City of Loveland

Loveland, OH

Mayor Kathy Bailey

Pledge Summary

Nestled in the charming landscapes of southwestern Ohio, Loveland is a close-knit community with a population that values environmental conservation and biodiversity. Our city boasts a rich tapestry of green spaces, including several parks and numerous community gardens, which serve as havens for local wildlife. Under the leadership of Mayor Kathy Bailey, Loveland has enthusiastically embraced the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, reaffirming our dedication to the preservation of monarch butterflies and other vital pollinators. Through collaborative efforts with residents, local organizations, and government agencies, we are committed to expanding pollinator habitats across our city.

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 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.

Systems Change

- 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.
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Kathy Bailey	2025	3/18/2025	Signatories
Mayor Kathy Bailey	2024	3/19/2024	Signatories

Action Items

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.

4

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

Loveland has made efforts in recent years to embrace conservation and increasing biodiversity. The MMP is in direct alignment with our city goals.

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?

We have some excellent community partners that have worked with us to move the pledge forward. We are engaging with our local schools and environmental groups. We would like to continue our outreach efforts to the whole community. We would like to have more engagement among young people to continue spreading conservation-minded efforts throughout Loveland.

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.).

400

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.

Schools, Shared park spaces

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 consistently reach out through all of our channels but targeting the schools allows us to reach all students and families.

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.)

100

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

We view this as the first year of work and have expanded plans for 2025.

Selected Action Items

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

In progress

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

Plant Sale Bundle Flyer pg 1.pdf

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

Plant Sale Bundle Flyer pg2.pdf

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

We have engaged with Loveland High School staff, local churches such as Epiphany, Saint Margaret of York, and Prince of Peace, and members of Love Our Land.

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

We have done community outreach to see who is interested in purchasing a native plant bundle that includes a variety of native plants. We plan to complete this by June of 2025.

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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 27th, 2024

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

Monarch Butterfly Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Butterfly Pledge.doc.pdf

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.

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

We have been working with Love Our Land, a local conservation organization, whose mission is native plant conservation to support biodiversity, including monarchs. They have a youth conservation team focused on biodiversity. They also wrote and published 2 story books that explain how to create a healthy habitat in their yard/neighborhood for monarch conservation.

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

Children's Books-Love Our Land.pdf

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

Love Our Land, Loveland High School Green Team, and Loveland High School Tigers Incorporated

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.

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4 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 had four removal events of the invasive species area at Loveland High School. We then replanted native plants, including milkweed, to improve biodiversity for pollinators. We are cataloging the plants we used and those that are naturally regrowing. The callery pears and honeysuckle were cut down and the stumps treated with herbicide. Regrowth is continually monitored and removed by students at Loveland High School and a local Boy Scout Troop. Invasive removal was also completed at another local park and a trail was installed.

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.

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.

Completed December 31st, 2024. Maintenance of Existing Native Pollinator Gardens: 5 native planting sites on municipal lands and 3 on Loveland District Schools (LES and Loveland Learning Garden and LHS). These consist of native flowering plants and grasses. We planted native milkweed and other native plants in April and completed planting on June 12th. The city uses best practices to include native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in all park areas. Phillips Park is a good example of this with over 15 acres converted to native plantings.

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

Phillips Park, Loveland Tree and Environment Committee, Love Our Land

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

Complete.

Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

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

Complete

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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.

Completed December 31st, 2024. Implementation of City Lighting Ordinance: Cindy Kessler (Loveland resident) drafted the initial ordinance and then it was passed along to the Law & Ordinance Committee. While this was completed in 2023, continued implementation present.

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

Outdoor Lighting Ordinance.pdf

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

Loveland Residents

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.

Plant Sale Bundle Flyer pg2 (1).pdf

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

Plant Sale Bundle Flyer pg 1 (1).pdf

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

In progress, we anticipate over 700 plants will be sold. We anticipate 100-200 people will attend.

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

100

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

We have engaged with Loveland High School staff, local churches such as Epiphany, Saint Margaret of York, and Prince of Peace, and members of Love Our Land.

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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?

Love Our Land, Loveland Tree and Envrionment Committee, LHS Green Team and Environmental Club

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

3000

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Completed December 31st, 2024. Maintenance of Existing Native Pollinator Gardens: 5 native planting sites on municipal lands and 3 on Loveland District Schools (LES and Loveland Learning Garden and LHS). These consist of native flowering plants and grasses. We planted native milkweed and other native plants in April and completed planting on June 12th. The city uses best practices to include native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in all park areas. Phillips Park is a good example of this with over 15 acres converted to native plantings.

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