Village of Tarrytown

Tarrytown, NY

Mayor Karen Brown

Pledge Summary

Action Items Committed for 2024

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.

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Karen Brown	2026	2/16/2026	
Mayor Karen Brown	2025	3/10/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Karen Brown	2024	3/28/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor Karen Brown	2023	3/7/2023	Signatories

Action Items

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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.).

500

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

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.

.20

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, parks, containers and public transit station

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

We are making our interpretative garden signs bilingual and we are planting pollinator containers at our local Commjunity Opportunity Center.

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

We wanted to publicize the plight of monarchs and other pollinators and demonstrate simple steps that our community can take to increase biodiversity while beautifying our Village.

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?

Colorful flyers providing specific information have been some of our best tools . We need more materials in Spanish to reach members of our community.

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

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Maintenance of plantings is key to success and recruiting volunteers and forming partnerships is a priority . We will be focusing on community outreach to educate and engage people in the year ahead as we strive to reach a broader audience.

Selected Action Items

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.

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.

TEAC Presentation Garden Festival .png

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

Fall Maintenance Guide_TEAC (4).pdf

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

Ardsley Gardens Collaboration.JPG

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

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Public outreach to promote the planting of pollinator gardens and sustainable landscaping has been a priority for us in 2024. To that end we built a new website “Tarrytown’s Pollinator Pathway” with “how to” pages focused on starting and maintaining native plant gardens, sourcing plants, fighting invasives and showcasing the 8 public pollinator gardens that volunteers and the Village plant and maintain. QR codes are used to direct traffic to the site. https://pollinators.tarrytownenviro.org/ In March 2024 we created a sustainable gardening presentation for the regional Ardsley Spring Gardening Fair attended by over 150 people and subsequently shared online. This step by step guide for installing and maintaining a pollinator garden used images from our Mayor’s garden and other public plantings to illustrate the beauty and benefits of native plants. Throughout the year we have posted sustainable garden care tips and images on FB and Instagram ,created flyers and published articles in our monthly newsletter. The Village of Tarrytown posts sustainable landscaping tips such as” leave the leaves” and water conservation information in the Village Link.

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

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

Mayor and Brownies Earth Day Neperan.jpeg

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

Neperan Earth Day 2024.jpeg

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

Paulding Community gaden overview.jpg

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

We collaborated with our local garden club, Little Gardens of Tarrytown, the Community Food Garden and the Community Opportunity Center to provide native plants for their planting projects this year, thus spreading the word amongst diverse communities. We have developed a collaboration with Little Gardens to maintain (water and remove invasives) 3 native plant gardens totaling over 3500 sq ft. We also staged an Earth Day event with Little Gardens which was attended by our Mayor and the Girl Scouts doing invasive removal in the gardens.

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

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

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2024 Eco Fair Table.jpeg

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

Eco Fair seedling give away 2024.jpeg

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

Earth Day 2024 Seed Giveaway.jpeg

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

175 native seedlings (TEAC) and 200 native tree seedlings (TarrytownTree Commission)

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

250

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

For our seed giveaway events we partnered with Rockefeller State Park and Little Gardens of Tarrytown. The Fall Eco Fair was hosted by TEAC and the Village of Tarrytown with numerous participating organizations.

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.

MNR group planting 2024.JPG

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

MNR Perimeter Garden.jpeg

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

MNR Tree wells.jpeg

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

CVS Tree Well 2024.jpeg

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

Overwintering native barrels '24.jpeg

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

Broadwaybarrel June'24.jpeg

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)

At Tarrytown's Metro North Station (1 Depot Plaza, Tarrytown), a major transit hub serving an average of 2100 riders daily, we greatly expanded our planting beds in the most highly trafficked area of the Village. Commuters were introduced to numerous native plants with their visiting pollinators including monarchs! On N. Broadway and Main Street, our central business district, tree wells and barrels were filled with natives including milkweed along with pollinator friendly nectar plants. These cost effective plantings brought beauty and biodiversity to the heart of the Village. Butterfly milkweed and nectar plant were added to the landscaping at Tarrytown's City Hall (1 Depot Plaza) perimeter garden with Mayor Brown leading the planting efforts.

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

Village of Tarrytown, TEAC, Metro North Railway. DPW

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.

0.05

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

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

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Invasive Vines_Flyer_TEAC.pdf

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

Invasive removal team.jpeg

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

Invasives removal Neperan 2024.jpeg

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

Efforts are ongoing along public trails and parks, approximately 1 acre per season primarily targeting tree killing vines.

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.

TEAC'S vine squad has an ongoing invasive removal program at Tarrytown Lakes and in Wilson Park with monthly vine cutting meet ups from January through April . Volunteers use manual cutting methods and prioritize containment of vines that are smothering trees. In other areas TEAC removes invasives, lightly tills to dig out roots then lays Ramboard and wood chips . In the spring volunteers dig out newly sprouting invasives . Where feasible tough native plants are installed to shade out emerging invasives. We find that monthly checks and ongoing removal key to control.

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

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

JCC New Planting.jpeg

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

Paulding Community gaden overview.jpg

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

Neperan Garden Install group planting.jpg

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

Gracemere milkweed , bee balm 2024.jpeg

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

Gracemere early spring'24.jpeg

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

Paulding Community Garden, Little Gardens of Tarrytown, Shames JCC, Gracemere Estates, Belvedere

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

95

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

We shared rose milkweed , hyssop, monarda and numerous other plants from our public gardens and winter seeding efforts with the Paulding Community Garden and Little Gardens for their community gardens. We also donated plants to two condominiums wanting to incorporate natives into their landscaping plans. Additionally we worked with Belvedere Estate and the Shames JCC to provide native plants and guidance as these properties are planting/ expanding native planting areas in their landscaping.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Sign Dedication MNR.jpeg

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

2

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

We have installed an interpretative bilingual sign at the Metro North garden with a plant key and easy to follow steps for creating a pollinator garden. A QR code directs viewers to the Tarrytown Pollinator Pathway website for more information.. We find signage is the crucial

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link to connect the public with the gardens' true mission of boosting biodiversity. W ealso have an interpretative sign at the Warner Library native garden.

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.

Winter seeding containers.jpeg

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

Seed collecting Stone Barns Nov.'24.jpeg

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

Collecting native seeds .jpeg

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

25

What species were collected or propagated?

Milkweed (a. tuberosa, a incarnata), solidago , asters, joe pye weed, ox eye sunflowers, monardas, anise hyssop ,virgins bower, boneset,

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

Little Gardens (Garden Club), middle school student volunteers SHHS, Stone Barns Agriculture Center

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

In 2024 TEAC Landscaping collected and winter seeded milkweed and other deer resistant natives which were subsequently distributed to the community and added to public planting spaces. 200 seedlings were successfully propagated outdoors using recycled clamshell containers. We tutored residents on seed harvesting and winter planting at the September Eco Fair where we distributed the winter grown seedlings. Most recently this November, we partnered with Stone Barns and collect native seeds from their meadows which we will seed this winter and distribute to the community.

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