Town of Hyde Park

Hyde Park, NY

Town Supervisor Alfred Torreggiani

Pledge Summary

The Town of Hyde Park is currently registered with the NWF as a community seeking certification status as a 'Community Wildlife Habitat'. Our beautiful town is nestled along the banks of the Hudson River and is home to many historical estates including Springwood, the birthplace of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. The Monarch Pledge will compliment the many conservation efforts taking place in Hyde Park.

Action Items Committed for 2024

Communications and Convening

- 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

- 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.

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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Town Supervisor Alfred Torreggiani	2026	4/6/2026	
Town Supervisor Alfred Torreggiani	2025	3/6/2025	Signatories
Town Supervisor Alfred Torreggiani	2024	3/31/2024	Signatories

Action Items

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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.)

90

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.

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.

residences, schools, parks, roadsides, community gardens, town hall

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

We provide outreach at our town Community Day. This day is well attended by our diverse community popluation..

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

Our town is the birthplace of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. FDR played a key role in creating the National Wildlife Federation. FDR's passion for conservation efforts and habitat restoration resulted in so many legislation and policy decisions that shaped the way communities interacted with the natural environment. We believe that FDR would be proud to know that our town pledged to help the mighty Monarch butterfly population.

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?

The action items listed on the pledge are very helpful for setting goals. I think network wide calls to allow opportunity for pledging communities to share successes and strategies would be very helpful.

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

We are learning as we go. We are excited for the upcoming year.

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.

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

IMG_2201.JPG

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

IMG_8053.JPG

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

1. We created a Hyde Park Plant Swapper Group for exchanging native plants. 2. We collaborate with Pollinator Pathways of the Northeast. We encourage certified gardeners to add locations to the Pollinator Pathways of the Northeast map, to show how our efforts are connected to adjoining towns. 3. We gave 'garden series talks' at the local library.

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

We had great success with plant swaps and the library lectures. We hope to increase these collaborations in the new year.

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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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.

IMG_6618.PNG

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

IMG_8053.JPG

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)

We currently have two gardens: one at our town hall and one at the entrance to the town community garden. The town hall is located at 4383 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538. The Commmunity garden is located on the grounds of the St. James Episcopal Church, 4526 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, Ny 12538.Church

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

The Hyde Park Town Supervisor, Al Torreggiani, has supported the replacement of non-native/invasive plants with native pollinator attracting plants in the town hall garden beds.

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.

.5

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

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

IMG_2432.jpg

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.

IMG_6697.jpg

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

The town hall now has a number of native milkweed plants on the property. We give away milkweed at various outreach events, and container pollinator 'nectar' pots.

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 have a few projects planned for 2025: another native garden to be installed at the town recreation department, a native tree planting project, and the installation of two new native garden beds at the town hall.

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

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

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

The town hall now has a number of native milkweed plants on the property. We give away milkweed at various outreach events, and container pollinator 'nectar' pots.

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

50

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

We focused on enhancing planting sites: sites with milkweed were enhanced by adding native nectar sources such as hyssop, aster, coneflowers; sites with existing native nectar sources were enhanced by adding milkweed. Our sites are visible to the public, which helps educate community members. Plants given away at outreach events become part of town neighborhood habitats, which further educates community members and of course, benefits Monarch life cycles and migration.

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