City of Grosse Pointe Park

Grosse Pointe Park, MI

Mayor Michele Hodges

Pledge Summary

Grosse Pointe Park is located on the southwestern shore of Lake St. Clair, bordering Detroit, with a population of 11,027. We have committed to the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, earning Leadership Circle status in 2016 under Mayor Robert Denner, and in 2023 and 2024 under our current Mayor Michele Hodges. Grosse Pointe Park will continue these efforts toward being a more pollinator-friendly city by working in partnership with its newly formed sustainability committee, under the GPP Beautification Commission. Our goal is to build a healthy, sustainable and wildlife friendly community.

Action Items Committed for 2025

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 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.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.
- Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

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- 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.
- 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).
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- 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.
- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

Systems Change

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.
- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Michele Hodges	2026	1/22/2026	
Mayor Michele Hodges	2025	1/24/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Michele Hodges	2024	2/4/2024	Leadership Circle
Mayor Michele Hodges	2023	3/8/2023	Leadership Circle

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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.).

1100

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.)

400

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.

0.2

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.

yards, parks, community gardens, municipal buildings

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

We collaborate with our local library to offer free programming, which includes outreach and education, for both resident and non-residents. In addition, this year we were involved in offering a pollinator workshop for SW Food Cultivators--a youth program at Urban Neighborhood Initiatives in Southwest Detroit.

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

The motivation for the original pledge was prompted by a group of school students who approached the Mayor and Beautification Commission about the initiative, urging them to remove milkweed from the city's noxious weeds ordinance. We are honored to continue these efforts toward being a more pollinator-friendly city by identifying opportunities to plant habitat, providing resources for residents and more.

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 newsletters and webinars are a great way to stay in touch and connect with other communities! Would love more resources and support with approaching systems change action items.

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

This year we made big strides in improving our communication and connection with Parks and Rec and the City. It was hard to estimate the number of people we reached because there were many projects and events to account for. We look forward to creating more relationships and pollinator habitat in the new year!

Selected Action Items

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

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.

Brochures Events.jpg

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

Waystation Brochures.jpg

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

After 6 tabling.jpg

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

We continue to hand out Monarch Watch's Waystation Brochures at our tabling events. They're also available at City Hall and the Ewald Branch Library for residents to take. This year we participated in tabling at a monthly Summer Event called "After 6," with the Friends of Patterson Playscape group, to recruit volunteers and share our efforts. We share content on social media and the link to our pledge profile is posted on the city website. We also have a Facebook Group to connect with the community about volunteer efforts at Patterson Park: https://www.facebook.com/groups/gpp.friends.patterson.park

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.

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

City Gardener.jpg

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

Planting at City Hall.jpg

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

Monarch at City Hall.jpg

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

Volunteer Work Days.jpg

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

Butterfly Gardens.jpg

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

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Sign ups.jpg

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

GPP Beautification Commission, Parks and Rec, DPW, City Gardener, Patterson Park Garden Club, Michiganense Natives Nursery

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

Communication between the GPPBC, Parks and Rec and public works continues, as we identify areas that can be reserved for habitat at Patterson Park. Monthly Volunteer Work Days and an Adopt-a-Garden program were created to coordinate volunteers for planting and maintenance. The Garden Club is also involved. There is a pollinator garden at the end of the boardwalk and designated areas specifically for milkweed to thrive undisturbed throughout the park. We've developed a relationship with the City Gardener, who has been instrumental in providing supplies and supporting volunteer efforts. DPW also provides support and wood chip drops. We host annual native plant fundraisers with Michiganense Natives Nursery to be able to incorporate more native plantings at City Hall. This is a location that also provides habitat for Monarchs with nectar sources and milkweed. Maintenance was turned over from a landscaping company to volunteers.

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.

Exchange_Printer-friendly.pdf

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

DeeplandsGardenClub.jpg

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

Michiganense Spring Sale.jpg

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

Sales.jpg

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

May 31st.png

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

Fall Sale.jpg

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

Sept Print Version.png.pdf

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

FallExchange.pdf

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

200+

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

300

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission and Deeplands Garden Club (Fall and Spring Plant Exchange,) Michiganense Natives (Fall and Spring Native Plant Sale,) Resident Volunteers

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.

Community Art and Brochures.jpg

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

GPPL.jpg

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

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Leave your Mark.jpg

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

Finished Art Piece.jpg

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

Grosse Pointe Public Library, Wild Ones

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).

30

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 theme for library summer reading this year was "Color your World." The library hosted an outdoor nature art program focusing on nature connection and creation. One of the projects we coordinated was a community art piece where participants were invited to leave their mark (fingerprints,) symbolizing that each small act to help save the monarch butterfly can make a difference! Informational pamphlets about Monarch habitat and pollinator-friendly practices were provided by Wild Ones.

Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.

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

iNaturalist.pdf

How many estimated individuals participated in your challenge? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 100).

200

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

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Patterson Park Garden Club, Friends of Patterson Park Facebook Group

When did this challenge take place?

Throughout the Summer

What is the total acreage of habitat created? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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

Please describe your challenge and the results.

Our Community was invited to explore the park, visit the butterfly gardens and report what they observed. Educational signage describing the importance of milkweed and the insects that rely on it was displayed. The challenge was advertised on park bulletin boards, on social media in the GPP Friends of Patterson Park Facebook Group and at our tabling at After 6 events. We hope to get more participation in the future by hosting a "BioBlitz" at the 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.

City Hall Planting.jpg

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

Milkweed.jpg

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

Median bed.jpg

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

Sign.jpg

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

Bed2.jpg

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

Paver pathway.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 garden is located in the parking lot median between City Hall and Ewald Branch Library. It was established during our Pre-2020 Pledge and has seen changes in management over the last couple years. It is now maintained by volunteers. We are working to add more native species, and have also started establishing another native garden along side the city building (photo: "bed2")

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, Resident Volunteers, City Staff, 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

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:

06/09/2025

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

National Pollinator Week

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

GPP_Proclamation25.pdf

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Upload a copy of your proclamation.

IMG_0628.jpg

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

IMG_0632.jpg

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

Milkweed removed from GPP Ordinance.pdf

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, Brian Colter Forestry, City Council, City Parks

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

8/27/2018

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.

Seed Sowing Workshop.jpg

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

Seed sowing.jpg

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

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Seed Sowing2.jpg

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

Wild Ones.jpg

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

50

What species were collected or propagated?

A. syriaca, A. incarnata, and many more!

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, GPPL Seed Library, Resident Volunteers, Wild Ones Wayne County

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

We are working together to harvest various species of milkweeds from different sites including Patterson Park, City Hall and resident gardens. The seeds will be donated to Monarch Watch, Save the Monarchs and/or our local Seed Library. Last Winter, we hosted a milk jug seed sowing workshop at the Library and provided seeds from the GPPL Seed Library. We're connected with Wild Ones Wayne County and their newly formed Seeds to Community program as well. They host winter sowing workshops, up-potting and seed collection events throughout the year.

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.

Garden_Club.pdf

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

garden club.jpg

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

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Weeding Wednesdays.jpg

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

We connected with several community garden groups this year through presentations and events including GP Garden Center, Deeplands Garden Club, North Oakland Wild Ones and Wayne County Wild Ones. Members of our commission also formed the Patterson Park Garden club through Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. to further support our efforts of maintaining and planting habitat in the community.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Milkweed Ultimate Sanctuary sign.jpg

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

milkweed-sanctuary-activity-page-image.png

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

Boardwalk bed signs.jpg

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

Paver pathway.jpg

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

Sign City Hall1.jpg

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

Sign City Hall2.jpg

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

8

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

The sign from Monarch Joint Venture, at the end of the boardwalk at Patterson Park, describes what a pollinator garden is, how it functions and why it's important. There's a QR code that links to this page for more information: https://monarchjointventure.org/mjvprograms/habitat The other sign is from Garden for Wildlife's donation program. It further states that it is a pollinator-friendly native plant garden and there is a QR code that sends you to their website. There is a laminated sign by the milkweed patch around the splash pad. It is from from Mass Audubon, describes different species in the milkweed community and encourages visitors to take a closer look! This is a temporary sign that will come down in the Winter and go back up during the season when people can spot these species. We are looking at educational signage for the children's garden next. There are large signs in each city pollinator bed that designate them as "Grosse Pointe Park Butterfly Gardens." The city also recently purchased a full set of Habitat signs from Monarch Joint Venture. All 5 signs have QR codes that are unique to each sign type--each sign design leads to a different part of the website where you can learn more about different topics including: "Why native plants? Plant Milkweed and Monarchs need our help." They will be displayed in pollinator gardens throughout the city, including the median bed at city hall near the newly installed pathway (pictured.)

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)

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

What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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.

How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)

Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.

Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

How many estimated individuals attended the event? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field ((Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only), e.g. 500)

What was the date of your festival?

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

Please describe the details of your monarch butterfly festival and how you ensured the event was accessible by all residents in the community (e.g., events, length, notable successes, outreach, location).

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).

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

BeforeAfter1.pdf

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

BeforeAfter2.pdf

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

caterpillarcrossing.jpg

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

Group.jpg

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

planting.jpg

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

PaintedRocks.jpg

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

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Painting pavers.jpg

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

Pathway.jpg

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

Patterson Playscape Children's Garden Proposal Details.pdf

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)

Patterson Park Children's Garden

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)

4

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

Over the last two years we've built connections at Defer Elementary, Pierce Middle School and Maire Elementary through parent volunteers. These volunteers were the driving force behind proposing a children's garden around the playscape at Patterson Park. The Patterson Park Garden Club received a grant from the Keep Michigan Beautiful Foundation, as well as a donation from Friends of Patterson Playscape group to fund the children's garden project. Volunteers, as well as children from these schools, were involved in the planning, prep and planting. Girl scout troops painted pavers for the pathways and rocks to decorate the space.

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

Grant information, Citizen science and native plant resources

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).

100+ students, 10 educators

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

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GPPBC, Patterson Park Garden Club (MI Garden Clubs, Inc,) Local Girl Scout troops, Keep Michigan Beautiful Foundation, Friends of Patterson Playscape group

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.

0

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

Weekly and monthly workdays via the garden club and commission

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.

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

Greening of Detroit at Oudolf.jpg

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

Wild Ones materials.jpg

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

Greenfest at Nature Center.jpg

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

Seed Library.jpg

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

Native Plants.jpg

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

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Belle Isle Nature Center, Grosse Pointe Public Library, MSU Master Gardeners, Patterson Park Garden Club, Adapt Community Supported Ecology, Wild Ones Wayne County, Oudolf Garden Detroit, The Greening of Detroit.

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

There were several tabling events and opportunities for outreach at the Nature Center (ie. Greenfest,) as well as Library and community events. Our library also has a native seed library and provides native milkweed and nectar seeds free for our community and giveaways. Master Gardeners participate in our Volunteer work days and Garden Club programs. Wild Ones Wayne County gives us educational materials for tabling events. Adapt provides free native plant kits that include milkweed. Our commissioner Kelly is a GP Community Leader that helps facilitate and install them. She also volunteers at Oudolf Garden Detroit doing education and outreach events. This year she helped facilitate a workshop for a youth group with The Greening of Detroit-- "a non-profit organization focused on enhancing the quality of life for Detroiters by planting trees, providing job training and involving youth in the education of the natural environment."

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.

Celebrationflier_calendar.jpg

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

CelebrationwithCleanUpClub.jpg

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

Kit_ad.jpg

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

Kits.jpg

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

Have you seen me.jpg

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

Signs of Spring at Patterson Park.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).

100

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

Grosse Pointe Public Library, GPP Friends of Patterson Park, GPPBC

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

Our library is a Community hub for Citizen Science through SciStarter. All three branches circulate "Observing Pollinators" and "Exploring Biodiversity" kits. Kits are promoted during library programming and are on display for check-out. We participate in SciStarter's 1,000 Acts of Science for Citizen Science Month by holding a celebration event. This year we collaborated with the Clean Up Club and participated in the Leave No Trash project by collecting, sorting and weighing the trash that we collected. We also have a project on iNaturalist for our local park so that residents can help track the biodiversity of the area as we add more native plantings. Monarchs are currently in the top 3 of most observed at the park! A spring poster was displayed on the bulletin board at the park encouraging residents to keep an eye out for Monarch activity, as well as other signs of Spring.

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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

Sign.jpg

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

Sign installed in bed.jpg

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

GP News article1.jpg

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

GP News Article2.jpg

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

GP News article 3.jpg

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, City staff, DPW, Landscaping companies, Grosse Pointe News

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

In progress

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

In 2018, an ordinance was passed to remove milkweed from the noxious weeds list in Grosse Pointe Park. Still, we've experienced multiple incidents of milkweed being pulled from beds by landscaping companies contracted with the city. We are working on strategies to protect this sensitive pollinator habitat. This includes communicating with DPW, installing clearer signage, distributing information to landscaping companies and holding them accountable. Temporary signs have been placed in beds at city hall (pictured.) We're working to add educational signage, as well as official markers to indicate that these beds are being maintained by the Beautification Commission and our group of volunteers. A reporter covered our story in the Grosse Pointe News, increasing awareness of the issue. Another article was published in the news on October 9th in response to the sign that we made to alert landscapers to kindly keep out -- that the bed contained milkweed and was being maintained by volunteers.

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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

Trail_proposal.jpg

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

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Trail_proposalmap.jpg

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

Helm1.jpg

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

Helm2.jpg

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

The Helm Life Center, Adapt Community Supported Ecology, Patterson Park Garden Club, GPPBC, USFWS

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

One of our commissioners, Jim Creighton, is involved at the Helm assisted living facility and has been working with them to include native milkweeds and nectar plants in the design of their new gardens. An Adapt kit was planted in October by volunteers that included more native nectar sources and grasses. Upon completion, the beds will be certified as a Monarch Waystation, and also include educational signage. The Patterson Park Garden Club is working on a proposal to the city for implementing a Nature Trail amenity (native meadow) that would not only provide habitat for monarchs and other wildlife, but also reduce maintenance and mowing in that area of the park. The project is being developed in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service who will be providing seed and overseeing implementation and maintenance.

Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.

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

Workshop.jpg

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

Workshop2.jpg

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

Xerces materials Workshop.jpg

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

Community Science workshop.jpg

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

SW Food Community garden.jpg

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

Swallowtail garden.jpg

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

Swallowtail egg on parsley.jpg

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

Libraries are for everyone.jpg

Please describe the process to create the strategy , the strategy goals and content, and/or results of implementation. Please also identify who was engaged in this process, what partnerships were established, and how you engaged these groups. Provide a link, if possible.

We value our relationship with Grosse Pointe Public Library. All of the outdoor programming that we're involved with (including education and outreach about pollinator conservation, planting native plants, seed giveaways and nature connection) is open to the public. You do not need to be a resident to attend. Outreach program: Commissioner Kelly Konieczki collaborated with Stefanie Steele, a pollinator conservation specialist with the Xerces Society, to host a Pollinator workshop for SW Food Cultivators--a youth program at Urban Neighborhood Initiatives in southwest Detroit (https://www.unidetroit.org/.) Participants learned about the lifecycles of bees and butterflies through photos and hands-on displays. There was a "bumblebee petting zoo" where they could "pet" male bumblebees (which, unlike females, do not have stingers.) This helped some of the participants become more at ease with these insects. SW Food Cultivators had previously received pollinator kits from the Xerces Society habitat kit program to add to their community vegetable garden. After the presentation, we went outside to explore the new habitat together and discover all the life they were supporting! They learned about community science and how to use iNaturalist to submit their observations as well.

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e.,

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National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

MI Green Communities.png

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

NWF_Plaque.jpg

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

Patterson Park was designated a NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat in May 2019. A plaque is displayed at the gatehouse (pictured.) Grosse Pointe Park achieved Michigan Green Communities Challenge Silver Certification 2022 & 2023, In-progress for 2025.

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.

Beautifying Patterson.jpg

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

Volunteer.jpg

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

work day 2.jpg

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

work day 3.jpg

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

Work days.png

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

Volunteers.jpg

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

Pond bed restoration1.jpg

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

Pond bed Penn sedge.jpg

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

Pond bed carex eburnea.jpg

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, Patterson Park Garden Club, Keep Michigan Beautiful Foundation, Friends of Patterson Playscape, Michiganense Natives Nursery

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

300

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Commissioner Kelly Konieczki organizes monthly volunteer work days at Patterson Park, as well as work and planting days for the beds adopted by volunteers at City Hall. Our continued goal is to add more native plants to the landscaping, as well as diversify existing butterfly gardens, by adding more host plants and nectar sources -- particularly late-blooms such as Asters and Goldenrods. The newly formed Patterson Park Garden Club also helps with these efforts. The club received a grant in the Spring from the Keep Michigan Beautiful Foundation that allowed them to purchase and install over 180 plants for a new Children's Garden at the park. Friends of Patterson Playscape group and residents also offered donations. The commission held its annual Spring and Fall native plant sales this season, in partnership with Michiganense Natives Nursery, and earned 110 plants that were

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installed in beds by City Hall. In addition, almost 300 native plants were purchased by the city and installed by volunteers at Patterson Park, near the pond beds which are currently undergoing restoration.

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

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

Native Plant Recommendations.pdf

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Our city is engaged in a Stormwater sewer separation project and a Charlevoix streetscape project that involve removal of vegetation in medians and along walking districts. The City manager consulted commissioners for suggestions of native plants that could be incorporated into plans for rebuilding, which would create habitat and improve environmental health. We provided a list of plants and resources (attached.) We are also engaging with the city manager and director of parks and recreation to propose the creation of a trail/meadow amenity at Patterson Park. It is currently being reviewed by the Recreation Commission (October 2025.)

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.

Patterson Park Management Site and Intent.pdf

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

Inprogress.jpg

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

Restoration_Sign.jpg

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

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Phrag marked.jpg

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

Shoreline.jpg

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

Install.jpg

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

Phrag_sign.jpg

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

City Council 10:13.pdf

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

TBD

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.

We are working on an invasive species management plan for the shoreline at our park. Lake St Clair CISMA did a site visit for us last year and provided us with resources. We're now in contact with the Invasive species coordinator of the DR-WLE CWMA (Detroit River Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area) who is putting together a shoreline rehabilitation proposal for us to present to the city. This will include id, treatment, management and cost estimates. The targeted area is "roughly a 0.55-acre section running between the shoreline and boardwalk" of the park. "The intent behind the proposal is to remove all/as much of the invasive species present as possible and rehabilitate the area with native plants. It will require a multi-step approach that should compliment our proposed meadow/native prairie suggestions by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service." A shoreline presentation will be presented at the October 13th City Council Meeting to create public awareness. We're also working with park staff, the Patterson Park garden club and Michiganense Natives to identify and target invasive species in beds around the pond area of the park (phragmites, barnyard grass, burning bush, etc.) Our goal is to beautify these spaces and re-establish native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators. The park manager added Wildtype Nursery to the vendor list so we can purchase native plants directly from this local MI nursery. Almost 300 plants were purchased and added to beds

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this Fall, including Fragrant sumac as a replacement for burning bush. Educational signage about Phragmites was also installed prior to treatment.

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

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

PrePledge_median.jpg

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

PrePledge_median2.jpg

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

Alley_article1.jpg

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

Alley_article2.jpg

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

There is Common Milkweed in the medians along Jefferson, South of City Hall. It was established during our Pre-2020 Pledge. Our goal is to work with the city to diversify these beds and add more native nectar species. In addition, the Beautification Commission has been in discussion with the city about alleyways, and their potential for being habitat corridors. The Grosse Pointe News covered the story (article attached.) Commission chair, Lisa Kyle, suggested that patches along alleys "could be transformed into islands of sustainability...it's perfect for milkweed or wildflowers."

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

10

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.

0

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Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Medians are maintained by a landscaping company and managed by the city. Alleyways are the responsibility of landlords or residents.

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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

Recreation Commission Meeting 10:08.pdf

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

GPPBC_ Sustainability Committee Reports.jpg

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

Beautification Commission, City Council, Sustainability Committee, Recreation Commission, Patterson Park Garden Club

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

In progress

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

In 2023 the Beautification Commission formed a sub-committee for Sustainability. It was originally a Council Committee that Beautification took over. The revised mission of the GPPBC includes not only recommendations for beautification, but now also for the environmental concerns of Grosse Pointe Park. The Mayors' Monarch Pledge, Volunteer work days and Garden club currently all run under this committee. A new subcommittee is also being formed for the Shoreline Restoration project.

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