City of Versailles

Versailles, MO

Mayor Jamie Morrow

Pledge Summary

City of Versailles, Missouri is a city of roughly 2,500 residents. The city is located at the crossroads of Highways 5 & 52 and serves as a gateway to beautiful Lake of the Ozarks. Versailles is the county seat and is home to 4 lovely parks and a community garden that is hosted by Ozark Prairie Master Gardeners and others. Other amenities include a historical museum, The Royal Theatre and Olde Tyme Apple Festival every October. Recently City of Versailles, MO was awarded grant funds to complete part of the Rock Island Trail that lies within the city limit. Mayor Jamie Morrow of Versailles, Missouri is devoted to preserving Monarch Butterfly and other pollinator habitats and is prepared to engage community members in building Monarch and other pollinator numbers.

Action Items Committed for 2024

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.
- 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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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.

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- 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 Jamie Morrow	2026	3/30/2026	
Mayor Jamie Morrow	2024	2/26/2024	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.).

200

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

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

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.

Personal residences, parks

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

Placing a butterfly garden at the park that is in a lower income area that is more diverse than other areas of town.

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

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Our communities motivation is helping promote a beautiful part of the ecosystem as well as promoting our community's resilience through representation of the Monarch

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?

Amazon, Missouri Department of Conservation

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

They are still a work in progress. The seeds have been sown, hopefully all the plants come up nicely next year.

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:

April through October 2024

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge Days

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Pledge Days 2024.pdf

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

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

Ozark Prairie Master Gardeners have a pollinator garden at the community garden where anyone is allowed to pick fresh veggies in season.

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.

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

Versailles City Parks & Morgan County Statesman Newspaper

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

The Versailles parks department helped pick places for pollinator seeds to be sewn and were happy to help with upkeep. The newspaper wrote a small blurb about Monarch Days.

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.

Master gardeners have a pollinator garden

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

The Master Gardeners are great advocators of keeping pollinators healthy and abundant

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

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

0

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

50

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

planted 50 milkweed seeds. Hopefully that many survive.

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

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

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Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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?

0

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

In progress - Will be plating more seeds along the Rock Island Trail and at other parks within the city limits of Versailles, Missouri.

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

Will complete the native plants project by 10-31-2026

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

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