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 2025

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.
- 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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- 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.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

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 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.).

500

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

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.

9.5

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.

residences, schools, roadsides, public parks, nature preserves

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

Our projects are hosted in many places, including the schools, which include all marginalized communities.

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

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We wanted to raise visibility among the public and highlight the things that our schools, City council, and community groups are doing to help the Monarchs.

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 a very supportive community and a City council that believes in the work that we're doing.

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

We will continue with our efforts in 2026.

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.

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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

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

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?

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

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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.

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

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 22, 2025

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2025 proclamation.png

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

The city created a new tree ordinance that bans many nonnative invasive trees and shrubs and encourages native species. There is also a "tree fund" that developers pay into, depending on the size of a development.

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.

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

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

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

Over 2 sales on 3 sale days, we sold about 1000 plants, including presales. We engaged with over 350 people at the sales.

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

350

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

We partnered with Deep Seed'd Propagation, Tree Yo! as vendors, Loveland High School, Whistle Stop Clay Works as hosts, and Love our Land, Green Team, and Tiger's Inc were partners to advertise and promote.

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?

The Grail/Grailville, Nisbet Park, Loveland Post Office, Phillips Park, Village Anniversary Park, West Loveland Nature Preserve, Loveland Primary School, Loveland High School, and numerous private properties that have grown seeds and plants from Love Our Land.

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

4000

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

We continue to educate residents and maintain milkweed plants in many common spaces. Love our Land supplies seeds to the community. The Tree and Environment Committee is involved in the design, maintenance, and implementation of milkweed in public spaces.

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

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

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Outdoor Lighting Ordinance.pdf

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

A loveland resident worked with the Tree and Environment Committee to write the ordinance in 2023.

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.

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.

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.

12.5

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.

11.5 acres were cut down and chipped on city park or preserve lands. Loveland High School hosted a spring invasive tree removal where the trees were cut down and chipped. In the fall of 2025 we used the hack and squirt method to use cut the tree circumference and use tordon to kill them. We will continue with the final removal in the spring when we have access to the city chipper. 9.5 acres were spread with milkweed seeds and replanted with other pollinator friendly natives, with the remaining 2 acres to be replanted in the spring.

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

30

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What species were collected or propagated?

Common Milkweed, Swamp Milkweed, and Partridge Pea

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

Love our Land, a local conservation group, supplied the seeds and volunteers were LHS students from Environemtnal Club.

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

We had volunteers spread seeds in areas (9.5 acres) that have been cleared of Bradford Pears and Honeysuckle. They will have ample access to sunlight. We distributed about 4000 seeds in suitable conditions for growth in hopes that we will be able to harvest them next year.

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