

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 2025

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.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- 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.
- 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 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).

.85

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.

Residents, 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 free children's pollinator-themed programs. Additionally, Friends of the Penn hosted a free educational pollinator-themed film and presentation by local nonprofit, Plymouth Pollinators, 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. Several city pollinator gardens include free educational materials on creating and maintaining pollinator habitats, along with best practice tips like delaying spring clean-up and 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. Local schools are also becoming more interested in adding pollinator habitat to their school grounds.

Selected Action Items

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:

6/16/2025

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

Pollinator Week

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

[C4E8194F-055F-41CB-BB52-FB4878D063A0_1_201_a.jpeg](#)

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

[MMP w Mayor_PlymouthPollinators.jpeg](#)

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.

[Penn Movie Ed Info.jpeg](#)

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

[Penn Movie Ed Pres2.jpeg](#)

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

[Penn Movie Pres1.jpeg](#)

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

In collaboration with Plymouth Pollinators, speaking events were hosted with local garden groups. An informational session was also presented as an introduction to the pollinator-themed film shown at The Penn during Pollinator Week. 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.

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

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

[Pulte Plans.jpg](#)

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

City planners, developers, and Plymouth Pollinators collaborated with Pulte Homes to encourage the integration of native habitat into an undevelopable one-acre green space. Plymouth Pollinators advised on appropriate native seed mixes and recommended sourcing from local suppliers. As a result, Pulte selected Michigan Wildflower Farm and an additional Midwest-based native seed vendor for the project. The restored area is expected to be designated an official Pollination Station next spring once the plantings begin to establish.

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.

[OV Art3.jpeg](#)

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

[OV Art2.jpeg](#)

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

[OV Art1.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).

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. Further artistic additions have been added including colorful birdhouses and birdbaths as well as a decorative air conditioner cover.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

How many people attended your event?

15

What species were collected or propagated?

Swamp Milkweed, Butterfly Weed, Poke Milkweed

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

Graye's Greenhouse Plymouth District Library

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

Plymouth Pollinators partnered with the Plymouth District Library to contribute native milkweed 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 60 native milkweed seed packets provided. Also, two free winter sowing events were held at the local Plymouth based Graye's Greenhouse with about 15 people in attendance. Milkweed seeds were included as part of the seed selection.

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.

[Demo Garden1.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden2.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden3.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden4.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden6.jpeg](#)

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

[Farrand Plants3.jpeg](#)

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

[Farrand Plants2.jpeg](#)

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

[Farrand Plants1.jpeg](#)

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

Plymouth Pollinators, Old Village Association, Farrand Elementary School PTO and local volunteers

How many plants were planted?

670

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

24 butterfly and swamp milkweed plants and 196 other native nectar plants were incorporated into new and existing community gardens including City Hall. Many of the

plants were planted by community volunteers. Also, around 450 native plants were added into garden spaces at Farrand Elementary in Plymouth.

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.

[Demo Garden6.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden4.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden3.jpeg](#)

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[Demo Garden2.jpeg](#)

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

[Demo Garden1.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)

City Hall, Kellogg Park 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.

.10

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 City Garden2.jpeg](#)

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

[Goldenrod City Garden1.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.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

[Garen Signs3.jpeg](#)

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

[Gardent Signs2.jpeg](#)

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

[Garden Signs1.jpeg](#)

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

[PDL Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

[Church Street Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

[Lions Park Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

[Old Village Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

21

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 Pollination Station 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, 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.

[Pulte Plans.jpg](#)

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

[Invasives.jpeg](#)

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

[Invasives2.jpeg](#)

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

2.75

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.

In 2025, City planners, developers, and Plymouth Pollinators collaborated with Pulte Homes to encourage the integration of native habitat into an undevelopable one-acre green space. Invasive phragmites were removed by the developer and new dirt added to the space prior to the installation of native plant seeds. In 2024 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. 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. Common buckthorn and honeysuckle were cut down to 3 ft, trunks and branches were removed and chipped. Old Village volunteer group continues to monitor this space.

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

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

City of Plymouth and Plymouth Pollinators

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.

Preliminary discussions have taken place, a target date has not yet been established.

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.

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[Farrand Elementary Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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[Kellogg Park Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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[Lions Park Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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[Old Village Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

[PDL Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

[Resident Poll Station.jpeg](#)

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

[Tribute Garden.jpeg](#)

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

[PollinatorGarden.pdf](#)

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

[Spring Clean Up.pdf](#)

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

[Dark Skies for Pollinators.pdf](#)

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

Local nonprofit, Plymouth Pollinators launched a new pledge program called Pollination Stations inviting residents, businesses, schools, and municipalities to commit to creating pollinator habitat and adopting responsible gardening practices such as leaving the leaves, avoiding pesticides, and planting native species. Participants can display Pollination Station signage in their garden spaces, helping passersby recognize native habitat areas and encouraging broader awareness and adoption of pollinator-friendly practices. Over 40 gardens have been certified in the Plymouth/Plymouth Township area this year including the Plymouth District Library and Farrand Elementary School. 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 an inspiring documentary free of charge for all ages. 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.

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.

[Seed Sowing2.jpeg](#)

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

[Seed Sowing1.jpeg](#)

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

[PDL Seeds.jpeg](#)

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

[PDL Seeds2.jpeg](#)

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

Spring plant sale - 420, Fall seed giveaway at Plymouth District Library - 120, Seed Sowing Event

How many people attended your event?

135

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

Plymouth Pollinators hosted a spring native plant sale featuring Michiganense Natives as the primary vendor. In partnership with the Plymouth District Library, Plymouth Pollinators also contributed locally collected native seeds from city gardens to support the library's fall seed library program, providing approximately 120 free seed packets to community members. Additionally, Plymouth Pollinators held two free winter-sowing workshops at Graye's Greenhouse in Plymouth, with about 15 participants taking part.