Abuzz For Wildlife in Eatontown

Borough of Eatontown, NJ

Mayor Anthony Talerico, Jr.

Pledge Summary

Abuzz For Wildlife in Eatontown is a grassroots organization that seeks to provide opportunities for public engagement for establishing wildlife habitats around the Borough of Eatontown which will become a wildlife corridor for migrating species, includes pollinators such as the Monarch Butterfly.

Action Items Committed for 2023

Communications and Convening

- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- 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.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Anthony Talerico, Jr.	2025	3/26/2025	
Mayor Anthony Talerico	2024	3/31/2024	Signatories
Mayor Anthony Talerico, Jr.	2023	3/28/2023	Signatories

Action Items

In total, how many individuals have been reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan-Dec)? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

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20

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.)

20 adults

In total, how many acres of monarch habitat have been created in your city in the last 12 months? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 3). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.25

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.

Borough parks currently with hopes to expand to residences, schools and houses of worship

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

Our efforts have been focused only on habitat creation and we need to expand that as well as work to engage with the community , including marginalized communities.

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

Our motivation continues to be providing and creating monarch habitat to help the species survive and thrive.

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?

The support of Borough officials and employees. Helpful resources will include those who can help care for and maintain the habitat that is created.

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

We did not attain all of our goals in 2023, so we hope to expand our team to focus more efforts on this worthwhile project in 2024.

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Selected Action Items

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.

MMP Arboretum invasives mitigation.png

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

10 acres

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 established a team in September 2021 to start to remove, by hand, invasive vines and plants in our 47 acre F. Bliss Price Arboretum and Wildlife Sanctuary, Wyckoff Road. During that time we have held monthly work parties. We continue to hold work parties during the year to continue removal. We have not used any chemicals. Our mitigation of invasives will allow for natives to grow, including monarch habitat.

Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)

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

Our group has focused on encouraging residents to plant wildlife habitats through Facebook posts, outreach events, a table at our library and information handouts at Boro Hall and the community garden. We have not yet expanded it to include specifically monarch Butterly gardens. We will do this in 2024.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

CG monarch waystation signage.png

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

1

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

We have a monarch habitat garden within our community garden. It contains a monarch habitat sign. We plan to purchase additional signage for that garden as well as the pollinator garden next to it.

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.

MMP Tarontolo Park milkweed seed dispersal.png

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

Abuzz for Wildlife in Eatontown, Environmental Commission & Green Team

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

0

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

common milkweed seeds were broadcast within the meadow portion of Tarontolo Park, thus converting a section to grow milkweed. We will check to ensure they grow, if not, we will transplant small milkweed plants in the spring into the site. We have added the seeds to a section of Tarontolo Park.

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

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