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. Eight action items were pledged to qualify the City as part of the Leadership Circle, a status that we continue to work to maintain 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 2026

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.)
- 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.
- 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.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement

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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.).

200

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.)

99.95

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.

Local residences, large open area behind community lake; public garden beds.

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

We have no means of quantifying the participants' race or income. Our events are come one, come all.

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

Education, beautification and participation within our small community.

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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 been unsuccessful in securing grants to expand our program to develop nature trails and wildlife habitat in our community. Most programs require populations in excess of 50,000. We do not qualify.

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

Continuous work in our open natural wildflower area as well as our community garden beds.

Selected Action Items

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?

Park Board members

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

200

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Strong growth and noted self pollination from previous years milkweed plants. Strong stand of a new strain called "hairy balls" milkweed which attracted some attention.

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)

Earth Day Annual Plant Swap- over 50 different kinds of plants, seedlings and seeds were swapped and donated during the Earth Day event.

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

39.99

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

Park Board, Garden Club, high school Key Club

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

3.98

What species were collected or propagated?

Milkweed, various varieties which are successful in our dry, hot climate.

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

Park Board members

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

Members seed annually from milkweed in home gardens as well as from the community plantings in the wildflower fields as well as the community garden.

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)

Our public garden displays of milkweed species, salvia, butterfly weed and other pollinator attracting plants. Each is labeled with a name plate.

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

Park Board

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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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:

December 10, 2024; Re-signed March 19th, 2026

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

Monarch Butterfly Conservation Efforts

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Proclamation 2026.pdf

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

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

Park Board, Mayor, city leaders and employees

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).

25

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).

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

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)

3

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

Located at the entrance to the park and garden paths, our Monarch butterfly education project includes a two sided marquee where posters display life cycle, species of butterflies, multiple pollinators, plants to attract pollinators and specifically Monarch butterflies.

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.)

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

We understand the need to raise awareness to encourage citizens to help the monarch population. We understand the importance monarchs play within the ecosystem, especially with the excessive heat we experienced this past summer. 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 resourceLetters from the Park Board were mailed to the homeowners associations in our city. The presidents and/or managers for each association were identified as the contact points. The letter urged use of monarch and pollinator species plantings in the common areas of the associations as well as urging individuals to be proactively including monarch friendly milkweed and butterfly weed in their residential gardens.

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