Pottstown Borough

Pottstown, PA

Mayor Stephanie Henrick

Pledge Summary

Our community is a historic community dating back to 1752 and has been an industrial community for the past 120 years. Like most urban areas in our country, Pottstown has seen struggles over the last 40 years, yet is populated by residents who have a spirit, vibrancy and commitment to community improvement both in terms of physical infrastructure, as well as quality of life for its residents. An important part of that community improvement is through the existence of our five community gardens which are managed by a local nonprofit known as Mosaic Community Land Trust. These five gardens are located in the heart of a food dessert and provide residents the access to grow their own healthy produce. Harvesting between 6500-7000 pounds on an annual basis, these gardens not only feed the community. but also provide a green space sanctuary in an urban setting for residents to gather, learn and grow. Each of the five gardens are filled with plants to attract monarchs and pollinators, including a 50 sq ft. butterfly garden located on site of the community garden at Barth Elementary School. In addition to the gardens, Pottstown also hosts an annual garden contest that encourages and rewards residents to improve their yards and enhance community beautification. For the past five years, this contest has included a "Bees and Butterfly" category that encourages residents to have gardens that will attract pollinators and monarchs. These continued efforts are what makes our town committed to conversation as we enhance our community.

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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Systems Change

- 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

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Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
mayor Stephanie Henrik	2023	3/10/2023	
Mayor Stephanie Henrick	2022	4/27/2022	

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.).

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.)

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.

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.

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

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

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?

What else should we know about your monarch butterfly conservation efforts over the last 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):

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Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

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

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

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

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.

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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