City of Greenville SC

Greenville, SC

Mayor Knox White

Pledge Summary

Situated in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, Greenville is the major metropolitan area of the Upstate region of South Carolina with a population of over 70,000. Greenville's reinvigorated downtown serves as the focal point, contributing significantly to the city's rising reputation as one of the best places to live in the United States. The city features more than 400 acres of parkland, including Unity Park, Greenville's newest park featuring state-of-the-art playgrounds, expansive green spaces, pedestrian bridges and walking trails and Falls Park on the Reedy River, featuring impressive natural waterfalls, gardens, nature trails and the Liberty Bridge, a striking pedestrian suspension bridge. Adding to the city's distinctive charm is the Swamp Rabbit Trail, 22-miles of multi-use greenway that traverses along the Reedy River. The City of Greenville takes great pride in its parks and recreation system and the natural environment. Providing habitat for pollinators including Monarch butterflies is important to support the natural ecosystem, public and private gardens, and overall environment. The City of Greenville is committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with the signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

Action Items Committed for 2023

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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u279:v1.14.0.49966]

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor White Knox	2026	2/12/2026	
Mayor Knox White	2025	2/19/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Knox White	2024	3/29/2024	Signatories
Mayor Knox White	2023	1/6/2023	Signatories
Mayor Knox White	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 (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

1082

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.)

Not tracked.

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.

2.1

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.

Public Parks

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

Two of the three pollinator habitats have been created in low-income community parks.

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

It is the City Council directive to create more pollinator habitats and protect open spaces.

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u279:v1.14.0.49966]

help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

Community outreach, citizen engagement, neighborhood groups, and donations. It would be helpful to have additional grants available.

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

We have two certified Monarch waystations within City Parks.

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:

6/12/2023

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

Pollinator Week

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

6-18-24-2023 Pollinator week.pdf

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 Plans.pdf

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

IMG_1506.JPG

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u279:v1.14.0.49966]

IMG_0704.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)

The location of Cleveland Park is often considered the "City's Park" and is along the Monarch's migration pattern near the foothills of the Appalachian mountains. 34.84158788898772, -82.39532177174843

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

Earth Designs, Friends of Cleveland Park, Friends of McPherson Park

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.

2.1

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.

NNIS Employee hours.pdf

What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

Unknown acreage. Non-Native Invasive species removal and plantings of pollinators happens often and is difficult to caclulate.

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 total of 1626 employee hours and approximately 350-400 volunteer hours were utilized in efforts to remove invasive species removal from in the City of Greenville Parks. The majority of these invasive removals were completed by hand in order to be selective and leave native plants and trees in an effort to to allow them to thrive. Approximately 1651 pollinator plants have been planted in and around the City to provide habitats for butterflies and other pollinators.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u279:v1.14.0.49966]

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

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

GVL2040_One-Page Summary_FINAL.pdf

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

Pollinator Garden Plans.pdf

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

City Council, input from the Community, stakeholders and neighborhood groups.

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Ongoing

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

It is the City of Greenville's plan to preserve as much as 35% of remaining vacant land by 2040 to protect Greenville's quality of Life and the environment. From this plan, the preservation and growth of native environmental habitats is a top priority. These preserved areas are to be utilized to improve air and water quality, protect wildlife habitats, and create viewsheds, improve groundwater retention, increase tree canopy, and help prevent flooding. The Parks and Grounds Division is then to take these areas and improve the environmental habitat as seen fit. The Cleveland Park Pollinator Garden was one of the steps taken to specifically provide an habitat for pollinators central to the City and within the City's largest park.

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.

Tree Giveaway Tracking.pdf

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

Tree Giveawy Tracking Totals.pdf

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u279:v1.14.0.49966]

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

1973

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

1500

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

North Main Community Association, Greenville Council of Garden Clubs, Southern Side Community Association, West Greenville Community Association.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u279:v1.14.0.49966]