Township of Scotch Plains

Scotch Plains, NJ

Mayor Joshua Losardo

Pledge Summary

Scotch Plains is home to 25,000 residents. We are fortunate to have an active community garden, garden club, and Green Team. This in addition to our beautiful parks! Recently, we installed a pollinator garden at town hall and the library. Our parks offer residents ample space to get out in nature and many make use of our nature trail at Brookside Park as well as the Watchung Reservation which borders us.

Action Items Committed for 2024

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.

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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Joshua Losardo	2024	12/7/2023	
Mayor Joshua Losardo	2021	5/13/2021	

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.).

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

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none, please write 0." (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.)

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.

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.

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

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

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?

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

Selected Action Items

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

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

2024 seed swap.pdf

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

Twice a year, the Scotch Plains Garden Club hosts a native seed and plant swap in front of the municipal building in partnership with our Farmers Market. Residents are encouraged to attend, swap and learn about native plantings. The Garden Club also hosts speakers at the library during the year.

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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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)

Scotch Plains Municipal Building 430 Park Avenue Scotch Plains (moved in October 2024 to SP Library Bartle Ave)

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

Scotch Plains Garden Club; Scotch Plains Community Garden

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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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:

May 13, 2021

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