Borough of New Britain

New Britain Borough, PA

Mayor James Donovan

Pledge Summary

New Britain Borough is a small borough of 8,000 residents in central Bucks County. We are a PA Bird Town, a Tree City USA, and a National Wildlife Federation Community Wildlife Habitat. As a community, we have demonstrated a long-time commitment to providing habitat for birds, pollinators, and other wildlife through the planting of hundreds of native trees, shrubs, and herbaceous perennials in our public spaces, including the Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve, which has been recognized at both the local and state level for the habitat restoration work we have done there. Participating in the Mayors Monarch Pledge initiative is a natural extension of the work our community has long been engaged in.

Action Items Committed for 2024

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

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.
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- 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.

Systems Change

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

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Borough Council President Tom Price	2026	4/30/2026	
Mayor Jim Donovan	2025	3/10/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor James Donovan	2024	3/20/2024	Leadership Circle

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.).

3000

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.)

0

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.

0.1

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.

Community Garden, Nature Preserve

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

N/A

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

Long-standing efforts to improve wildlife habitat

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

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help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

NWF website

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

Nothing. We feel all our goals have been met.

Selected Action Items

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.)

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

Newsletter article on Mayor's Monarch Pledge.pdf

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

Article in Borough Newsletter (Uploaded)

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.

- Encouraged and assisted Borough's Nature Preserve Committee plant milkweed and nectar producing plants in local nature Preserve. - Encouraged and assisted Borough's Park's & Rec Committee plant two pollinator beds in the Borough's Community Garden. - Held table event at June garden tour hosted by local chapter of the National Women's farm & Garden Association

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)

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-500 native perennials sold at EAC hosted native plant sale - 150 Goldenrods, Asters, and Mountain Mints given away at nature Preserve Committee's 50th Anniversary celebration

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

300

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

Bird Town Committee, Nature Preserve Committee

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

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

Community Garden Pollinator Beds.pdf

Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)

Borough's Community Garden in Orchard Park

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

EAC, Parks & Rec Committee

What is the size of the demonstration garden (in acres)? 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.

.1

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

NWF Recert 2024.pdf

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

Borough's Environmental Advisory Council, Bird Town Committee, Nature Preserve Committee, Parks & Rec Committee, and Shade Tree Commission.

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program

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?

Parks & Rec Committee, Community Garden members

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

60

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Two plots of pollinator-friendly perennials planted in Borough's Community Garden.

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.

Ongoing efforts by Nature Preserve Committee to remove invasive plants from Borough's Wilma Quinlan Nature Preserve

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.

Over the past ten years, we have removed hundreds of invasive shrubs and other plants from the Preserve. Efforts continue

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

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

EAC, Nature Preserve Committee, Parks & Rec Committee

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

No spraying is ever done and no systemic herbicides are used on Borough property. Cut-stump method is sometimes used to removed invasive shrubs

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

On-going

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