City of Parma Heights

Parma Heights, OH

Mayor Marie Gallo

Pledge Summary

This will be Mayor Gallo's third year taking the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. With six beautiful parks and 20,000 residents, Parma Heights is a prime city for caring for Monarch Butterflies. We will continue to educate others and improve the policies we have implemented to extend our resources toward the pledge's efforts.

Action Items Committed for 2024

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Marie Gallo	2026	3/23/2026	
Mayor Marie Gallo	2025	2/10/2025	
Mayor Marie Gallo	2024	3/22/2024	Signatories
Mayor Marie Gallo	2023	2/3/2023	Signatories
Mayor Marie Gallo	2022	4/30/2022	Signatories

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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.).

1200

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.)

800

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.

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.

Nathan Hale Park Retention Basin, Greenbrier Commons Park, and Cassidy Community Theatre

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

The City of Parma Heights executes a free community event to celebrate Earth Day every year. This event features 20+ organizations, education animal presentations, and Mayor Gallo's yearly proclamation honoring her Monarch Pledge! It is available to residents and non-residents free of charge and is in our most accessible park both for transportation and mobility.

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

Parma Heights recognizes it's abundance of parks and proximity to Cleveland Metroparks, with so many opportunities to get people outside we want to encourage our residents to become stewards of their parks not just for the Monarch but for themselves and the future of Parma Heights!

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

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help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

We think the NWF does a great job with their resources.

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

The City of Parma Heights staff did notice a significant decrease in the number of butterflies seen collectively this 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:

April 27 2024

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

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

20241118124952796.pdf

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.

450599830_526411436614324_1646391185880218668_n.jpg

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

450577995_526411446614323_7732156992723146156_n.jpg

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

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

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

454004802_541326241789510_1293842962860423301_n.jpg

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

1

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).

100

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).

Parma Heights Recreation and the Parma Heights Art League teamed up to display their artwork in City Hall Council Chambers! The Art League is a multigenerational community partner that meets weekly to create a discuss art. The Art League put together their importations of butterfly art through several types of media. Their weekly meetings are available to anyone and everyone!

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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

100

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

Parma Heights Residents donate their the milkweed seeds from their yard to the Recreation Department, we then bag them and give them away at city hall to anyone who would like to participate! We have Common Milkweed and Swamp Milkweed available!

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

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Nathan Hale Storm Basin - Signage (1).png

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

1

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

The City of Parma Heights recently had the opportunity to develop and install a permanent sign at Nathan Hale Park! This sign's main priority was to reflect on the benefits of the storm basin with our partners at NEORSD. However, we were excited to add as much information as we could about the benefits to the native plants we seeded all around the basin - staring, of course, The Monarch Butterfly!

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

0

What species were collected or propagated?

2

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

Parma Heights Recreation

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

Parma Heights Residents donate the milkweed seeds from their yard to the Recreation Department, we then bag them and give them away at City Hall to anyone who would like to participate! We have Common Milkweed and Swamp Milkweed available!

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.)

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge (1).png

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge (2).png

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

IMG_8749.png

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

Attached is our annual crossword puzzle, our planting information attached to our seeds, and a photo of one of the school groups we took on a pollinator walk around the wildflower garden at Nathan Hale Park!

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.

Nathan Hale Park 2025.png

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

Nathan Hale 2.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)

Parma Heights now has 3 places it maintains native pollinator plants. Greenbrier Commons (6281 Pearl Road), Cassidy Community Theatre (6200 Pearl Rd), and Nathan Hale Park (7075 Parma Park Blvd). Nathan Hale Park had 9 of its 25 acres modified to hold a brand new retention basin, that was seeded with native wildflowers (for reference the walking trail is just under .5 miles). All green space inside the trail North of the Red Flag pictured was seeded with native wildflower seed mix including, this year we saw Purple Coneflower, Asters, Golden Rod, and Black Eyed Susan, and plan to see more as the seeds germinate and mature! Now some of our most visited parks have gardens holding at least 7 different species of pollinator plants. Each of these places host community events like summer concerts, community plays, annual Earth Day parties, and daily recreational walking by residents! Greenbrier Commons in particular connects to Big Creek Reservation in Cleveland Metroparks so we are dedicated to ensuring their stewardship is maintained past their property in Parma Heights.

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

Parma Heights Recreation

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.

2

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