Town of Hyde Park

Hyde Park, NY

Town Supervisor Alfred Torreggiani

Pledge Summary

Hyde Park is a town in Dutchess County, New York, bordering the Hudson River north of the city of Poughkeepsie. Hyde Park is known as the hometown of Franklin D. Roosevelt, the 32nd president of the United States. It is valuable to note that the National WIldlife Federation was formed during FDR's presidency. The town's committment to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators, with their signing of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, honors President Roosevelt's passion for conservation and stewardship. Hyde Park looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the town.

Action Items Committed for 2025

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.
- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

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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

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.)

249.99

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.

1.99

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.

Shared public spaces: town hall and recreation park/playground

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 the town Community Day events. Many low-income and families of color attend these events.

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

We live in an area rich in history, the birthplace and life-long home of President Frankiln Delano Roosevelt. The Monarch Pledge program is conservation bsed, and one that FDR would be proud to see fulfilled in his hometown.

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?

We did a winter sow workshop, where we planted containers of milkweed seeds for distributing seedlings in the spring. Since we are volunteer based, we depend on local businesses supporting our efforts. We always seek ways to gain donations of supplies needed for these events- so, access to grants, information on funding sources is always helpful.

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

We were thrilled to see the Monarch life cycle in all stages at the Native plant garden we installed at Hackett Hill Park & Playground. The families and children were able to see caterpillars, chrysalises and adult Monarchs at this garden. We were just thrilled.

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.

IMG_3278.jpg

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

IMG_3946.JPG

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

We provided outreach at our native pollinator gardens.

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

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

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

We hosted winter seed sowing workshops at our local library. Participants sowed milkweed, hyssop, blazing star, and coneflowers.

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.

thumbnail.jpg

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

We collaborated with our local Plant Swapper group to host a swapat the local library. Approximately 200 plants were swapped.

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?

Hyde Park Free Library, Hyde Park Plant Swappers

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.

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

IMG_2059.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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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)

Hyde Park Town Hall: 4383 Albany Post Road, Hyde Park, NY 12538; Hackett Hill Playground, 59 E Market Street, Hyde Park, NY 12538

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

Partners for Climate Action, Hudson Valley provided the funding. The Town of Hyde Park approved the garden sites.

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.

2.05

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).

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

Our town is registered and working towards the Community Wildlife certification.

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

We registered in 2016, and hope to acheive full certification in 2026- our tenth year anniversary.

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?

We received a grant from Partners for Climate Action of the Hudson Valley to install two native pollinator gardens. We collaborated with the town hall leadership and the recreation department leadership to get approval for installing the gardens.

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

200

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

We received a grant from Partners for Climate Action of the Hudson Valley to install two native pollinator gardens. We collaborated with the town hall leadership and the recreation department leadership to clear the sites for planting and schedule installation. We gathered volunteers from our Hyde Park Garden Habitat group to help install the plants.

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?

Partners for Climate Action of Hudson Valley provided the grant to install the gardens. A local native plant nursery installed the native trees and shrubs selected for the sites.

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 planted native dogwoods, black cherry trees; and for shrubs spicebush, ninebark, serviceberry; many flowering perrenials including common, swamp and orange milkweed, asters, lupines, violets, hyssop, false sunflower, black-eyed susan, coneflowers, blazing star, lobelia, cardinal flower.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

2

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Please describe the educational information on the sign(s), and provide any links to externally purchased sign(s).

The signs are in progress. We are designing them now, and have a vendor. The signs will not be installed by December 1st, 2025.

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