Brackenridge Borough

Brackenridge, PA

Mayor Lindsay Fraser

Pledge Summary

Brackenridge is a small town about twenty minutes northeast of Pittsburgh, PA; the gem of the Allegheny. Mayor Lindsay Fraser has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators by the signing of this pledge and promotion of pollinator habitats in community and school gardens and green spaces in the community.

Action Items Committed for 2022

Communications and Convening

- 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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- 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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- 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).
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Past Pledge Archive

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Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Lindsay Fraser	2024	3/31/2024	
Mayor Lindsay Fraser	2023	3/31/2023	
Mayor Lindsay Fraser	2022	5/1/2022	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.).

100

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.)

75 youth, 25 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.

1

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.

residences, farms, community garden, places of worship

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

The community garden where much of the planting and educational programming took place is located in an low-income area.

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

Growing community and stewardship of our natural resources.

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?

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The partnerships with community organizations have helped to propogate this effort within our community. Next year I look forward to taking advantage of more of the resources offered by the NWF.

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

Thank you for this opportunity!

Selected Action Items

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).

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.

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

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

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Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

I worked with (and served in) leadership at the Tarentum Friendship Garden to plant milkweed and other pollinator and nectar producing plants (sunflower, borage, calendula) around the edges of the garden and around the farm.

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.

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

Tarentum Friendship Garden, Blackberry Meadows Farm

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

Community education, planting, seed harvesting and storage, program planning for the following year.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

15

What species were collected or propagated?

milkweed

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

Blackberry Meadows Farm

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

Children participating in an on-farm educational program collected and explored milkweed seed pods and took milkeed seeds home with them to plant in their neighborhoods.

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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).

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)

Little Homesteaders at Blackberry Meadows Farm; Camp Creativity at the Highlands School District

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)

3

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

Highlands Early Elementary Center

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

-

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).

75 students and 10 educators

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

Tarentum Friendship Community Garden, Highlands School District, First United Presbyterian Church, Abundant Joy Fellowship, Tarentum Borough, Blackberry Meadows Farm

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.

.25

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

There are regular planting and maintenance days scheduled at the garden. Blackberry Meadows is a working farm under continuous operation.

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?

Tarentum Friendship Garden, Blackberry Meadows Farm.

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

50

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

I worked with gardeners, farmers, and children to plant pollinator plants to plant milkweed and other pollinator plants and collect seeds at the end of the growing season at a community garden and a local organiz farm.

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

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

.33

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.

Brackenridge Public Works department worked to remove tree-of-heaven growing on hillsides around the water treatment facility.

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