

Township of Robbinsville

Robbinsville, NJ

Mayor David Fried

Pledge Summary

Robbinsville Township is an up and coming diverse town of 15,000 with deep roots in agriculture. Robbinsville is located in Central New Jersey near Trenton and Princeton, and contains a rich history in farming and education that continues to this day. Besides the thousands of acres of preserved farmland, the township, under the direction of Mayor David Fried, Business Administrator Joy Tozzi and Township Council, has already provided a beautiful Butterfly Garden and is currently developing natural meadows at one of its natural environments at Miry Run, which flourishes with Monarchs during the warmer peak seasons. Robbinsville Township is committed to creating additional butterfly sanctuaries throughout the township that will effectively enhance the Monarch population and provide a safe environment for Monarchs and other key pollinators for years to come.

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.
- 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.
- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Mike Todd	2026	1/23/2026	

Mayor Fried David	2025	2/14/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Dave Fried	2024	3/4/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor David Fried	2023	2/6/2023	Signatories
Mayor David Fried	2022	3/30/2022	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).

250

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.)

75 and 175

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).

2

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.

Butterfly Garden at Miry Run Park, Senior Center Flower Beds, & Lawn-to-Meadow Conversion

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

Habitats located near lower income communities, volunteer programs to maintain habitats

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

Maintaining the agricultural/natural history of our community and educational/recreational opportunities for all ages

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?

suggested action items were very helpful and more grant opportunities

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

We partnered with the Girl Scouts to build our butterfly garden and we used the garden to provide education/recreation opportunities for seniors from our Senior Center. Planning to create more habitats next year!

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:

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

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

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

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.

[5-21-22 National Trails Day - Tomm May 03.jpg](#)

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

[Dump.jpg](#)

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

[IMG_2617.jpg](#)

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

[IMG_2626.jpg](#)

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

[IMG_2628.jpg](#)

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

[IMG_2640.jpg](#)

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

[IMG_2642.jpg](#)

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

2 acres

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.

Many evasive plant species were removed by pulling them up from the root when possible, from our Tomm May Nature Trail at Tantum Park, Robbinsville, NJ. Also, mulch was added along the trails to suppress the growth of future evasive species. Trash was picked up and Spotted Lantern Fly traps were also installed on some trees.

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.

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

[10-7-22 Miry Meadows 01.jpg](#)

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

[10-7-22 Miry Meadows 02.jpg](#)

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

Offices of Mayor and Administration, Division of Recreation, Dept. of Public Works, Weeds Inc., Mercer County Park Commission, various Robbinsville residents

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

Robbinsville Township acquired 158 acres of land that was formerly a golf course. In order to restore the property to its native habitat, and preserve it for years to come, the township was inspired by the Mercer County Park Commission and various residents passionate about preserving land in Robbinsville, contracted Weeds Inc. to create 2 acres of a lawn-to-meadow conversion that is mowed biannually and maintained by the Robbinsville Dept. of Public Works. The addition of more lawn-to-meadow conversions and monarch & pollinator-friendly areas in Robbinsville are in the planning stages.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

[10-7-22 Miry Butterfly Garden 10.jpg](#)

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

[Monarch Waystation - Cert of Appreciation.pdf](#)

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

1

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

This site provides milkweeds, nectar sources, and shelter needed to sustain monarch butterflies as they migrate through North America. Certified and registered by Monarch Watch as an official Monarch Waystation. CREATE, CONSERVE, & PROTECT MONARCH HABITATS www.MONARCHWATCH.ORG

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.

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

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

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

[Sen Planting Ger 5.jpg](#)

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

[Sen Planting Ger.jpg](#)

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

[Girl Scout Gold Award - Miry Run Butterfly Garden 02.jpg](#)

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

[Girl Scout Gold Award - Miry Run Butterfly Garden 01.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)

Miry Run Recreation Area, 66 Sharon Rd. Robbinsville, NJ 08691

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

The local Girls Scouts troop partnered with Recreation and Public Works to create and construct the Butterfly Garden. Senior Center members and Hydroponic Farm volunteers have helped to maintain the garden after it was completed.

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.

0.25

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.

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

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

[Screenshot_20221031_151351.jpg](#)

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

Recreation, Members of Senior Center, Public Works, Volunteers from the Robbinsville Hydroponic Farm

How many plants were planted?

12

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

A dozen milkweed and nectar producing plants were planted in the front garden beds of the Vincent J. Calcagno Senior Center, 1117 Route 130, Robbinsville, NJ 08691. The Senior Center acts as Community Center for Robbinsville, and is the host location for many events, activities, programs.