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 2023-2025 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 sustainability committee, under the GPP Beautification Commission. Our goal is to become a Monarch Champion City while building a healthy, sustainable and wildlife friendly community.

Action Items Committed for 2026

Communications and Convening

- Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.
- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)
- 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-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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.
- 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).
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.
- 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

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.).

3410

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.)

600

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 nature education for all ages. You don't need to be a resident to attend. In addition, we partner with Adapt Ecology to facilitate the distribution and planting of free native plant kits in GPP and surrounding communities.

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, restore biodiversity and provide resources for residents.

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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Our pledge page is a great resource to share the work we've been doing. The newsletters and websites are also helpful in keeping us up-to-date! We would love to see examples of what other communities are doing to expand equitable engagement, possibly in a newsletter feature or future webinar topic.

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

We're continuing to build relationships and partners as we do this important work! Our list of interested volunteers has almost doubled in the last year, and the number of plants we put in the ground continues to grow as well! We also expanded our community outreach efforts this year by tabling more events. Looking forward to more progress in 2027!

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:

June 8, 2026

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

National Pollinator Week

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

National Pollinator Week Proclamation.pdf

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Proclamation_Council.jpg

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.

SmartGardenConference.JPG

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

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ChildrensGardenWaystation.jpg

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

HelmWaystation.jpg

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

HelmWaystation2.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 MSU Master Gardeners (Smart Gardening Conference,) Royal Oak Garden Club, GP Garden Center, The Helm Senior Center Garden Club and Wayne County Wild Ones. Members of our commission also run the Patterson Park Garden club through Michigan Garden Clubs, Inc. to further support our efforts of maintaining and planting habitat in the community. The Club facilitated the prep, planting and certification of two Monarch Waystations this year. One at the Helm Senior Center and one at the Patterson Park Children's Garden.

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.

CityHallPlanting.jpg

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

workdaysign.jpg

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

PlantSale.jpg

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

MedianBed.JPG

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

GPP Beautification Commission, Parks and Rec, DPW, City Garden Staff, 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. There is a pollinator garden at the end of the boardwalk and designated areas specifically for milkweed to thrive undisturbed throughout the park. Monthly Volunteer Work Days were created to coordinate volunteers for planting and maintenance. The Patterson Park Garden Club has also adopted beds. This year members of the club contributed plants that they divided and grew from seed. We've developed a relationship with City Garden staff, who have been instrumental in providing supplies and supporting volunteer efforts. DPW also provides support and wood chip drops. We host annual Spring and Fall native plant fundraisers with Michiganense Natives Nursery to be able to incorporate more native plantings in city beds. The median bed at City Hall provides critical habitat for Monarchs with nectar sources and milkweed right in the middle of a parking lot! Maintenance of this bed was turned over from a landscaping company to volunteers four years ago.

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.

NatureCenter.jpg

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

MonarchProgramLibrary.jpg

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

AdaptKit.jpg

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

Belle Isle Nature Center, Grosse Pointe Public Library, MSU Master Gardeners, Patterson Park Garden Club, Adapt Community Supported Ecology (Ann Arbor,) Wild Ones Wayne County Chapter.

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

Volunteers participated in tabling events at the Nature Center this year (ie. Shiver on the River, Greenfest,) as well as outreach at the Library. Our branch has a native seed library and provides native milkweed and nectar seeds free for the community, and our giveaways. Master Gardeners participate in Volunteer work days and Garden Club programs. Wild Ones Wayne County partners with us for tabling and provides us with educational materials for tabling events. Adapt runs a free native plant kit program that includes milkweed. Our commissioners Kelly and Lindsay are volunteers for Adapt in GP and Detroit, and help facilitate and install the kits.

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.

HelmWaystation.jpeg

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

HelmWaystation2.jpg

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.

Trail_proposalmap.jpg

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

The Helm Life Center, Adapt Community Supported Ecology, Feral Flora Native Plant Nursery, Patterson Park Garden Club, GPPBC, USFWS

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

Members of the Commission and Patterson Park Garden Club have been working with the Helm assisted living facility on the design and implementation of a Monarch Waystation. An Adapt Kit was planted in the Spring. Additional plants were purchased in the Fall from Feral Flora Nursery to complete the design and were planted by volunteers. The garden is now a

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certified Monarch Waystation, with designated sign on display. The Patterson Park Garden Club proposed the implementation of a Nature Trail amenity (native meadow) last year with the goal of supporting wildlife and reducing maintenance and mowing in that area of the park. The proposal was developed in partnership with the US Fish and Wildlife Service who would provide the seed and oversee the implementation and maintenance. The project was discussed with the City manager and Director of Parks and Rec. It was also presented to the Beautification Commission and the Recreation Commission. It is currently on hold.

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.

AdaptKit.jpg

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

AlmaGarden2.jpg

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

AlmaPlant.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: This year Commissioners helped facilitate the distribution and planting of free native plant kits made possible by Adapt Ecology. One of the recipients was a community garden in Detroit. Grow on Alma's mission is to "encourage sustainability and promote self sufficiency" by empowering neighbors with a place to learn, gather and grow. The kit included many native plants as well as milkweed.

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.

PlantSale.jpg

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

plants.jpg

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

Sept19_Sale.pdf

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

Fall Exchange.jpg

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

Fall Exchange2.jpg

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

Park Scene Fall 2026 Final2.jpg

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

Halloween in the Park.jpg

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

Seed Giveaway.jpg

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

300

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

400

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

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Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission (Fall and Spring Plant Exchange, Halloween in the Park,) Michiganense Natives (Fall and Spring Native Plant Sale,) Resident Volunteers

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.

seeds.jpg

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

Donation.jpg

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

10

What species were collected or propagated?

A. incarnata

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, Resident Volunteers, Wild Ones Wayne County Chapter

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

We harvested milkweed (A. incarnata) from different sites including Patterson Park and resident gardens. The seeds were donated to Monarch Watch's Seed program: https://monarchwatch.org/bring-back-the-monarchs/milkweed/seed-collecting/ We're connected with Wild Ones Wayne County and their Seeds to Community program as well. They host winter sowing workshops, up-potting and seed collection events throughout the year.

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.

CityHallPlanting.jpg

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

Pollinator Beds.jpg

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

cityhall.jpg

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

Median Bed After.jpg

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

Median Bed Before.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)

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 few years. It is now maintained by volunteers. We are working to add more native species, and have also added another native garden along side the city building.

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

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.)

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

After6.jpg

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

After6_2.jpg

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

After6_3.jpg

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

Tabling.jpg

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

headbands.jpg

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

Tabling3.jpg

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

BrochuresCityHall.jpg

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

We display "Wild Ones for Monarchs" and Monarch Waystation Brochures at our tabling events. They're also available year-round at City Hall and the Ewald Branch Library for residents to take. This year the Beautification Commission hosted a table at a monthly Summer Community Event called "After 6." Kids made "pollinator headbands," information was shared about how to create habitat, participate in community science and more. 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: www.facebook.com/groups/gpp.friends.patterson.park

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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 just completed a Stormwater sewer separation project and a Charlevoix streetscape project that involved 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.) Last year, we engaged with the City Manager and Director of Parks and Recreation to propose the creation of a trail/meadow amenity at Patterson Park. Though this project is still in review, we are continuing to discuss and identify additional city beds that would be good candidates for more native plantings. Commissioners have also recently been approached by the City Forester for recommendations for tree plantings.

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

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

Common Milkweed was planted in the medians along Jefferson, South of City Hall during the 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 was in discussion with the city about alleyways last year, 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." We are working on a list of beds in public spaces that can be planted with milkweed or pollinator-friendly plants next year.

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

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.

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.

ChildrensGardenWaystation.jpg

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

Workday.jpg

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

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childrens garden.jpg

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

Childrensgarden.jpg

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

Caterpillar Crossing.jpg

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

Garden_Explore.jpg

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 few 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 in 2025, as well as a donation from Friends of Patterson Playscape group to start 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. This year, additional funding was secured with a grant for additional plants and signage, which included a Monarch Waystation Certification. The Girl scouts also painted more pavers to add to the garden.

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

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(e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

100+ students, 5 educators

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

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

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 volunteer workdays hosted by the Beautification Commission and Garden Club

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).

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

Screenshot 2026-11-06 at 9.23.28 PM.png

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

NWF_Plaque.jpg

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

MI Green Communities.png

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission

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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 has been recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA for 43 consecutive years. GPP also achieved Michigan Green Communities Challenge Silver Certification from 2022-2025 and Gold Certification for 2026.

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.

inatblitz.jpg

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

CNC.jpg

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.

BioBlitz.jpg

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).

400

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

Grosse Pointe Park Beautification Commission, Wild Ones Wayne County Chapter, Detroit Zoo, CA Academy of Sciences, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County,

When did this challenge take place?

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April 24 - May 10

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.

The City Nature Challenge is the largest global survey of biodiversity! It takes place for 4 days at the end of April, where participants are encouraged to collaboratively record as many observations of their local nature as possible using the iNaturalist app. Commissioner Kelly Konieczki is the Community Science Chair for Wild Ones Wayne County and partnered with the Detroit Zoo to help organize the Detroit Tri-County area project. Our Community was invited to explore their backyards, parks and butterfly gardens. The challenge was advertised on social media, including the GPP Friends of Patterson Park Facebook Group. In total, over 3,000 observations were made by 380 people. More about the project: https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2026-detroit-tri-county-area

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.

citscitabling.jpg

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

Symbolic Migration.jpg

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

SymbolicMigration.jpg

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

Have you seen me.jpg

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).

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250

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 participated in SciStarter's 2.50 Acts of Science for Citizen Science Month by holding a Earth Month and Citizen Science Celebration event in April. In August, we hosted a program called "Social Butterflies" to celebrate the Monarch Migration. Attendees were invited to participate in the Symbolic Monarch Migration Project through Journey North by coloring life-sized Monarchs and a large Ambassador butterfly. 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: www.inaturalist.org/projects/exploring-patterson-park Monarchs are currently in the top 3 of most observed at the park!

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.

2026 Work Days.jpg

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

boardwalkbed.jpg

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

bruce.jpg

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

crew2.jpg

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

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Garden Club.png

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

Monarch_Milkweed.jpg

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

New Bed.jpg

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

IMG_9495.jpg

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

workdaysign.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, Michiganense Natives Nursery, City Garden Staff, DPW, Adapt Ecology, Jenn Ott (Warren MicroForest)

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

631

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 Patterson Park Garden Club also helps with these efforts. The club received another grant in the Spring from the Keep Michigan Beautiful Foundation that allowed them to purchase and install over 100 native plants at the new Children's Garden at the park. Volunteers installed two Adapt Ecology native plant garden kits. One for a GPP resident and one at the Helm Senior Living Center. The Commission held its annual Spring and Fall native plant sales this season, in partnership with Michiganense Natives Nursery, and earned 128 plants that were installed in beds by City Hall. Commissioners also proposed the addition of native plantings in a bed at Patterson Park that had largely been empty (with the exception of hostas and a hedge of boxwood.)

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75 plants were purchased with money from the GPPBC budget and planted in June. In addition, about 100 native plants were winter sown or split by volunteers and transplanted at various locations in Patterson Park. We were excited to find Monarch caterpillars on the newly planted milkweed! At the end of the season, 10 native Nannyberry shrubs were also donated by Jenn Ott, leader of the Warren MicroForest Project. Volunteers planted them at the park.

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.

City Council 10:13.pdf

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

Patterson Park Shoreline Rehabilitation Proposal.pdf

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

Trap Workshop.jpg

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

SLF traps.jpg

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

Phrag_sign.jpg

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.

Last year Commissioners put together an invasive species management plan for the shoreline at Patterson park. The targeted area is "roughly a 0.55-acre section running between the shoreline and boardwalk" of the park. Our intent is to remove as much of the

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invasive species present as possible and rehabilitate the area with native plants. The proposal was presented and approved at a City Council Meeting on October 13, 2025. The process of setting up the contract to begin work with DR-WLE CWMA and US Fish and Wildlife is in progress. In the meantime, members of the Patterson Park Garden Club worked through the 2026 growing season to keep vegetation low on the shoreline, as well as bagged seed heads from invasive plants to keep them from spreading further. The Garden Club is also working with Michiganense Natives to identify and target invasive species in other beds around the park (phragmites, canada thistle, burning bush, etc.) Our goal is to beautify these spaces and re-establish native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators. Both Wildtype Nursery and Michiganense Natives are now on the vendor list so that the city can purchase native plants directly from these local nurseries. Almost 300 plants were purchased and added to beds last year, including Fragrant sumac as a replacement for burning bush. Educational signage about Phragmites was installed for public awareness prior to treatment. The Commission's Sustainability Committee began an educational campaign this year to help slow the spread of Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) in our community. Informational pamphlets are available at City Hall and the Library. MSU Extension held a workshop at Patterson Park on August 20th to help teach residents about how to identify invasive Tree of Heaven, their favorite host, as well as look-a-likes, and how to make DIY Lampshade traps to target egg masses. Volunteers have set over 20 traps in the park and surrounding neighborhoods. They're currently being monitored and will be removed around the end of November, when egg laying season ends. Sightings of SLF Adults have been increasing in the community, and are being reported using MISIN and the iNaturalist App. The City has been helping us spread the word by sharing social media posts. Commissioner Kelly Konieczki was interviewed for this article: https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/helping-michiganders-prepare-for-spotted-lanternfly We anticipate more workshops and conversations about SLF and invasive species management in the future!

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.

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

Butterfly Event.jpg

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

Educational.jpg

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

Scavenger Hunt.jpg

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

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Sidewalk Chalk.jpg

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

SymbolicMigration.jpg

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

Walk the Migration .jpg

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)

79

What was the date of your festival?

August 19, 2026

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

Grosse Pointe Public Library, Wild Ones Wayne County

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).

We partnered with Grosse Pointe Public Library to host an outdoor program called "Social Butterflies" that celebrated the Monarch Butterfly during Migration. Participants made symbolic monarchs to send on their own "journey" via Journey North, played butterfly-themed games, explored the pollinator garden and more! It was an hour long event and open to all ages, including non-residents. We would love to expand this event in the future and possibly invite other partners.

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.

Art Project.jpg

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

Finished Art.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).

79

Please describe the community art project that was implemented in your community and how it contributed to cultural awareness and recognition (e.g., number of art installations, type of art).

We partnered with Grosse Pointe Public Library to host an outdoor program called "Social Butterflies" that celebrated the Monarch Butterfly during Migration. One of the projects 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.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

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

ChildrensGardenWaystation.jpg

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

Garden Club Signs.jpg

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

Trap City Hall.jpg

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

Garden for Pollinators Sign.jpg

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

Why Native Sign.jpg

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

Dead hedge.jpg

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

18

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

At Patterson Park: 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. We added another Monarch Joint Venture sign by the newly restored "Pocket Prairie" pollinator beds near the pond. A Monarch Waystation Sign was installed at the Children's Garden this year. We also added signage to all of the beds that we adopted, indicating that they are being stewarded by the Beautification Commission and Garden Club. They have our logos and Monarch

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Pledge badge on them. At City Hall: There are large signs in each city pollinator bed that designate them as "Grosse Pointe Park Butterfly Gardens." The city purchased a full set of Habitat signs from Monarch Joint Venture last year. 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're displayed in pollinator gardens throughout the city, including the median bed at city hall near the newly installed pathway (pictured.) New this year is an informational sign about Spotted Lanternfly and Lampshade Traps. Other: This Spring, during one of our first volunteer work days at the park, we made a dead hedge from sticks and downed branches to support biodiversity. An educational sign is on display.

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

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.

Master-Plan-PDF.pdf

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

GPP City Council, GPPBC, Sustainability Committee, Patterson Park Garden Club

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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 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.

On June 13, 2022, the City adopted a Master Plan that included sustainable goals and strategies. In this Action Plan section (attached,) one goal that is placed of high importance is to "Develop standards to encourage low impact development practices, such as stormwater management, green infrastructure, tree cover, native planting, etc." The NWF Mayors' Monarch Pledge is also listed as a partner organization on the city website.

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 on. The Mayors' Monarch Pledge and Garden club all run under this committee. The Commission's Bylaws are currently being updated to reflect these updates.

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

Lake Friendly Photo.jpg

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

Lakes Course.pdf

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

CRWC event.jpeg

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

Battle the Buckthorn Seed Mix.jpg

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

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Director of Parks and Rec, GPP Garden Staff, 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.

Currently all of the garden beds that have been adopted by the Commission and Garden Club are being stewarded without the use of chemical pesticides or fertilizers. We follow and promote ecological practices such as leaving the leaves, stems, etc. Targeted treatments are implemented sparingly, when appropriate, to manage invasive species like Phragmites and Buckthorn. We're currently experimenting with seed mixes meant to outcompete invasive seedlings after an area is cleared. This year a few of our Commissioners took the MSU Extension Lakes Class to learn more about lake ecology, stormwater runoff and strategies for improving the health of shorelines. On December 2nd, the Clinton River Watershed Council was invited to host a free discussion at our library about water quality and what residents can do to make a difference (such as reducing chemical and fertilizer use.) We're still learning about best practices for municipalities, especially for one that is so close to a watershed like we are, and anticipate future conversations with commissioners, park staff, city officials and residents.

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