City of Plano

Plano, TX

Mayor John Muns

Pledge Summary

The City of Plano is home to close to 294,152 residents and is located just North of Dallas. Plano is recognized as a leader in sustainability, as shown by their 2023 Texas Environmental Excellence Award. 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 2024

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.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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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

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.).

931

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.)

337

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

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.

We have a wide variety of habitats. Many of them are the private yards of residents. We are encouraging local schools to create garden clubs and plant school gardens. We also have a community garden and a display garden where we continue to add plants that are butterfly friendly.

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

While conducting community outreach in marginalized communities, we educate people about certifying their yards as wildlife habitats. We then inform people that many of the qualifications benefit the monarchs that migrate through the area.

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

Our community's motivation is brought about by the reality that as people and companies move into the area, the resources that the butterflies rely on decrease. We want to put forth effort to reverse this trend.

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?

I think the guides have been the most helpful. I need to educate myself before I can educate others. I think it would be great if the website had a section for printable brochures and flyers that we could hand out at our events.

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

Our efforts have been well received by the residents.

Selected Action Items

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

300

What species were collected or propagated?

Antelope Horn

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

Live Green in Plano Volunteers and other Plano residents

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

At our Environmental Education Center (EEC) we have a Seed Library where residents can come collect seeds to propagate and plant in their garden. These seeds include milkweed and other nectar producing plants. The Seed Library is incredibly popular in the community.

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

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Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)

Environmental Education Center Garden (4116 W. Plano Pkwy)

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

We partner with hundreds of volunteers annually to maintain this demonstration garden. Some of these groups include Live Green in Plano, Master Gardeners, Local Corporate Groups (Toyota, Total Wine, Bank of American, etc) and non-corporate groups (high school and university groups).

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

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?

We are in the process of becoming a NWF Certified community and we are constantly partnering with groups to achieve this.

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

Our Live Green in Plano program continues to oversee these efforts along with several other sustainable programs.

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.

Oak Creek Estates HOA Sow Beautiful Garden Club SHARP Homeschoolers Fleur de Lis Garden Club

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

Participants were encouraged to create gardens and conservation zones which will decrease turf areas that would otherwise need to be mowed.

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.

antelope horn milkweed.jpg

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

swamp milkweed.jpg

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

Parks and Rec Bioblitz Facebook Post.PNG

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

City of Plano Parks

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

We have 37 different parks and schools in the City of Plano that are currently NWF habitats.

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.

PCG Flowers May 2021.jpg

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

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We run a community garden at the City of Plano that has a pollinator prairie, as well as, several pollinator beds throughout the garden.

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.jpg

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

Live Green in Plano Volunteers

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

75

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Our Plano Community Garden (https://www.plano.gov/636/Plano-Community-Garden) continues to plant and maintain a variety of plants that help to support pollinators. This includes nectar producing plants and milkweed in the pollinator prairie that is about an acre next to the individual garden plots and orchard at the garden.

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.jpg

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

wild flower zone sign.jpg

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

5

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

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We have monarch way stations at our Oak Point Nature Center, our NWF Site at Carlisle Elementary School and at the Environmental Education Center. We also have two wild flower conservation zone signs at our Environmental Education Center.

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.

Custom Milkweed Seed Packet Labels.png

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

Landscape Tour Facebook Post.PNG

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

Landscape Tour Yard with Labeled Plants.jpg

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

Landscape Tour Yard with Monarch on Gregg's Mistflower.jpg

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

Landscape Tour Yard with Monarch on Mexican Flame Vine 1.jpg

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

Landscape Tour Yard with Monarch on Mexican Flame Vine 2.jpg

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

Landscape Tour Yard with Monarch on Mexican Flame Vine 3.jpg

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

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Landscape Tour Yard with Monarch on Milkweed.jpg

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

Master Gardeners as well as Live Green in Plano volunteers helped oversee our seven different locations (six residential yards and our display garden).

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

We partnered with the Master Gardeners of Collin County to help support our garden tour event, the WaterWise Landscape Tour. This year, the theme was supporting wildlife and we had over 20 Master Gardener volunteers. Here is the website that includes several resources: https://www.plano.gov/541/WaterWise-Landscape-Tour. 545 people attended the WaterWise Landscape Tour. Over 100 of them received free milkweed seed packets with custom Halloween-themed labels (since the WaterWise Landscape Tour was held in October). Photos are attached.

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).

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

family nature event 2024.jpg

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)

One of the programs that we have maintained is the Plano Green School Program. We have also maintained our yearly Family Nature Event.

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)

16

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

Academy Andrews Barksdale Beverly Boggess Hedgcoxe Jasper Mathews McCall Memorial Murphy Plano East Plano West Rice Robinson Saigling

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

We have a website with resources on recycling (https://www.plano.gov/582/Green-School-Program) but we also provide gardening resources on our website here: https://www.plano.gov/537/Garden-Green-in-Plano

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).

400 - We estimate around 25 students per school are directly involved with our program

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

Plano PTA, Plano Independent School District and Live Green in Plano

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?

A few of the schools have a garden that is maintained weekly by students. At other schools, the gardens are typically maintained seasonally.

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