City of Cooper City

Cooper City, FL

Mayor Greg Ross

Pledge Summary

Cooper City is a lovely bedroom community in Broward County with Approximately 35,000+ residents, founded in 1959 by Morris Cooper. Many families and young professionals live here due to the excellent school system, safe environment and quality sports programs. Cooper City takes great pride in their well maintained mature tree canopy evidenced by the City logo which is a tree with the words "Someplace Special". This extensive tree canopy provides tremendous amounts of wildlife habitat.

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.
- 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 gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly 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 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).
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- 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.

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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

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor James Curran	2026	3/18/2026	
Mayor James Curran	2025	1/8/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Greg Ross	2024	4/23/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor Greg Ross	2023	3/1/2023	Leadership Circle
Mayor Greg Ross	2022	3/15/2022	Leadership Circle
Mayor Greg Ross	2021	1/21/2021	Leadership Circle

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.).

500

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.)

130 youth

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

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.

Homes, Schools, Parks

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

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Students are from a variety of backgrounds and income levels. We have partnered with neighborhood public schools in promoting monarch and pollinator habitats.

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

Support our community wildlife habitat and increase awareness in our community.

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?

We have found the most helpful has been literature and seed packets. We would like to see Grants made available for butterfly gardens. We would also like to see funding budgeted to assist our local schools in planting and maintaining butterfly gardens.

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

Due to Covid we have had several events unavailable to us. This has limited our outreach.

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:

February 22, 2022

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

National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2022 Proclamation.pdf

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.)

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

Cooper_Quarterly_-_Winter_2021-2022_Edition.pdf

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

City's Winter Quarterly newsletter included an article promoting the Mayors' Monarch Pledge.

Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

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

Two local school Environmental Clubs representatives from multiple organizations; ie: Naturescape, Native Plant Society, NABA Chapter, Master Gardeners

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and their monarch butterfly conservation efforts.

Zoom and in person meetings with multiple organizations.

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

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

300 native seed packets given away and 100 native plants sold.

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

75

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

Green Advisory Board, Cooper City Public Works

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

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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)

Launched a butterfly garden at Cooper City Elementary School

How many schools, community groups, leaders, or centers were engaged in this effort? How many of these collaborations and partnerships are "new"? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

3

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

Cooper City Elementary

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

Consultations, literature and plants

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).

potentially the entire student body, approx 500 students

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

Green Advisory Board, Master Gardeners, Cooper City Elementary

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.

3

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

As needed, monitored weekly.

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e.,

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National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

Project Perch, National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat program, Public Works, Master Gardeners, Naturescape Broward, Native Plant Society

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

Community Wildlife Habitat, Project Perch

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

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

10

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.

Hand removal of invasive species from wetland areas. City also instituted removal of invasive species (iguanas) by trapping and removing them from our parks.

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)

13

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

Importance of wetlands to wildlife habitat, native plants and wildlife. Identification of butterflies and their host plants. Native plants and birds and their importance to wildlife habitats.

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.

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City of Cooper City sustainability 2022.pdf

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

Green Advisory Board, City Commission and City Manager

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

Sustainability plan was updated and presented to City Commission in October 2022.

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.

currently in review by Commission

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

Target date to be determined by Commission

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.

Butterfly Garden1.jpg

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

Butterfly Garden2.png

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)

Cooper City Pool & Tennis Center- 11600 Stonebridge Pkwy, Cooper City, FL 33026

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

Green Advisory Board, Cooper City Public Works

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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.

.25

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