City of Cynthiana

Cynthiana, KY

Mayor Isaac Dailey

Pledge Summary

Cynthiana is a charming small town in Harrison County, nestled in the heart of the Bluegrass Region of Kentucky. With its scenic countryside, historic landmarks, and close-knit community, Cynthiana has long been a place where nature and local culture intersect. The town sits along the banks of the South Fork of the Licking River, surrounded by a mix of farmland, woodlands, and wetlands that contribute to the area's diverse ecosystems. In recent years, the community has become increasingly focused on environmental stewardship, particularly concerning monarch butterfly and pollinator conservation. As monarchs face habitat loss, pesticide use, and climate change challenges, Cynthiana and its residents have recognized the importance of creating and maintaining environments supporting these vital species. Monarch and pollinator conservation efforts in Cynthiana have included several initiatives aimed at restoring native habitats, educating the public, and supporting local ecosystems. Local groups, such as the Cynthiana Homemakers and community volunteers, have worked together to plant native wildflowers, milkweed species (critical for monarch larvae), and pollinator-friendly plants in urban spaces, parks, and roadsides. These efforts also extend to educating local farmers and landowners about sustainable land practices that provide habitats for pollinators while balancing agricultural needs. Cynthiana’s commitment to supporting monarchs, bees, and other pollinators reflects a growing awareness of their role in maintaining biodiversity and promoting healthy ecosystems. Annual events, such as the Cynthiana Honey Festival, bring attention to the importance of these species in our environment. This collective focus on monarchs and pollinators is part of a broader effort to conserve these important insects and foster an appreciation for the interconnectedness of all life in the region. Cynthiana is a shining example of how small communities can make a big impact in the conservation movement, particularly when it comes to preserving the essential services that pollinators provide.

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 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.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Isaac Dailey	2025	3/10/2025	

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.).

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.)

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.

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.

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

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

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?

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

Selected Action Items

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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.)

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

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.

Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 50).

Please describe the community art project that was implemented in your community and how it contributed to cultural awareness and recognition (e.g., number of art installations, type of art).

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?

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

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

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

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