Village of Yellow Springs

Yellow Springs, OH

Mayor Pam Conine

Pledge Summary

The Village of Yellow Springs, Ohio--population 3700--is located in SW Ohio. Home of Antioch College, we are 20 minutes east of Dayton and a quick hour west of Columbus. Glen Helen, a 1000 acre nature preserve with over 21 miles of hiking trails along with creeks and waterways that feed into the Little Miami River, runs the length of the village and connects to the Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve and John Bryan State Park. Yellow Springs has a Wildlife Habitat Community public Facebook page with 467 members--check us out! Many villagers are re-wilding their properties under the leadership of our village Environmental Commission and NWF Certified Wildlife Habitat signs dot village yards. Mayor Pam is happy to add the Mayors' Monarch Pledge to our village efforts for the 3rd year in support of increasing habitats for Monarchs and other pollinators. Pictured below Mayor Pam takes a walk in the Yellow Springs Women’s Park with student research assistant and 2022 YSHS graduate, Eliza Gilchrist.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement

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Mayor Steve McQueen	2026	3/16/2026	
Mayor Pam Conine	2025	3/19/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor Pam Conine	2024	2/12/2024	Signatories
Mayor Pam Conine	2023	2/1/2023	Signatories
Mayor Pam Conine	2022	2/23/2022	Signatories
Mayor Pam Conine	2021	2/22/2021	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.).

1800

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.)

300 youth, 1500 adults

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.

4

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.

public parks, residents' yards, schools, community gardens

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

Our village is quite diverse and we have throngs of out-of-towners who attend our street fairs and visit our community on the weekends. All residents and guests share in our celebration of and education regarding monarchs and other pollinators.

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

We are an environmentally responsible village with an active NWF habitat community.

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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?

Your many publications which we can distribute on Earth Day or at street fair. They help engage visitors and provide a focus for education and discussion.

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

Your monthly Zooms are helpful and your resource page is invaluable.

Selected Action Items

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).

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

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

Golf Courses MMP Flyer.pdf

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

I am a recreational golfer. As I traveled on vacation to play on various courses locally, state-wide and around the country, I carried the attached flyer which I would give to and discuss with the golf course land manager or pro, encouraging them to incorporate pollinator [with emphasis on Monarch]-friendly plants on their grounds. To a person they were very friendly, interested and positive.

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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?

Yellow Springs Wildlife Habitat Community, village public works planted a native mix this year that incorporated milkweed.

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

30

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

30 mature milkweed plants were given away during our Earth Day raffle. An accompanying native plant sale also sold out of the various local native milkweed they had to offer. Village Public Works Dept. planted native mix at local park.

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.

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Earth Day.jpg

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

Mayor Pam and student helper Isaac at Earth Day milkweed raffle.jpg

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

Down to Earth column in our local newspaper published in April 21 issue highlighting Earth Day events in our village, including milkweed give-away raffle during our main event. Also, sponsored and facilitated a table for the Mayor's Monarch pledge during Earth Day event on April 24.

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).

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

CZimmerman_Booth.jpg

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

StreetFair_Booth.jpg

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

National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program

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

Yellow Springs has been a part of the National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program since 2020 and continues to be a certified community. We hosted a booth together on these topics at our local street fair this past October.

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