Nibley City

Nibley, UT

Mayor Larry Jacobsen

Pledge Summary

Nibley is located in northern eastern Utah in the center of the beautiful and scenic Cache Valley. It is a small, bedroom community with a rural feel and a population of 8,000. One of the many features of Nibley is its abundant park system which includes Firefly Nature Park. Firefly Park supports wild populations of both fireflies and monarchs and features a large pollinator garden that is tended to by the community. In 2023, Nibley City added an outdoor classroom at Firefly Park for our community to learn about nature, including monarch conservation. Mayor Jacobsen is committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators by re-signing the Mayor's Pledge, engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat, and pursuing opportunities to educate the public on the value of pollinators in our ecosystems.

Action Items Committed for 2024

Communications and Convening

- 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.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- 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

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pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).
- 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).
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

- 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.
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Larry Jacobsen	2025	1/3/2025	
Mayor Larry Jacobsen	2024	12/3/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor Larry Jacobsen	2023	12/8/2022	Leadership Circle
Mayor Larry Jacobsen	2022	2/17/2022	Leadership Circle

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.).

8000

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.)

3750

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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.

0.5

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.

Nibley City, Firefly Park

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

We are providing an outdoor classroom with educatoinal and interactive signage at 8 learning stations and a teaching website that can be accessed through QR codes at each learning station. Two of the learning stations deal with pollinators. This program is free to the public.

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

To continue to increase habitat for and protect 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?

Funding to create more habitat and additional educational spaces. We are obtaining grants to pursue our efforts.

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

We participated in a very active pollinator week with daily activities for the entire Cache County.

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.)

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

trifold_Pamphlet_2024_V2.pdf

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

Nibley City encouraged its residents to apply for a grant to receive native plants through the Utah Pollinator Habitat Program. The Program offers free native plants to those that qualify. https://ag.utah.gov/pollinator-habitat-program/

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.

Nibley encouraged members of the newly formed Cache Valley Gardeners' Club to apply for the Utah Pollinator Habitat Program at their first meeting and handed out flyers. https://ag.utah.gov/pollinator-habitat-program/

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.

In 2024, we assisted an Eagle Scout in revamping the native plant habitat to better control weeds. The native perennial plants were temporarily removed, the area was tilled and sheet mulched, and the plants re-installed. In the fall, as part of a community effort, over 1,000 additional plants were installed as part of the grant obtained through the Utah Pollinator Habitat Program and our own greenhouse efforts. The native plant habitat is adjacent to a field of milkweed and a more traditional pollinator garden.

Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

We partnered with the Nibley City Youth Council.

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).

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15

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).

The Youth Council is in the process of creating a monarch mural that will be painted on a community building.

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

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

Seed and Plant Exchange.png

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

We swapped about 100 plants and seed packets at the event.

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

35

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

Nibley City partnered with Cache Valley Wildlife Association.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

7

What species were collected or propagated?

We collected seed from showy milkweed (Asclepias speciosa) and swamp milkweed (Asclepias incarnata) at Firefly Park. Seeds were also grown in a greenhouse and donated to other projects within Cache County.

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

Nibley City partnered with the Cache Valley Wildlife Association and community members to collect the seeds.

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

The seeds were collected as part of the weekly gardening efforts in the Pollinator Garden and Native Pollinator Habitat at Firefly Park.

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 Pollinator Garden and Native Pollinator Habitat are both located at Firefly Park at 2400 South 1000 West, Nibley, Utah.

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

These sites were maintained and improved upon by the Cache Valley Wildlife Association and those involved in Scouting America.

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.

0.5

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 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)

The Firefly Park Outdoor Learning Program was launched in 2024 through the award of 2 separate grants. The outdoor classroom was installed in June, the website was launched in October (https://firefly-park-outdoor-learning-program.my.canva.site/), and the signs will be installed in January 2025. Nibley City is also a certified NWF Wildlife Habitat Community.

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

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NUMBERS only)

15

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

We expect the following schools to frequent the Firefly Park Outdoor Learning Program: Nibley Elementary (0.8 miles), Heritage Elementary (1.7 miles), Thomas Edison Elementary (0.6 miles), and Ridgeline High School (3.3 miles).

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

We are providing an outdoor classroom with educatoinal and interactive signage at 8 learning stations and a teaching website that can be accessed through QR codes at each learning station. Two of the learning stations deal with pollinators..

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).

900 students and 20 educators

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

Cache Valley Wildlife Association, Bridgerland Audubon Society, and Scouting America.

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.

0.5

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

During the summer months, the Pollinator Garden and the Native Plant Habitat (2 of the 8 learning stations) are maintained weekly by the Cache Valley Wildlife Association.

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?

National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program

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

We launched the Cache Valley Wildlife Association group at the time of certification.

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).

30

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

Southwest Monarch Study and Cache Valley Wildlife Association.

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

We are involved in the Southwest Monarch Study (https://swmonarchs.org/), Cache Valley Wildlife Association (https://www.facebook.com/groups/372564831819467), and Monarchs of Northern Utah (https://www.facebook.com/groups/147670485793076). Through the Southwest Monarch Study, we tag adult monarchs. Cache Valley Wildlife Association also conducted a community bioblitz at Firefly Park in June during Pollinator Week in conjunction with Monarchs of Northern Utah.

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

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

Cache Valley Wildlife Association

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

1000

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

We revamped the Native Plant Habitat to reduce weed pressure and added over 1,000 native plants. We also maintained the Pollinator Garden on a weekly basis and augmented the garden with additional nectaring plants.

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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.

45

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.

A number of invasive plants are found at Firefly Park. The County has measures to remove the invasive plants with minimal impact to the environment and pollinators. Little pesticides are used; hand removal is preferred.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Pollinator Habitat Sign Final.png

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

Native Bees.png

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

Pollinators.png

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

Monarch Sign.pdf

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

4

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

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We have 4 signs near the Pollinator Garden and Native Plant Habitat in Firefly Park. See attachments.

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

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

Door-to-door flyer.png

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

Nibley City has a Dark Sky Ordinance. The Cache Valley Wildlife Community reminds residents near Firefly Park about the ordinance during the summer to protect fireflies, etc. https://www.hjnews.com/news/government/nibley-city-council-adopts-light-pollution-ordinance-to-preserve-stargazing-fireflies/article_e690a0b8-8aab-51af-b1a3-4f12cc1901a2.html

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.

The Dark Sky Ordinance was adopted in May of 2020 to minimize light pollution, preserve fireflies, and protect fireflies. https://nibley.municipalcodeonline.com/book?type=ordinances#name=19.24.240_Outdoor_Lighting_Standards

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.

Cache Valley Wildlife Association

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

The Cache Valley Wildlife Association continues to engage with city staff and maintenance crews to seek ways to minimize impacts to all wildlife and enhance habitats.

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

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

Cache Valley Wildlife Association

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

In progress

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.

NA

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

This action is ongoing as we seek ways to improve on habitat and minimize impacts of pesticides.

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

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

Cache Valley Wildlife Association

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

In progress

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.

NA

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

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This action is in progress as we seek ways to incorporate additional native habitat into city parks and planning and minimize impacts of development.

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

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

Cache Valley Wildlife Association

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

In progress

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.

NA

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

We have made great progress with the reduction in chemicals used at Firefly Park for weed removal and the elimination of mosquito spray. However, it is an ongoing process and we continue to educate residents on alternative methods of pest and weed control.

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