

City of Plymouth

Plymouth, MI

Mayor Suzi Deal

Pledge Summary

The City of Plymouth, MI is a vibrant community with a population of approximately 9,300 people that is located about 10 miles west of Detroit. The center of downtown is beautiful Kellogg Park, a popular space to sit by the new fountain, visit with friends, or attend a concert or event. Just outside downtown, you'll find traditional neighborhood streets with sidewalks, mature trees, community gardens, and over 12 parks; many including playgrounds. By signing the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, the City of Plymouth is committed to saving the monarchs and increasing awareness about pollinator habitat decline.

Action Items Committed for 2024

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.
- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)
- 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

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- 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.
- 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

- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Linda Filipczak	2026	2/8/2026	
Mayor Suzi Deal	2025	3/15/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Suzi Deal	2024	1/6/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor Suzi Deal	2023	2/12/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor Nick Moroz	2022	3/7/2022	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 (e.g., 50).

9300

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." (Only allow numerical values.)

1900

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).

.75

Where is your habitat being created? This may include residences (yards, containers, balconies, etc.), schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, culturally-significant locations, shared public spaces and common areas or parks.

Resident, local businesses, rights-of-way, City Hall, city parks

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

Support is provided to local nonprofit organizations such as Friends of the Rouge, Plymouth Pollinators, and Keep Plymouth Leafy through volunteer opportunities that engage the community. This year, volunteer events included tree planting, installing

pollinator gardens with native plants, removing invasive species, and cleaning up the local watershed. Additionally, Friends of the Penn hosted free educational pollinator-themed films at the Penn Theater in downtown Plymouth during Pollinator Week, encouraging families to learn about protecting pollinators. The Plymouth District Library contributed by distributing free milkweed and native plant seeds through its new seed library, with all seeds harvested from local city gardens. Each city pollinator garden offers free educational materials on creating and maintaining pollinator habitats, including tips on practices like leaving leaves undisturbed in the fall to support pollinator health.

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

To address the decrease in the pollinator population and to increase pollinator habitat, the City incorporated the following goals into the 2022-27 strategic plan: 1) Incorporate eco-friendly, sustainable practices into city assets, services, and policies, including more environmentally friendly surfaces, expanded recycling and composting services, prioritizing native and pollinator-friendly plants, encouraging rain gardens, and growing a mature tree canopy and 2) Partner with or become members of additional environmentally aware organizations.

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?

National Wildlife Plant Finder and Blog, Homegrown National Park, Wild One's Wayne County Chapter, MSU Extension Center resources, various webinars, networking with other community groups, native plant vendors, and master gardeners. It would be helpful to have more social media content to share regarding the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

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

We are continually inspired and thrilled by the incredible community support. Residents are truly enjoying the community gardens and native plant sales and continue to ask for more gardens and events. What we're most proud of is the impact this work is having on residents' gardening habits. More people are now incorporating native plants into their own yards, embracing sustainable practices.

Selected Action Items

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

How many people attended your event?

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.

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:

6/23/2024

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

Pollinator Week

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

[Pollinator Week Proclamation 2024.jpeg](#)

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.

[Old Village Mural 1.jpeg](#)

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

[Old Village Mural 2.jpeg](#)

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

[Old Village Mural 3.jpeg](#)

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

[Old Village Mural 5.jpeg](#)

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

[Old Village Mural 4.jpeg](#)

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

Plymouth Pollinators, Old Village Association and City of Plymouth Dept. of Municipal Services

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (e.g., 50).

12

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).

Pollinator-themed artwork was installed on the local fire station building in Old Village, Plymouth, located within a park that features two large pollinator habitats. These habitats are both certified Monarch Waystations and National Wildlife Federation Wildlife Habitats. The artwork was created by a talented local artist from Old Village, adding a unique touch to the community's commitment to supporting pollinators.

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.

[IMG_0174 \(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_7546.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_7553.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_7563 \(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_7565.jpeg](#)

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

Plymouth Pollinators and Old Village Association

How many plants were planted?

344

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

24 butterfly and swamp milkweed plants and 342 other native nectar plants were incorporated into new and existing community gardens. Many of the plants were planted by community volunteers.

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

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

[IMG_0142.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0143.jpeg](#)

What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants?

1.75

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.

A large section of non-native and invasive plants was removed in the Old Village Fire Station Park making space for 114 new native plants. Volunteers then laid a heavy cover of mulch in the area to prevent further weed seeds from emerging. Two invasive species clean-up events were held in 2023 in collaboration with Friends of the Rouge, Wayne County Parks, Plymouth Pollinators and the Plymouth Old Village Association. In the spring, common buckthorn and honeysuckle were cut down to 3 ft, trunks and branches

were removed and chipped in the spring. In the fall, the trunks and stems were cut down further and an herbicide was applied via bingo stamper to ensure application was concentrated to a specific area and to indicate that the area had been treated via the dye from the stamper. The volunteer group continues to monitor this space.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

[IMG_0526.jpeg](#)

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

[NWF Park1_2024.jpeg](#)

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

[OldVillage_Waystation2024.jpeg](#)

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

[FallGardening.pdf](#)

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

[WhyNativePlants_NoQR.pdf](#)

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

[SpringCleanUp_\(1\).pdf](#)

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located?

8

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

National Wildlife Federation habitat certification sign, Monarch Waystation signs and other Pollinator Habitat signs as well information boxes that include handouts on how to plant a pollinator garden, why to plant native plants, spring garden care, fall garden care and leaving the leaves provided by local nonprofit, Plymouth Pollinators.

Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

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

[Flight of the Butterflies2024.jpeg](#)

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

[MyGarden 1000 Bees2024.jpeg](#)

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

[PDL Pollinator Scavenger Hunt2024.jpeg](#)

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

[NWF Park1_2024.jpeg](#)

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

[OldVillage Waystation2024.jpeg](#)

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

[Kellogg Butterfly Way2024.jpeg](#)

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

[FallGardening.pdf](#)

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

[SpringCleanUp\(1\).pdf](#)

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

[PDL Pollinator Scavenger Hunt 2024_2.jpeg](#)

Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).

Spring newsletters are emailed to residents and shared on social media, offering tips on best practices for garden care to protect monarchs and other pollinators. Educational flyers, provided by the local nonprofit Plymouth Pollinators, are available at several large city gardens for visitors to take or access via QR codes on garden signage. During Pollinator Week, the Penn Theater partnered with Plymouth Pollinators to screen two inspiring documentaries free of charge for all ages. Flight of the Butterflies explored the remarkable monarch migration and the 40-year journey of scientist Fred Urquhart to uncover their secrets, while My Garden of a Thousand Bees highlighted the vital role of bees and pollinators, encouraging viewers to plant flowers and create habitats in their communities. Additionally, two city gardens have been certified as Monarch Waystations, and two others hold National Wildlife Federation habitat certifications, reflecting the city's commitment to supporting pollinators. Finally, the local Plymouth District Library hosted a pollinator themed scavenger hunt for kids in collaboration with local group Plymouth Pollinators.

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.

[Library Speak Event 2024.jpeg](#)

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

[Spring Event 2024.jpeg](#)

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

In collaboration with Plymouth Pollinators, a speaking event was hosted at the Plymouth District Library. Brief informational sessions were also presented as introductions to the pollinator-themed films shown at The Penn during Pollinator Week. Additionally, the Wayne County chapter of Wild Ones joined a public spring meeting with Plymouth Pollinators to introduce their new chapter and share insights on native plants and pollinator conservation. All these events were free and open to all ages, offering valuable information about the decline of monarchs and other pollinators, the importance of planting native species like milkweed, and ways to get involved in initiatives such as the Mayor's Monarch Pledge. Participants also learned how to collaborate with local government to establish city gardens and advocate for ordinance changes to support pollinators.

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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

[Plant Sale 2024_1.jpeg](#)

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

[Plant Sale 2024_2.jpeg](#)

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

[Plant Sale 2024_3.jpeg](#)

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

[Plant Sale 2024_4.jpeg](#)

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event?

Spring sale - 470, Fall sale - 300, Fall seed giveaway at Plymouth District Library - 120

How many people attended your event?

250

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

Plymouth Pollinators organized the event, with Michiganense Natives serving as the plant vendor for both the spring and fall plant sales. Plymouth Pollinators also partnered with the Plymouth District Library to contribute native seeds harvested from local city gardens to their fall seed library. All seeds are offered free of charge for community members to take home, with approximately 120 native seed packets provided.

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.

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

[Goldenrod Noxious Weed Ordinance 20220527.docx](#)

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

[IMG_1010.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_1011\(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_1020.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_1023.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_1024\(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_1030\(1\).jpeg](#)

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

Plymouth Pollinators, City of Plymouth Municipal Services and City of Plymouth City Commission

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.

6/20/2022 - The ordinance has been updated to remove Goldenrod as a noxious weed and Goldenrod is now included in the majority of the larger city pollinator habitat gardens.

https://library.municode.com/mi/plymouth/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH18BUBURE_ARTXIVVE_DIV3NOWE

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.

[IMG_0718.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0720.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0722 \(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0724 \(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0764 \(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0765 \(1\).jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0772.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_0777.jpeg](#)

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

[IMG_4087.jpeg](#)

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)

Kellogg Park, City Hall, Lions Club Park, Fire Station Park, Church Street Island and Old Village right of way

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

Plymouth Pollinators, Old Village Association and City of Plymouth Dept of Municipal Services

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.

.75