City of Vail

Vail, IA

Mayor Monte Crichton

Pledge Summary

Vail is a city in west central Iowa with a population of roughly 396. Vail is a small town with a park and soon to be a memorial park also. Mayor Crichton of Vail Iowa has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the city.

Action Items Committed for 2022

Communications and Convening

- 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 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Monte Crichton	2022	4/25/2022	

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.).

8

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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.)

8 adults

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.

.25

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.

One is at a residence place and the other is behind the park along the creek

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

unable

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

low

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?

Looked into habitats through the internet on sites. What resources would be useful is how to get people excited.

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

none

Selected Action Items

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

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encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

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

I have spoken to some residents in the city of Vail, Ia. One resident gets monarchs in her little area that she has set up for butterflies. This resident enjoys seeing the butterflies. She is also going to give me some offshoots of the one plant that she has when I need it. No other communications done, only myself talking to residents.

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.

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

No groups.

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

Behind the park, along the creek, that area is not mowed to allow natural weeds and grasses to grow to help with butterflies. We are a small town and I talked with our maintenance man on the mowing and how to let it go and trim back only.

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

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)

We have not found an area where we can have our own garden to attract the monarch butterflies. This is still in progress and we are still looking into an area for the public to go to sit and relax with the butterflies habitat.

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

None at this time.

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.

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