Gardens has added native plants to some of their garden plots as well as a dedicated Monarch Waystation.

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)

1

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

1 new sign is posted at the new monarch waystation in Bennett Park. This sign is in addition to other Monarch Waystation signs previously reported. https://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations/

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.

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

Environmental Committee Public Works Staff City Council Administrative Staff

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

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A native garden has been planted at a Prairie Village city park (Bennett Park). This park is maintained by Public Works. The Environmental Committee proposed the plan to the City Council and worked with Public Works on the planning and design of the native garden. (See action item below: “Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location”)

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

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

375

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?

Natie Plant Sale: A native plant sale held at the City of Prairie Village Municipal Offices May 9, 2026, from 10am - 2pm. Vendors included four native plant nurseries and a free native tree giveaway for those who traded-in invasive shrubs and trees such as Bradford Pears and Bush Honeysuckle. Members of the Environmental Committee tabled at the event to educate attendees about native gardening and monarchs, the Mayors’ Monarch Pledge, and give out free seed packets of Lance-leaf Coreopsis and Purple Coneflower. Village Fest: For over 25 years, the City of Prairie Village has held an annual Fourth of July event called Village Fest. During the event, the Prairie Village Environmental Committee hosted activities in support of the Mayors Monarch Pledge: approximately 100 children made seed balls that contained Marsh Milkweed seeds, an environmentally friendly children’s craft was sponsored by Magpie Creative Reuse Collective, tabling by Johnson County Master Naturalists, a beekeeper brought a beehive with live bees for display and education, a community member brought live monarch chrysalises for display and education, and a large monarch photo prop was displayed. Prairie Village 75th Anniversary Parade: During a Parade for the 75th anniversary of Prairie Village, the Environmental Committee handout out native seeds packets that included a QR code with information about the Environmental Committee/Mayors’ Monarch Pledge. Children walking in the parade with the Environmental Committee wore butterfly wings and a member of the committee dressed as a Bumble bee mascot. Seed packets contained the following seeds: Black-eyed Susan, Butterfly Milkweed, Lance-leaf Coreopsis, Purple Coneflower, Wild Bergamot, Prairie Blazing Star, Showy Goldenrod, New England Aster, and Wild Blue Phlox.

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

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coordinates, if possible)

Bennet Park, 5100 W 77th St, Prairie Village, KS 66208

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

A collaboration between the Prairie Village Environmental Committee and the Public Works department has resulted in the creation of a new 250 square foot bed of native plants in Bennett Park, this city's only pesticide free park. The bed was completed in September 2026 and exclusively includes 12 varieties of native plants: Cup Plant, Smooth Blue Aster, Iron Weed, Showy Goldenrod, Swamp Milkweed, Wild Bergamot, Purple Coneflower, Rough Blazing Star, Butterfly Milkweed, Prairie Coreopsis, Blue Wild Indigo and Prairie Dropseed. The garden has been registered as Monarch Waystation with the Monarch Watch.

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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