Lorain

Lorain, OH

Mayor Jack Bradley

Pledge Summary

Lorain is a city of approximately 65,000 residents on the coast of Lake Erie. Last fall we developed a pollinator garden across from our city hall and hope to have a dedication ceremony this spring.

Action Items Committed for 2022

Communications and Convening

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

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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Jack Bradley	2026	3/16/2026	
Mayor Jack Bradley	2025	2/5/2025	Signatories
Mayor Jack Bradley	2024	4/1/2024	Signatories
Mayor Jack Bradley	2023	2/3/2023	Signatories
Mayor Jack Bradley	2022	3/3/2022	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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120

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.)

90 adults, 30 children

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.

.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.

Our first habitat was begun in Fall of 2021 on a greenspace located on one of the most visible sites within City of Lorain: the northeast corner of Broadway and West Erie Avenue, across from Lorain City Hall. This is one of the most heavily traveled areas within the city. The space was dedicated as Marie Bonaminio Memorial Garden Park in May of 2022. This was our first attempt at creating a pollinator habitat, and we were advised to monitor this site for a full season prior to committing to the creation of additional sites. We're thrilled to report that Marie Bonaminio Memorial Garden Park is thriving! We're now ready to extend our Monarch Pledge to include additional parks, and twelve parks within the city have been designated as future pollinator gardens. Cultivation of these gardens will begin this Fall for Spring 2023 growth!

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

We will be placing pollinator gardens in all areas of the city through our Adopt-A-Pollinator Garden initiative. The various neighborhoods include those with low-income housing and communities of color.

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

Our community lies along the shores of Lake Erie and is one of the monarchs' first stops after crossing the lake from Canada. We know they require plenty of fresh food after their long journey, and we wanted to give them a full buffet. Everybody loves fresh food!

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?

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We formed a Butterfly Committee of several dedicated monarch enthusiasts in late 2020. Our committee includes members of city administration and staff as well as several like-minded members of the Lorain community. We are fortunate to have "resident expert" Jackie Conrad on the committee. Jackie teaches at a nearby elementary school and has included monarch conservation in her curriculum for many years. Jackie also maintains a large monarch habitat on her own property and has seen it expand and prosper over the years. Jackie's knowledge of monarchs and pollinators has been invaluable. We were also very fortunate to enlist the help of Dave Riddell of Ohio Prairie Nursery. Dave has been instrumental in helping us achieve our goals. Dave visited our site in Summer of 2021 and was able to give us site-specific expert advice on prepping, cultivating, seeding, planting and maintaining our initial monarch habitat. We relied heavily on Dave's expert advice every step along the way! In addition to Jackie and Dave, we have collected and referenced an incredible amount of literature on pollinators and pollinator gardens, including information from National Wildlife Federation, Ohio Prairie Nursery, The Pollination Project, US Fish & Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, Pollinator Pathway, Pollinator Partnership and Pollinator.com.

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

Following the success of our first butterfly garden, we have petitioned organizations within the community to assist in broadening our pollinator garden program. We've asked organizations to "adopt-a-pollinator-garden", and have had tremendous response to this request: twelve out of twelve proposed butterfly habitats have been adopted!!! We're excited to enlist the community's help in developing these new gardens this year and even more excited to witness the birth of the twelve gardens this coming Spring!

Selected Action Items

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.

pollinator planting.pdf

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

We will be placing pollinator gardens in all areas of the city through our Adopt-A-Pollinator Garden initiative. Twelve gardens have been adopted by community organizations. The organizations include Lorain Rotary Club, Lorain Lions Club, Lorain County Community Action Agency, Lorain City Schools, Mercy Healy Partners, Little Lighthouse Learning Center Preschool, Congregacion El Faro Mision Cristiana Church, Valor Home Veteran's Support Group, and City of Lorain employees. Seeding day at these 12 adopted gardens will be held during the week of December 5, 2022.

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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.

butterfly2.jpg

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

butterfly3.jpg

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

butterly1.jpg

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

FireFish Organization, Lorain Art Council, Lorain Senior Center, and artist/designer Ryan Craycraft who designed the project.

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).

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).

Two large sets of butterfly wings are being crafted from wood to be placed at our Marie Bonaminio Memorial Pollinator Garden Park site. There will be a four foot child-size and 6 foot adult-size set of wings. The wings are currently constructed and the wood has been primed. The final paint job is underway and will be finalized in time for Spring 2023 installation. The wings will be painted to mimic monarch butterfly wings. These will be installed at the garden site and will allow a unique photo opportunity for our residents and visitors alike.

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.

Date of Proclamation:

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November 17, 2022

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation mayors monarch pledge.docx

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.

image001.jpg

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

image002.jpg

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

image003.jpg

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

image005.jpg

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

image006.jpg

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

image007.jpg

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

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image009.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)

Our first pollinator garden was planted in early December 2021 across from Lorain City Hall at 200 West Erie Avenue, at the foot of Charles Berry Bascule Bridge. This is one of the most heavily travelled intersections in the city and is located behind a large sculpture "LORAIN" sign. The Lorain sign is a popular photo stop for residents and visitors alike and has drawn quite a crowd to our butterfly garden! The garden is also on the walkway to our largest outdoor venue, Black River Landing which hosts Lorain County's largest outdoor concert series, Rockin' On The River. The butterfly garden is in the heart of it all!

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

We started a Butterfly Committee which includes members of our city government along with a few interested citizens. We're a group of seven members total who meet monthly to discuss future plans and to monitor and maintain our current garden. We've recruited 10 organizations who have pledged to "adopt-a-garden" and we look forward to walking them through the first steps of creating 12 new garden sites.

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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