City of Glens Falls

Glens Falls, NY

Mayor S. William Collins

Pledge Summary

Action Items Committed for 2023

Communications and Convening

- 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 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.

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.

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor William Collins	2025	4/30/2025	
Mayor S. William Collins	2023	3/10/2023	Signatories
Mayor William Collins	2022	2/18/2022	Signatories

Action Items

In total, how many individuals have been reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan-Dec)? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

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160

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.)

100 youth 60 adults

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

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.

In a public park and near the library in another public park

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

We distributed letters commending homeowners who had pollinator gardens in our city and gave them signs to display. We were intentional in making sure we canvased all socio-economic neighborhoods.

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

One member of the CPBC, Jim O'Hara, had worked with the National Wildlife Foundation for certification of our park and then he encouraged us to help the Mayor take the 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?

It would be nice to have some free handout about how to plant your own pollinator garden that we could put in a little stand by our garden for the public to take.

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

We are now looking into controlling the invasive species in our park so that more native plants have a chance to flourish.

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Selected Action Items

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.

Members of the CPBC met with representatives of Crandall Public library and encouraged the library to plant a pollinator garden. The garden was completed by the library this past year. Members of the CPBC have also reached out to local business, Stewart's Shoppes to encourage them to plant a pollinator garden in the new shop being opened on Glen Street.

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.

We worked with the Glens Falls DPW regarding mowing around the pollinator garden. Jodi, the manager of DPW for Crandall Park, instructed his workers to turn the mower away from the pollinator garden when mowing. One small change helped with our maintenance of the pollinator garden. We had much less weeding of grass and could concentrate on thining the pollinators.

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

We met with Jodi and discussed the situation and he made the change.

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.

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

By meeting with the staff and management of our local library we were able to influence them to plant a pollinator garden.

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

Our meetings were important to encourage the library to plant the pollinator garden.

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

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

pollinator garden August 2023.jpg

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 garden is in the biggest park in the City and is utilized by many residents. It is in front of a large open field where many people walk, picnic and enjoy nature.

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

The Crandall Park Beautification Committee works to maintain the pollinator garden. The photo shows CPBC members working in the garden. We secured the funding for this garden from the Soil and Water district.

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.

0.1

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.

light ordinance .pdf

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

The Common Council passed an outdoor light ordinance that limits light pollution.

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

complete

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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.

All exterior lights shall be designed and located in such a manner as to prevent objectionable light and glare from spilling across property lines in all residential and multifamily properties. b. No light fixture or lamp shall be greater than the aggregate of 60 watts incandescent or lumen equivalent if other bulb type.

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