Village of Golf Manor

Cincinnati, OH

Mayor Stefan Densmore

Pledge Summary

The Village of Golf Manor is a first tier suburb outside of Cincinnati, Ohio. The village takes its name from the surrounding golf course, our neighbor, the Losantiville Country Club. Predominantly a bedroom community, there is a rich diversity of housing options in the village, including single family homes, duplexes and apartments. Many of the homes were built in the 1940s, though several date back to the 1800s-- and new development is occurring throughout the community. The village provides a wide range of housing options, in size, style, and price, and most of our single family homes are affordable to first-time home buyers. There is a growing interest in revitalizing our parks and public spaces, the creation of community gardens, and the repopulation of our native tree canopy. There is hope that a focus on monarch and pollinator conservation can further unify and drive these projects. As flower gardens are popular throughout the village there is a growing awareness of the wide range of ecological problems from pesticides used on our lawns, and on a more industrial scale, such as at our neighboring Country Club. Community wide education about this and the benefits of repopulating native flora can make a significant difference-- Increasing knowledge about the relation of the use native flora to the repopulation of monarch butterflies and other pollinators fundamental to the sustainability of our ecosystem.

Action Items Committed for 2023

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 gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- 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).

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- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

Systems Change

- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Stefan Densmore	2023	4/30/2023	

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.).

50

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.)

40 adults, 10 youth

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.

0.5

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.

Residential yards, places of worship, community gardens, rights-of-way, and parks.

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

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We use a Community Engagement committee to reach out to share plans and receive input, specifically from those in the community who are too often left out of the conversation.

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

We incorporated the fundamentals of the program into our strategic plan.

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?

I'd like to see more pdf flyers and postcards that can be distributed electronically and physically to all residents in our community.

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

We incorporated the fundamentals of the program into our strategic plan. This itself took a year to do, but will have a long standing continuous impact.

Selected Action Items

Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

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

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

Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? If you are involved with another National Wildlife Federation program, please mention that below. (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

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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)

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

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

How many students and educators would you estimate are being reached? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

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

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.

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

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:

May 8th 2023

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

Earth Day Every Day Month

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

GM_Proclamation__Earth Day 2023-4.pdf

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).

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Initiatives have been shared via the Mayor's Report in monthly council meetings, which are additionally broadcast and archived via YouTube, and shared on our village's social media properties.

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

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

The mayor ordered a review of chemicals used in the grounds keeping of public spaces in the village, to begin the transition away from use of chemicals know to be hazardous to our ecosystem.

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.

Action will be completed by Spring of 2024, such that no chemicals known to be hazardous to our ecosystem are used moving forward with groundskeeping of our public spaces.

Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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

Partnered with The Duke Energy Foundation to obtain funding for planting more trees throughout the village that are native to our region.

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.

We distributed and and planted x trees throughout the residential spaces of the village this year, as part of our inaugural program to increase the village tree canopy to the recommended level 40 percent.

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

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

We gave away x trees native to our region, for planting residentially.

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

15

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

The Mayor partnered with the Duke Energy Foundation.

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

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

.5 acre

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 removed two invasive trees.

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