City of Chamblee

Chamblee, GA

Mayor Brian Mock

Pledge Summary

Chamblee is a vibrant urban city located just 14 miles from downtown Atlanta with a population of roughly 30,000 residents. The city is located within the piedmont region of the state and is home to 10 parks and the Chamblee Rail Trail. Mayor Mock has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with his signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the city.

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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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).
- Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural

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awareness and recognition.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- 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.

Systems Change

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Brian Mock	2026	12/4/2025	
Mayor Brian Mock	2025	2/28/2025	Monarch Champions
Mayor Brian Mock	2024	1/3/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor Brian Mock	2023	12/12/2022	Leadership Circle
Mayor Brian Mock	2022	12/9/2021	Leadership Circle
Mayor Eric Clarkson	2021	1/25/2021	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.).

675

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.)

600 youth and 75 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

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below (e.g., 3). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

2

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.

Schools, parks and other shared public spaces

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

The highlighted HHE school garden renovation project benefitted a Title I school that serves a diverse and underserved population, including immigrants and those with special needs. Of the 600 students, 47% are Latino and 21% are African-American.

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

Chamblee's citizens are firmly committed to sustainability and care of the environment. A continuing commitment to the Mayor's Monarch Pledge is a natural activity for our citizens and government.

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?

Informative speakers and all the resources available on your website are invaluable, particularly the educational components and example signage. Hearing success stories from other communities has given us many ideas and inspiration.

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

Chamblee has staff their public works department with new personnel who are knowledgeable of native plants and wildlife habitat. A systematic review of opportunities to create new habitat will be undertaken in 2024.

Selected Action Items

Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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How many estimated individuals attended the event? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field ((Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only), e.g. 500)

What was the date of your festival?

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

Please describe the details of your monarch butterfly festival and how you ensured the event was accessible by all residents in the community (e.g., events, length, notable successes, outreach, location).

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

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

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.

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

Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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

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

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.

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

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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:

January 17, 2023

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

A Resolution to Support the 2023 Mayor's Monarch Pledge Program

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Pledge Resolution 2023.pdf

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.

IMG_1601.JPG

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

36

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?

The Huntley Hills Elementary PTA and the Murphey Candler Park Conservancy both allowed us to set up a booth at an event they hosted so that we could give away milkweed and information on pollinator gardens.

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.

1-Beginning of Pollinator Fiber Art Project_11-2023.jpg

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

2-Old City Hall Pollinator Garden Site_11-2023.jpg

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

Chamblee's Public Arts Commission, Chamblee Public Works, and Keep Chamblee Beautiful

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 50).

14

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).

The Chamblee Public Arts Commission engaged a local fiber artist to create a pollinator-garden-themed fiber art weaving on a bridge near the City Hall Complex. The project is in progress due to complete in December 2023 (see photo 1). In conjunction with this project, a local landscape design firm has designed a native plant pollinator garden, complete with milkweed, that will be installed next month in an area where non-native plants were recently removed. Educational signage linking the two projects will be installed. We will report updates on this project next year.

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.

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

MAG cert for HHE Garden.pdf

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

(1) Georgia Native Plant Society and (2) Monarchs Across Georgia/Georgia EEA

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

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The Georgia Native Plant Society operates a native plant propagation area at Stone Mountain Park. Every effort was made to purchase plants from their propagation operation to plant in Chamblee pollinator habitat areas. For the HHE Schoolyard Habitat garden, this garden was certified as a pollinator garden by Monarchs Across Georgia, which is a program of the Georgia Environmental Education Alliance (EEA).

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.

Rain Garden Milkweed.jpg

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

KP RG Monarch.jpg

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

(3) - Public Works, Parks & Recreation, Keep Chamblee Beautiful

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

This year, we continued and expanded on identifying opportunities to plan and maintain milkweed and pollinator plants in green infrastructure projects throughout the city. The attached photos feature milkweed that was planted two years ago at the Keswick Park Rain Garden. We were excited to find Monarch caterpillars on the milkweed in May 2023! The success of this project was due to Public Works' staff learning to properly maintain this rain garden so that the native species would thrive.

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.

Arrow Creek Park Overview.jpg

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

Arrow Rain Garden Overview.jpg

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

The latest large-scale effort by Chamblee to create monarch and pollinator habitat is on approximately 10 acres of our Arrow Creek Park, in which a wildflower meadow currently exists and will be supplemented with milkweed in future years, as shown in the attached overview photo. In September 2023, two rain gardens, totaling ~4,000 square feet were planted with ~1,000 native rushes, sedges, shrubs, and wildflowers (see rain garden photo). This project involved collaboration between Chamblee's Public Works, Parks & Rec and Planning Departments and a local contractor Integrated Land Design, which built the trails and rain gardens and installed the all native wildflowers, shrubs, and trees.

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.

1-VPBioswale_2023.jpg

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

2-VPBioswale_2023.jpg

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

Chamblee's Public Works and Parks & Rec Departments and Keep Chamblee Beautiful

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.

Chamblee Public Works and Parks & Rec Departments have been informally garnering every opportunity to plant pollinator-friendly plantings and milkweed in city properties, particularly to incorporate it in green infrastructure and similar projects. The attached photos taken in summer 2023 are of a bioswale that was completely replanted one year ago with suitable native species, including swamp milkweed. This is the third such city property where native milkweed has been established in three years. This program will continue to be expanded in 2024.

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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.

1-kudzu removal area before.jpg

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

2-Drainage before.jpg

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

3-kudzu after.jpg

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

4-drainage after rock swale installed.jpg

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

In 2023, Chamblee treated a total of approximately 7 acres of land to remove invasive species, primarily kudzu.

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.

During 2023, Chamblee focused on the treatment of 7 acres of kudzu in parks utilizing a third-party contractor who carefully applied a selective herbicide targeted for the kudzu, which would not harm beneficial vegetation. The attached photos 1 and 2 show one such area where kudzu was sprayed and also non-native mimosa, privet and other woody species were cut and treated with systemic herbicide target applied to the cut stump to minimize impacts to beneficial vegetation. Photos 3 and 4 are after photos of this area. Similar project will continue in 2024.

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).

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

HHE Garden Renovation.pdf

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)

A previously certified NWF Schoolyard Habitat was renovated to expand the garden's support of wildlife and pollinators and create new outdoor classroom space.

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)

4

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

Huntley Hills Elementary and Montessori School

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

NWF Schoolyard Habitat curriculum and Georgia Environmental Education Alliance materials have been provided.

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).

600 students and 25 adults

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

Keep Chamblee Beautiful, school PTA and City of Chamblee Non-Profit Partnership Program

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.

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0.1

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

A group of parents have been trained on garden maintenance and utilize a Google chat to coordinate schedules. At minimum, several volunteers meet weekly to water and weed. Quarterly PTA campus-wide workdays focus on heavier pruning and maintenance.

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.

Arrow Rain Garden Overview.jpg

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

HHE school pollinator garden.jpg

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

Keep Chamblee Beautiful, Chamblee Public Works, Chamblee Parks & Recreation

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

1200

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

At the HHE schoolyard habitat garden, over 200 new pollinator plants were installed, and at the Arrow Creek Park over 1,000 pollinator-friendly native shrubs, trees and wildflowers were planted in two large rain gardens. Each year, Chamblee adds new pollinator and milkweed habitat in the community.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

MAG cert for HHE Garden.pdf

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

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Rain Garden Sign.jpg

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

3

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

The Keswick Park Rain Garden sign explains the importance of a rain garden and lists native plants that were installed in the garden. The Monarchs Across Georgia (MAG) Certified Pollinator Garden sign for the HHE Elementary garden has a QR code linking to the MAG garden certification program.

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).

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

MAG cert for HHE Garden.pdf

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

(1) NWF Community Wildlife Habitat, (2) Monarchs Across Georgia, and (3) Huntley Hills Elementary PTA to help maintain the school garden

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

NWF Certified Community Habitat for the City of Chamblee, Monarchs Across Georgia https://www.eealliance.org/pollinator-habitat-certification.html

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.

2-Old City Hall Pollinator Garden Site_11-2023.jpg

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

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Chamblee_Hall_10_30_23-11X17LANDV1Plnting(Rev1).pdf

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)

5468 Peachtree Road, Chamblee GA 30341 - behind the Old City Hall and close to a pollinator-themed fiber arts project under construction. The garden's design plan is attached; it will be installed in early December 2023.

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

Public Works, Chamblee Arts Commission, local landscape design business ServeScape

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.

0.02

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