# City of Dalworthington Gardens

Dalworthington Gardens, TX

Mayor Laurie Bianco

## Pledge Summary

The City of Dalworthington Gardens, Texas is a rural oasis in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. The City covers an area of almost 2 square miles and has a population of approximately 2,200. A 43 acre park includes a lake and offers a chance for people to relax and enjoy being in nature. Mayor Bianco of Dalworthington Gardens first took the Mayor's Monarch Pledge in 2019. 8 action items were pledged to qualify the City as part of the Leadership Circle, a status that we continue to work to maintain in order to raise awareness in the community and encourage conservation practices to support the monarch butterfly. A garden in Gardens Park was reworked in response to one of the first year's action items. It now better supports monarch butterflies on their migration and has received designation as a Monarch Waystation.

## 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 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.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

### Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

## Past Pledge Archive

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| Mayor Name | Program Year | Pledge Date | Achievement |
|---|---|---|---|
| Mayor Laurie Bianco | 2026 | 2/11/2026 | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Laurie Bianco | 2025 | 1/17/2025 | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Laurie Bianco | 2024 | 1/22/2024 | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Laurie Bianco | 2023 | 3/13/2023 | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Laurie Bianco | 2022 | 2/23/2022 | Leadership Circle |
| Mayor Laurie Bianco | 2021 | 1/25/2021 | 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.).**

50

**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.)**

20 youth and 30 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.**

0

**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.**

No additional habitat was created on public property and we do not have data collection to capture habitat created by citizens on their private property.

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

We are equal opportunity when it comes to engagement but we do not specifically target any one group, marginalized or not.

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

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We understand the need to raise awareness to encourage citizens to help the monarch population. We understand the importance monarchs play within the ecosystem.Furthermore, the Mayor's Monarch Pledge fits with our tag line and city's culture: "A rural oasis in the heart of the metroplex".

**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?**

Information from National Wildlife Federation and MonarchJointVenture.org have been very helpful. No other resources to request at this time.

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

We have increased our efforts to educate citizens through our newsletter. We also have encouraged engagement in the monarch migration through our photography contest. We are unable to completely capture data on how many people we impact with our efforts as we use multiple sources to reach the community. Those sources include social media, newsletters, City-sponsored events, and kiosk postings.

## 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 17, 2022

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

A Proclamation by the Mayor of the City of Dalworthington Gardens

**Upload a copy of your proclamation.**

2022_Monarch_Challenge_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.**

Flower Display 2.jpg

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

Flower Display Sign.jpg

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

Flower Display.jpg

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

April_2022_DWG_Newsletter.pdf

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

August_2022_DWG_Newsletter_proof.pdf

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

July_2022_DWG_Newsletter.pdf

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

June_2022_Newsletter.pdf

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

September_2022_DWG_Newsletter.pdf

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

Monarch Challenge Kiosk.jpg

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

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The DWG Park Board has encouraged residents to plant monarch gardens at their residences through our City's monthly newsletter. We highlighted the migration of the monarch butterflies and asked residents to support the monarchs by planting nectar and native milkweed plants. In addition to the newsletter, we also have several informational flyers posted in all the kiosks located along the walking path in Gardens Park. Furthermore, during City-sponsored events, we have a booth set up displaying several flowers we have in the City's Monarch waystation. We communicate with citizens during those sponsored events to encourage residents to plant similar plants at their homes.

## 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.**

The Park Board members, Public Works' staff, City Council representative, and the Mayor are participants. There are 10 individuals that are part of the group.

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

The groups engage at least monthly on an ongoing basis throughout the year. The communication related to mowing and planting are discussed during Park Board meetings. There is also a monthly maintenance list describing the timing of mowing efforts. The City Council representative and Mayor are included within the various conversations as well.

## 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.**

Monarch Photography Contest Kiosk Version.jpg

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

2022 DWG Monarch Photography Contest - Google Forms.pdf

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

Monarch in Mistflower 5.JPG

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

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Monarch on Zinnia 4.JPG

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

The Park Board members and a City Council representative partnered together to host this event.

**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).**

65

**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 Park Board of the City of Dalworthington Gardens initiated a monarch photography contest in an effort to raise awareness of the Monarch migration through our area. The Contest was open to everyone 18 years and older, except contest judges. All photos had to be original work, taken by the entrant per a set of contest rules. The photos selected by judges will be used in a 2023 calendar for DWG residents.

## Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

Milkweed collection and propagation 2.jpg

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

Milkweed collection and propagation 1.jpg

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

2

**What species were collected or propagated?**

We collected seeds of the species of asclepias viridis from a local resident's field.

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

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We partnered with a member of DWG's City Council and the President of the Friends of DWG Gardens club.

**Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.**

After identification, the milkweed was collected from a local resident's field. Next, we canvassed our wildscape and identified the area to broadcast the collected milkweed.

## Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

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

April_2022_DWG_Newsletter.pdf

**How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).**

700

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

City Council, local residents of City of Dalworthington Gardens, and Friends of DWG Garden Club

**Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.**

The Park Board encouraged local residents of the City of Dalworthington Gardens to help support the monarchs by reporting sightings of milkweed, monarch butterflies or their eggs or larva to the following community science program: https://monarchjointventure.org/get-involved/study-monarchs-community-science-opportunities We communicated our efforts in the City's monthly newsletter.

## Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Monarch Joint Venture Kiosk.jpg

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

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Monarch Joint Venture 2 Kiosk.jpg

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

Monarch Highway Kiosk.jpg

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

Tracking Migration Kiosk.jpg

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

Pollinators of Texas Kiosk.jpg

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

Milkweed Info Kiosk.jpg

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

Monarch Challenge Kiosk.jpg

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

8

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

The signage we have posted include educational information about the monarch butterflies' migration pattern, their habitats, and the type of pollinators that can be planted to encourage pollinating.

## 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.**

Monarch Waystation.jpg

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

mistflower wt bttrfls.jpg

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

yellow lantana.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)**

The demonstration garden is located in Gardens Park off California Lane between Roosevelt Dr. and Park Dr. It borders one side of part of the main path around the park and both sides of a walkway leading up to our gazebo and playground. The Gardens Park is the sole park within the City of Dalworthington Gardens.

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

In 2019, the Horticultural Club from Tarrant County College designed a new look and helped refurbished an existing garden. The DWG Park Board members, staff of DWG, members of the Friends of DWG Garden Club, and several citizen volunteers have helped maintained the gardens.

**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.**

.04

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