City of Cuero

Cuero, TX

Mayor Sara Post Meyer

Pledge Summary

Cuero, Texas, a community of 8256 located in South Central Texas, is proud of its heritage, its history, and its hospitality. the community's citizens are active in its landscaping efforts in parks and other public places. the citizens, once informed of the decline of the monarch population, began planting pollinator plants in private places. Students at elementary and junior high have studied the monarch and its migration through Cuero and prepared posters sharing important facts about butterflies, monarchs in particular. In addition students built small native gardens at their schools to help with migration. Mayor Sara Post Meyer encourages citizens to plant natives and other pollinator plants in their gardens. Mayor Meyer has signed the Monarch Pledge for the last four years.

Action Items Committed for 2021

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.
- 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 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.

Systems Change

- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Sara Post Meyer	2024	3/15/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor Sara Post Meyer	2023	3/28/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor Sara Post Meyer	2022	1/31/2022	Signatories
Mayor Sara Post Meyer	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.

2

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

Community is on the Monarch's flyway and community members think it important to provide natural resources for them.

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?

All resources have been helpful to help meet our goals; continued publicity materials to use in news media and on social media.

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.).

8500

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.

Created in a plot at City Hall which is highly visible on Main St.

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

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Offering free signs indicating a Monarch plantings are available.

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.)

2100 youth and 6400 adults

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

Communities interest in this project is still high after 5 years with more individuals planting milkweed in their own spaces.

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).

weekly newspaper, social media post and posters at the library and lobby of city hall.

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.

A Master Naturalist presented a workshop to Keep Cuero Beautiful members regarding the preservation of the Monarch Butterfly.

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

two KCB and 4-H

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.

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Date of Proclamation:

4/12/2021

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Proclamation 2021.pdf

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.

Keep Cuero Beautiful members attended a workshop on native habitats and monarch friendly plants. KCB members presented a program on native plants and monarch habitats to a local 4-H Club. KCB members led a workshop on native plants, butterfly habitats and wildflowers for the Junior Master Gardner Club.

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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 below.

in progress by summer of 2022.

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

City employees in process of shifting use of harmful chemicals to materials conducive to better plant management naturally.

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

city employees

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

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in progress

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

in progress by December 2022

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 below.

in progress

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

Parks department superintendent is reviewing present ordinances

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

City Tree Board and employees

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)

The City of Cuero demonstration garden featuring Tropical Butterfly Weed is located at 212 E. Main Street, Cuero TX.

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

City of Cuero employees

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

Monach garden.jpg

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

monarch garden city hall.jpg

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.

0.25

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