City of Plano

Plano, TX

Mayor John B. Muns

Pledge Summary

The City of Plano is home to close to 285,000 residents and is located just north of Dallas. Plano is recognized as a leader in sustainability, as shown by their 2019 4-STAR Community Recertification. Plano is currently pursuing the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) Community Wildlife Habitat Certification. There are currently hundreds of wildlife habitats already located throughout the City including many Monarch habitats.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- 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 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).
- 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

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- 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.
- 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 John Muns	2026	2/6/2026	
Mayor John Muns	2025	12/4/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor John Muns	2024	1/16/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor John B. Muns	2023	2/8/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor John B. Muns	2022	2/28/2022	Leadership Circle

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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.).

255

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.)

255 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.

0.25

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.

School

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

We have not used the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in this way but hope to promote it more in 2023 to students.

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

Our community is devoted to sustainability and protecting the environment which we believes includes protecting 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?

Resources on planting for pollinators is always welcomed and helpful.

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

We are working hard complete the NWF Community Wildlife Habitat certification.

Selected Action Items

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

What species were collected or propagated?

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

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

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.

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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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

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

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.

Garden Email Exchange for Presentation.pdf

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

Plano staff went to a local garden meeting to talk about the NWF Wildlife Habitat program on January 4, 2022.

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.

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

Plano_Invoice_10.6.22.pdf

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

At the City of Plano the Sustainability division works closely with parks & recreation along with public works to maintain several natural areas throughout the city with the intention of supporting local pollinators.

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

The City of Plano has an IPM and several areas that are on a reduced mowing schedule. This year, the Department of Environmental Health and Sustainability worked closely with the Department of Parks and Recreation to certify 23 park properties as National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Habitats.

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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.

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

UB Insert - SEED 2022 WWLT.pdf

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

Live Green in Plano (LGIP) partners with the local Master Gardeners and Master Naturalist groups on a number of projects. We also have three Master Gardeners on staff in our Division.

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

The last project where we all collaborate includes our Waterwise Landscape Tour where we feature several local gardens in our community that utilize native plants. This year, we featured several gardens that included butterfly friendly plants. Master Gardeners and Master Naturalist were at these gardens to help answer questions about the plants in the garden. We had over 1,000 visitors at this event.

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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

NWF Presentation to BEST.pdf

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

There were 12 participants at the webinar.

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

LGIP staff presented at one of Neighborhood Services "BEST" meetings where they talked to several HOAs about creating NWF wildlife habitats (Meeting took place on Feb 9 via ZOOM).

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

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

City of Plano CARE Strategy (PDF).pdf

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

There are numerous partners listed on the last page of the CARE Strategy

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

In our "Green Infrastructure & Ecosystem Protection" section of our "CARE" Strategy we encourage the "Implement green infrastructure strategies designed to mitigate heat, stormwater, and other extreme weather impacts on City properties, in public spaces, and in the ROW", as well as, "Develop incentives and strengthen standards and requirements, where possible, to amplify the deployment of green infrastructure technologies and strategies on residential and commercial sites and buildings."

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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).

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

NWF Community Screen.jpg

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

City of Plano has worked with several members of Plano ISD, the Corporate Sustainability Forum (composed of several local businesses), Master Gardeners, Master Naturalist and other local Gardening groups.

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

The City of Plano is currently working towards their National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program

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

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

PCG Flowers May 2021 (2).jpg

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

Plano Community Garden

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

20

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

LGIP staff helps oversee and maintain the Plano Community Garden which includes a 2 acre pollinator prairie that contains several different types of milkweed, as well as, other nectar producing plants.

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?

NA

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.

I believe this policy was last updated in 2010. https://library.municode.com/tx/plano/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH14OFIS_ARTIINGE_S14-3WEREUNCOSTWA

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

In "Sec. 14-3. - Weeds, refuse, unsanitary conditions and stagnant water" we include an exception for designated pollinator or wildflower areas.

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

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

NA

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.

It is not on our noxious weed list. https://library.municode.com/tx/plano/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH6BUBURE_ARTIIIPRMACO_DIV2AM_S6-51DEADAMCH2INPRMACO

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Monarch Waystation.png

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

1

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

The attached photo is posted at one of our nature preserves (Oak Point).

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)

NWF Community Habitat Program

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)

18

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

Boggess, Christie, Clark, Dooley, Harrington, Haun, Hedgcoxe, Hughston, Mathews,McCall, Memorial, Murphy, Plano West, Rice, Robinson, Saigling, Shepard, Stinson

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

https://www.plano.gov/582/Green-School-Program#:~:text=The%20Green%20School%20Program%20is,cornerstone%20for%20school%20sustainability%20efforts.

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).

Estimated 1000 students and 25 teachers

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

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Plano ISD

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.

1

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

Please note that this program is designed to help schools create more sustainable habitats including gardening, recycling, etc.

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.

Arbor Hills 2019_06102019_PR_008.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)

Oak Point Nature Preserve, and Arbor Hills (6701 W Parker Road, Plano, TX), Arbor Hills Nature Preserve is a natural respite within our suburban city. It is a special place left largely undisturbed where visitors can have the pleasure of being surrounded by nature and experiencing animals, plants and ecoregions found in North Central Texas.

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

Wildlife is affected up to 200 feet on either side of a trail used by humans. Arbor Hills is a proud partner organization to the American Kestrel Partnership. Arbor Hills is a Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Site in accordance with the stringent program guidelines established by Audubon International. Oak Point has 236 acres of pollinator prairie, while Arbor Hills has around 33 acres.

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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