Lorain

Lorain, OH

Mayor Jack Bradley

Pledge Summary

City of Lorain is a Lake Erie lakefront community of roughly 65,000 citizens. Since 2019, a concerned group of local volunteers has been actively working to create a "pollinator friendly" environment for monarchs and other pollinators. Lorain's "Butterfly Committee" has successfully created 14 native gardens throughout the City of Lorain to-date. We are on the monarch migration path, their first stop across Lake Erie from Canada, making Lorain an ideal refueling station for monarchs and other migratory pollinators. We pledge to continue our efforts to increase awareness of the plight of the monarch and to encourage residents within our community to join us in making Lorain a welcoming pollinator habitat.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Communications and Convening

- 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.

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.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- 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).
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

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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.).

100

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.)

45

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.

1.5

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.

City parks

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

We promote our pollinator gardens and monarch habitats on literature through the Parks Department and on the City of Lorain website, as well on on Lorain Parks facebook page. We also promote at school events that our Parks Department participates in.

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

We have noticed a very marked increase in the monarch and other local pollinators population in our town! So much so that citizens have commented! People are taking

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notice, which is in turn prompting people to get involved.

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?

Information from National Wildlife Foundation, as well as the Pollinator Partnership, and Ohio Prairie Nursery.

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

Interest in our pollinator gardens/monarch habitats has grown each year since we began taking part in the mayor's Monarch Pledge (2022)

Selected Action Items

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

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)

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)

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

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

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).

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

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.

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

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.

Six groups: Lorain Parks & Rec Department, Little Lighthouse Learning Center, Lorain Rotary, City of Lorain Butterfly Committee, Lorain Public Library, USW Local 6621 Lorain City Workers Union

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

All groups assisted with seeding, weeding, mowing/trimming, maintaining pathways, maintaining butterfly structures at Bonaminio Pollinator Garden, and aided with educational information provided to community.

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 Sign (2).pdf

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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)

Corner of West Erie Ave and Broadway Ave- across from Lorain City hall. This is one of Lorain's most travelled routes/intersections. A local citizen's group recently installed a script "Lorain" sign as a photo stop and tourist attraction near the southwest corner of our garden. This brings many visitors to our pollinator garden and makes our garden a popular tourist stop!

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

Lorain Chief of Staff Rick Soto, Lorain Butterfly Committee, Jim and Joan Bonaminio and the Bonaminio family.

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

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

City of Lorain

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.

This began in 2022 and continues today with any and all new lighting that is installed on city property.

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

All new lighting being installed within Lorain's city parks is dark sky compliant lighting.

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Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

41

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

We have a total of 21 informative signs throughout our 15 gardens. The signs outline the process of establishing a garden, including expected growth times until the garden is mature. We have signs listing the variety of plants along with the types of pollinators the plants are expected to attract.

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?

City of Lorain Parks & Rec Department, Lorain Butterfly Committee, USW Local 6621 Lorain City Workers Union.

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

75

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

We supplemented the existing gardens with additional milkweed plants. We also overseeded our existing gardens with seeds chosen by OPN Seed (of Ohio Prairie Nursery), based on which plants we underrepresented at our current gardens. Our goal is to increase the variety of native pollinators in our current gardens.

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