City of Rochester

Rochester, MI

Mayor Stuart Bikson

Pledge Summary

Rochester is a city in southeast Michigan with a population of roughly 13,000. Rochester is home to several beautiful parks and gardens. Mayor Bikson of Rochester, MI has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the city.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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.
- 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.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- 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.
- Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.
- 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

- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

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- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.

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.
- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.
- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Debbie Jones	2026	2/28/2026	
Mayor Nancy Salvia	2025	2/28/2025	Monarch Champions

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Mayor Stuart Bikson	2024	2/18/2024	Monarch Champions
Mayor Stuart Bikson	2023	2/17/2023	Monarch Champions
Mayor Stuart Bikson	2022	1/18/2022	Monarch Champions

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.

1.75

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

The group Rochester Pollinators, a committee of the Rochester City Beautiful Commission, is dedicated to actively supporting habitat restoration for beneficial insects through native plantings. With the MMP we have taken on the challenge to complete 24 actions on the list.

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?

The action item list for the pledge has been the best tool to engage others and, as a guide, learn from and implement the actions. It would be helpful to know what to do once the pledge is signed. For instance: Step 1: start a small group to assist the city in implementing the actions. Step 2: who are the best people to talk to or engage with at the city level to work with the city on the actions Step 3: Case studies of how citizens are engaging with their cities to implement the actions Step 4: How to work with a city to implement actions Step 5: Case studies on how the actions are being done in other cities - what are easy and what are more challenging

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.).

2022

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.

Yards, containers, planters on Main St., schools, City parks, Fire Station, Public Library, along walking/biking trails, places of worship, nature center, along rights-of-way

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

The Children's Center in Detroit is an organization that helps families and children who face significant challenges grow and heal. They provide services for children with autism learning differences, emotional and behavioral challenges, issues associated with poverty and trauma. The Rochester Pollinators planted a Butterfly Garden this fall, 2022, as a part of their Adopt-A-Garden program. The second component of this engagement is to use the garden as a teaching tool for their Summer Camps. The Rochester Pollinators will do a workshop with the kids about the Monarch Butterfly, native plants, and other pollinators in Summer, 2023.

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.)

220 youths 1802 adults

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

The Rochester Pollinators committee sent letters and made calls this year to members of our Michigan State Legislature to urge them to pass HB 4896 which removes Milkweed from the noxious weed list and HB 4895 that bans neonicitinoids on all public lands in the State of Michigan. Also, please see action item descriptions below.

Selected Action Items

Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

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

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.

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

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

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:

January 31, 2022, Mayor Stuart Bikson

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

MMP Proclamation 2022- Mayors Pledge(7)(1).docx

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

1806

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

1. 2 Volunteers (one from Detroit Butterfly Nursery and one from Rochester Pollinators) collected A. incarnata and A. tubersoa seeds to provide 1800 seed packs for TedX Detroit info table about Monarch Butterflies and other pollinators, Oct 26, 2022 2. Native Seed collection at Howlett Park, in Rochester, October 22, 2022. An open invitation went out to the Rochester community via social media to join us and help collect. Numbers of people above is a rough estimate.

What species were collected or propagated?

A. tuberosa and A. incarnata plus other native seeds

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

Detroit Butterfly Nursery; Rochester Pollinators

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

244B05A5-2276-4645-94E3-C412BE1AB01A.jpeg

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

IMG_2330(1).jpg

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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.

RochesterPollinators_Logo-01.png

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

Garden Plans 2022.pdf

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

Butterfly_Brochure_Print.pdf

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

LibraryDisplay.pdf

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

Pollinator Brunch_Rack_Card.pdf

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

Stratification Brochure.pdf

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

RoseMilkweed.jpg

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

ButterflyMilkweed.jpg

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

DAR-Conservation Chair Presentation (1).pdf

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

The Rochester Pollinator Committee (https://rochesterpollinators.org/) of the Rochester City Beautiful Commission functions as communications, education and advocacy group for pollinators and native plantings, including the Monarch Butterfly and milkweeds. This includes a bi-monthly newsletter with over 1000 subscribers, social media posts (Facebook page, 1,715 followers, Facebook groups page, Instagram, a city webpage, and a dedicated website (rochesterpollinators.org). Printed brochure, stratification & winter sowing brochures and a 13-page Michigan Native Plant Garden Guide and 11 presentations in 2022 (presentation example attached).

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

Rochester Department of Parks and Recreation; Rochester City Beautiful Commission (CBC); Rochester City Council; Rochester Pollinators (Committee of CBC), Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve (Rochester)

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

NWF Community Wildlife Habitat Program https://www.nwf.org/CommunityWildlifeHabitat

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

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

300

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

Milkweed to Bart Jones, Landscapist.jpg

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

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More milkweed and other native nectaring plants were added to public gardens and Main Street planters this year: these include adding 2 flats (64 plants) to "Victoria's Garden" (100 sq feet) at Dinosaur Hill Nature Center; 30+ more plants added to Rochester Municipal Park Butterfly Garden; Rochester Pollinators gave the Rochester City Landscapist, Bart Jones, 3 flats (96 plants, with lots of milkweed); More plants added to the Rochester Hills Public Library Pollinator Garden.

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

City of Rochester DPW, Dinosaur Hill Nature Center, Rochester Parks and Recreation, Rochester Hills Public Library

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.5

Please describe the extent of revisions or maintenance to invasive species removal programs, as well as the practices or techniques used to remove the invasive plants.

Practices to remove the invasives: Volunteers worked to dig & manually pull the invasives out. Invasives were bagged and sent to the landfill

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

Muni Park Invasive removal.jpg

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

Kayak locker invasives.jpg

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

July 9 Invasive species day.pdf

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

Kayak Locker invasive removal.jpg

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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.

1. Rochester DPW and Rochester Pollinators (RP) collaborated to create a Butterfly Garden in the Municipal Park. 2. Howlett Park in Rochester has been restored as a Prairie Restoration area that is no longer mowed. 3. Native plantings (including Milkweeds not pictured here) as part of the Clinton River bank restoration project in Rochester Municipal Park as managed by Clinton River Watershed Council (CRWC). 4. Invasive plant removal along the bank of the Clinton River in the Rochester Municipal Park, partnering with the Clinton River Watershed Council, Rochester DPW-Parks, and Rochester Pollinators with many local volunteers in July of 2022.

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

Picture1.jpg

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

Picture2.jpg

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

Picture3.jpg

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

Picture 4.jpg

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

City of Rochester Department of Public Works City of Rochester Parks Division City Beautiful Commission (managed by Howlett Park) Rochester Pollinator Committee Clinton River Watershed Council

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.

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

1. Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve and Rochester Pollinators collaboration to establish Locally Sown a Native Plant Seed Library. You can read more about the Native Plant Seed Library here: https://rochesterpollinators.org/pages/the-seed-library-at-dinosaur-hill. 2. Affiliated with local Wild Ones, North Oakland Chapter. Read more about the Wild Ones, North Oakland, here: https://northoakland.wildones.org/ (collaboration on native plant sales, garden walks, community presentations and events.) Partnered with North Oakland Wild Ones at the two-day Detroit Zoo Greenfest festival. They had a pledge for a milkweed plant and other native plants for the adult Monarch butterflies. 3. Collaboration with the local Clinton River Watershed Council in native seed education, collection, invasive species plant removal, and wet meadow enhancement, including adding milkweed plants to 1/4 acre in the Rochester Municipal Park. 4. Presentations to local garden clubs to support native plant gardening, including milkweeds (Rochester, Rochester Hills, Paint Creek): a. Winter sowing b. Importance of Milkweeds and other Native Plants c. Pollinator Friendly Fall cleans up d. Pollinator-Friendly Spring garden prep 5. On the approved Master Gardener volunteer list at Michigan State University Master Gardener Accreditation Volunteer Program. We have 5 Master Gardeners actively volunteering for invasive species removal, Milkweed native plantings, and garden clean-ups.

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

Picture5.jpg

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

Picture6.jpg

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

Picture7.jpg

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

Detroit Zoo Pledge area.jpg

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

MT at Greefest Table.jpg

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

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Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve Jane Giblin, Master Gardener Mary Jameson, Oakland University North Oakland Wild Ones City of Rochester- DPW DAR - Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Marilyn Trent, Founder of Rochester Pollinators, is the conservation chair. The DAR has 1M members. The Conservation Program has a challenge that is national challenge. A member can pick up trash, and non-native invasive plants, plant a tree, or do some trail maintenance. Individual members are challenged to plant (or maintain) a pollinator-friendly garden. This can even be a container on a balcony or patio. As the conservation chair, Marilyn Trent gave a presentation on saving the Monarch butterfly and will give away native milkweed plants, in the spring, to plant. Rochester Garden Club Paint Creek Garden Club Rochester Hills Garden Club

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.

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

IMG_0457.jpeg

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

3C5AC6D5-576C-4F82-893F-67F641122C1E.jpeg

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

6F364F2E-CE76-4DD1-A390-3DDB21E91F44.jpeg

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

94ACAB70-F918-4D08-AA2E-130DE0F7BBCA.jpeg

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

IMG_1064.jpg

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

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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).

1. Summer 2021-22: Rochester Pollinator “Monarch Butterfly Wings” project. Giant monarch butterfly wings were adhered to the outer wall of a City parking garage for people to stand in front of and take their photos. Photos were featured on social media and participants were entered into a drawing for a downtown gift certificate and milkweed seeds. A small sign to the left of the mural sends people to the Rochester Pollinator website. https://rochesterpollinators.org/pages/monarch-butterflies 2. Fall 2021: A mural featuring the monarch butterfly was added to a wall on Main St. The project was a collaborative effort between the Rochester DDA, Detroit Institute of Arts, DTE Energy and Paint Creek Center for the Arts. More info here: http://oaklandcounty115.com/2021/10/17/ecology-triptych-mural-adds-nod-to-nature-in-downtown-rochester/ 3. Spring 2022: A pollinator mural entitled: Wild and Beautiful, by mural artist: Louise Jones aka “Ouizi.” The work features the Monarch butterfly, other pollinators and native plants and was commissioned by Rochester City Beautiful Commission and completed on a groundskeeper building prominently located in our municipal park. This mural increases awareness of the Monarch butterfly through its prominent image in the painting. More details here: https://www.candgnews.com/news/new-mural-to-bloom-in-rochester-municipal-park-this-summer-122540 4. Summer 2022: Kids’ Butterfly Photo Contest for kids aged 5-18. 2 Winners (1-5th grade, 1-6th grade) received a $50 Downtown Rochester gift card and had their photographs shared out on social media and on the Rochester City Website. Winning photos are included below. This project was meant to increase awareness of butterflies and the plants they need by encouraging families to visit our public gardens that feature native plants and to observe butterflies closely.

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

City Beautiful Commission, Rochester DDA, Detroit Institute of Arts, DTE Energy, Paint Creek Center for the Arts, Rochester Parks and Rec, Rochester Pollinators Committee

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).

35

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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.

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

Riverbank invasive removal.jpg

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

Riverbank for native plantings.jpg

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

Wet Meadow Enhancement Chris Bobryck.jpg

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

IMG_8290.jpg

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

This action is an ongoing project in the City of Rochester. We do not expect that it will be "complete" anytime soon because in our view, there will continue to be a need to plant natives to support habitat restoration and healthy ecosystems in our area, and remove invasive plants. This year, we are engaged in a project to remove invasives and plant natives along the Paint Creek River Bank in the Rochester Municipal Park. We have also begun a project to restore a native wet meadow area on the edge of the park with natives.

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

The Rochester Parks Dept.; Rochester DPW; Clinton River Watershed Council; The Rochester Pollinators committee of the Rochester City Beautiful Commission (CBC) that focuses entirely on education and practical planting projects to increase native plants, including varieties of milkweed throughout the city (and beyond as we partner with many other area municipalities in getting their own native planting programs started.) The CBC has also identified planting natives as a significant part of their mission for the city.

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

Ongoing--in progress

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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

City of Rochester City Council, Employees, Department Heads and Residents

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

Complete

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.

December 9, 2019, Page 159 has the native plants information which is for pollinator insects that encompasses the Monarch butterfly.
https://www.dropbox.com/s/flysziqd21mka4m/Rochester-PARKS-REC-2019-FINAL-012920.pdf?dl=0

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

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

Howlett Park Location.jpeg

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

Howlett Park info sign.jpeg

What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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.

13.1

How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)

52

Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)

Howlett Park, Sycamore Dr, Rochester, MI 48307@42.6892724,-83.1297583 (reported lot numbers are an estimate since the property is one large piece in a residential area that belonged to the Catholic Diocese. It could have been subdivided, but the City of Rochester

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purchased it as green space and then planted native plants including milkweeds. It is now considered a restored Prairie Remnant.

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

Rochester City Beautiful Commission, Rochester-Avon Historical Society; DPW; Planning help from McKenna & Associates

Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.

Howlett Park was opened in 2012 and native plantings are ongoing. Only trails are mowed. This year, we held a seed collection event there in October. We are listing here because it is part of our overall work to help save the Monarch and other pollinators and it has not been documented in previous years of the MMP.

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)

1. Rochester Hills Public Library (RHPL), 500 Olde Towne Rd., Rochester, MI 48307. The RHPL Butterfly Garden (20 sq ft) contains 3 different types of milkweed to support Monarchs. After planting was completed, a garden tour was offered to the public to explain the significance of the native plants and milkweeds for Monarchs and other pollinators. 2. Rochester Fire Department, "Heroe's Point Garden", 277 E 2nd St, Rochester, MI 48307: The RFD garden (300sq ft) contains 2 types of milkweed for monarchs. 3. Rochester Municipal Park, "Butterfly Garden," 400 6th St, Rochester, MI 48307: This large garden (1200sq ft) features 2 types of milkweeds and a variety of native and nectar producing flowers. It is located near the main entrance to the park and is visited by thousands. There is a detailed informational sign at the entrance

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

Rochester Pollinators, City Beautiful Commision, RHPL Director Juliane Rochester Fire Dept, :

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

RPHL Garden.jpg

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

IMG_1018(1).jpeg

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

Heroes Pointe 2(1).jpg

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

IMG_4124 2(2).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.

.4

Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.

How many estimated individuals participated in your challenge? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 100).

24

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

Wild Ones, North Oakland

When did this challenge take place?

April/May 2022

What is the total acreage of habitat created? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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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4.26

Please describe your challenge and the results.

We invited those who follow us on social media to participate in No Mow May, Bee City USA https://beecityusa.org/no-mow-may/. We ran a social media campaign with background information to encourage people to participate. Several reported that they had increased awareness of the need for native plants and less lawn. A follow up RP blog post summarized the results of the event and offered further suggestions: https://rochesterpollinators.org/blogs/news/no-mow-may-is-a-first-step

Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes 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.

Butterfly Garden Ribbon Cutting Celebration FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE.pdf

How many estimated individuals attended the event? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field ((Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only), e.g. 500)

74

What was the date of your festival?

August 23, 2021

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

Rochester Pollinators, Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce, City of Rochester

Please describe the details of your monarch butterfly festival and how you ensured the event was accessible by all residents in the community (e.g., events, length, notable successes, outreach, location).

We invited anyone of our followers to our social media channels, newsletter, and Rochester Regional Chamber of Commerce membership and had a press release sent to the media outlets. The location was in the Rochester Municipal Park, which is easily accessible to the public.

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

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

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1328

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

December 2021 Dinosaur Hill Nature Preserve provided space for Rochester Pollinators to create a native seed library called "Locally Sown" https://rochesterpollinators.org/pages/the-seed-library-at-dinosaur-hill To date, 28 people from December 2021 through October 5th, 2022 have visited the Seed Library and filled out the Seed Library Membership form. Those 28 people borrowed 80 seed packets. We offered 23 different MI native plant seed packet options, including A. incarnata and A. tuberosa. • July 2022, Rochester Pollinators hosted an info table at the Blake's Farms Lavender Festival and gave away 180 milkweed plants to people willing to commit to at least one action to support Monarch Butterflies and other pollinators. Approximate engagement number: 1000 over 3 days. See photos for pledge details. • June and September 2022: Rochester Pollinator Native Plant Sales at the Downtown Rochester Farmers Market. Over 220 preorders and many plants sold. Milkweed plant given away with each order.

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

IMG_0636 (1).jpeg

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

IMG_0634 (1).jpeg

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

Pledgers.jpg

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

IMG_0640 (1).jpeg

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

RP-Locally Sown_Logo.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.

Farmers Market Volunteers at table(1).jpg

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

5000

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

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.

Main Street Planter.jpeg

Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

Bumpouts along Main Street in Downtown Rochester, between 2nd Street and University. Also, a roadside strip along 1st street near Walnut has a native planting of Sneezeweed and Mountain Mint. See the photo of the downtown Rochester Street map.

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

30

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.25

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Bart Jones of Lawnworks is the City of Rochester's contracted landscapist. He is an advocate for saving the Monarch butterfly and does all of the gardening, watering and maintenance on Main Street.

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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)

3

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

1. Rochester Hills Public Library Sign: features a Monarch on Purple cone flower; states: "This garden contains Michigan native plants that feed, shelter and sustain our local pollinators, including bees, butterflies and hummingbirds. Our pollinators are crucial to the sustainability of our local ecosystem and 1/3 of our food supply." 2. Roch. Municipal Park Butterfly Garden sign Main headings (detailed info and graphics beneath): "This Garden is Saving Butterflies and Pollinators"; "4 Stages of Monarch Butterfly Life Cycle"; "Monarch Super Highway: Migrating from Mexico to the Midwest and Canada"; "Benefits of Michigan Native Plants: Robust Food Supply; Environmentally Safe and Healthy; Low Maintenance Perennials; Without Milkweed, there will be No Monarchs; and How You Can Help" 3. Howlett Park sign shows areas of native planting, offers a rationale for planting natives on public lands, details on phases of planting; history of the park

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

Howlett Park info sign.jpeg

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

2021 Butterfly Garden.jpg

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

RPHL Garden(1).jpg

Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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

In progress

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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

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

Native Trees (1).png

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

Tree City USA--Arbor Day Foundation; Rochester City Council, Rochester Tree Committee

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

We have many projects that are detailed in other action items that encourage the planting of milkweeds, including milkweed plant give-aways, native gardens, plant sales that include a Monarch kit, etc. . . Our "Tree City USA" project is also ongoing in the City of Rochester to increase the number and diversity of native trees. http://rochestermi.org/562/Tree-Zone Part of the project offers incentives for planting new native trees, including funds to defray the costs of new trees for residents. In addition, the removal of native trees is discouraged and residents must go through an easy process with the City if they want or need to remove trees from their property. From the website: "The Rochester Tree Committee celebrated the 150th Anniversary of Arbor Day on April 29, 2022. The City of Rochester participated with activities and tree plantings at the Municipal Park to honor the role trees play in building a healthy community and beautifying the city. In addition, Rochester has been honored as a “Tree City” by Tree City USA for eight (8) consecutive years! Rochester has prioritized trees in our community through the work of the Tree Committee, which is proud to report that it has met 30% of its tree coverage goal. Work continues on the preservation of the tree canopy for future generations. This Spring 2022, a diverse collection of trees will be planted along Letica Drive, and a grove of Sugar Maple trees will be planted in the community garden to enhance visitor experience. Please make plans this summer to bring your family to the garden to enjoy this beautiful communal area."

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

Rochester Pollinators and DPW

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

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We discovered that Milkweed was NEVER listed as a noxious weed and the City of Rochester is committed to making sure it will stay that way! However, Rochester Pollinators, Rochester DPW and the Rochester Park Dept. actively advocated with members of our State of Michigan Legislature, for the passing of HB 4896 which removes milkweed as a noxious weed at the state level. We will continue to do so.

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

complete

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.

There is no need for a policy as it was never considered "noxious" by our city.

Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

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

Dinosaur Hill Nature Center (City of Rochester), Delta Kelly Middle School and Meadow Brook Elementary, Long Meadow Elementary (Rochester Comm. Schools), Rochester Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? If you are involved with another National Wildlife Federation program, please mention that below. (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

We create our own programs utilizing information and materials from various sources including Xerces Society, NWF, Heather Holm, Journey North, Monarch Watch, etc. Kids at the locations below have had educational presentations and workshops on the importance of pollinators, pollinator native plant relationships, and work shops in seed stratification and germination. Rochester Pollinators will facilitate a pollinator program outside in the garden during the 2023 Summer Day Camp at the Detroit Children's Center.

How many acres of monarch and pollinator habitat have been planted through this effort? 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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.25

What resources, if any, are you providing to educators?

Advisory support from Rochester Pollinator volunteers, free garden plan resources, native plants, informational presentations and workshops

What is the maintenance schedule to ensure planted habitat is maintained?

We provide volunteers to weed and water the Dinosaur Hill Butterfly Garden (student designed and planted); Volunteers also tend to the Children's Center garden. Meadow Brook and Delta Kelly Elementary are being maintained by the teachers and PTA.

How many students and educators would you estimate are being reached? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

60-70 students and 4-6 educators

How many schools, community groups, leaders, or centers were engaged in this effort? How many of these collaborations and partnerships are "new"? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

4

Please list the names of the schools you are working with.

Delta Kelly Elementary, Rochester Community Schools (RCS) Meadow Brook Elementary (RCS) Long Meadow Elementary (RCS) Detroit Children's Center--service and support organization in the City of Detroit for families and children with learning differences, autism, and emotional and behavioral challenges, and children and families who are healing from trauma.

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.

Rochester Pollinators works with local garden clubs and has helped to complete several public demonstrations gardens and presented on why milkweed and other native plants are necessary for Monarchs and other pollinators. Examples: 1. Rochester Hills Garden Club-Presentation at the Butterfly Garden in the park, "Why Are Native Plants Important?" 8/17/21 (see Picture 1). 2. Rochester Garden Club-Presentation at Rochester Community House - "Grow Back Better: Pollinator Friendly Fall Clean-up", 10/13/21 (see Picture 2). 3. Paint Creek Garden Club- "Winter Sowing Workshop" - Van Hoosen Farm, 2/11/22 (See Picture 3) 4. Grosse Pointe Park Garden Club Presentation, September 15, 2022. (see

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Picture 4) 5. Unity Church of Rochester, "Why We Need Pollinators", Presentation, April 24, 2022 6. Paint Creek Garden Club, "Leave the Leaves," Presentation, October 14, 2022

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

Picture2.jpg

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

Picture1.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.

Pollinator Garden Presentations.pdf

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.

-Rochester Pollinators educational presentations to Rochester Hills Homeowners Association (HOA) Leadership Fall Forum at City Hall “Butterfly Gardening to Save the Monarch Butterfly and More” at 6:30 p.m.October 14, 2021 -Cumberland Hills HOA formed a small "pollinator committee" and designated common areas to plant natives including Milkweed and reduce mowed areas.

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

Rochester Hills HOA Leadership Forum: Rochester Pollinators, Marilyn Trent spoke to a group of 32 attendees including some who attended virtually. The full presentation was uploaded and is available on the City of Rochester Hills website. Rochester Pollinators is positioned as a resource for any HOA subdivision to seek assistance and advice.

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

Rochester Hills HOA v2.jpg

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.

Complete

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

2022.01.26 City of Rochester Policy regarding use of Neonicotinoids.pdf

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

Rochester Pollinators City Council Presentation V2.pdf

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.

Completed March 1, 2022

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

Rochester City Council, Representative Padma Kuppa, Rochester Pollinators, Marilyn Trent

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

1. Avon Cemetery: Rochester Pollinators worked with landscape architects at Mulberry Hill to design the first native plant garden for the Avon Cemetery in the City of Rochester. This was the first time the City worked with a native plant landscape architect with milkweed plants in their garden plans. The Avon Cemetery will be a benchmark for promoting native plantings, encouraging other cemeteries to add milkweed plants in their landscaping to

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encourage the Monarch butterfly to their landscapes. The first plantings were in 2021 and more were added in 2022. 2. Paint Creek Bridge Garden project was planted in 2021 and is at the base of the Paint Creek Bridge in Downtown Rochester along the bike/walk trail. Continued work is underway to monitor and add more native plants. We partnered with the City of Rochester DPW and City Beautiful Commission, and landscape architects, Mulberry Hill. See the rough sketch of the plan below. Plans are underway for adding more native plants in spring, 2023.

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

Cemetery Garden Plans.jpg

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

City of Rochester Rough Sketch.jpg

Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.

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

MTrent Revised.jpg

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

IMG_1105.jpg

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

IMG_1119.jpg

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

IMG_1104.jpg

Please describe the process to create the strategy , the strategy goals and content, and/or results of implementation. Please also identify who was engaged in this process, what partnerships were established, and how you engaged these groups. Provide a link, if possible.

Children's Pollinator Garden at the Detroit Children's Center, 79 Alexandrine West, Detroit, MI 48201. The Detroit Children's Center: "The Children’s Center is home to many

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specialized clinical services. We lead the way in working with children who struggle with behavioral, emotional, educational, intellectual and developmental challenges or may have experienced trauma. We treat the whole child, looking at more than a single issue so we can provide the best, most comprehensive integrated care. We examine barriers in the home, school and community, working with the family who raises them and the organizations that support them." Adrienne Polumbo, director of volunteer engagement at the Detroit Children's Center, worked with representatives from Rochester Pollinators who planned a pollinator garden on site for the children to engage with during their summer camp in 2023. The garden was planted in Summer 2022 by Rochester Pollinator volunteers and contains a variety of native plants including milkweeds. Engagement Strategy: During the 2023 Summer Camp, the garden will become a teaching tool as workshops on native seed sowing and germination, and encounters with live examples of the Monarch Butterfly lifecycle and the milkweed in the garden will be offered and implemented by volunteers with Rochester Pollinators. Because the garden is onsite, there may be opportunities for children to be involved in tending to the garden. https://www.thechildrenscenter.com/

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