City of Malden, MA

Malden, MA

Mayor Gary Christenson

Pledge Summary

Malden is a gateway city located in Massachusetts with a population of roughly 64,000. Malden is a Northern suburb of Boston and is located on the Malden River, a branch of the Mystic River. Mayor Christenson has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with his signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in the importance of our native habitat, saving of our pollinators and combating climate change.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Communications and Convening

- Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

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.

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
Mayor Gary Christenson	2026	3/18/2026	
Mayor Gary Christenson	2025	5/4/2025	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

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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.)

60

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.

Forest Dale Cemetery

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

Hosting community-driven conservation projects, accessible educational opportunities, and habitat creation in areas of need.

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

resident inquiries

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?

mapping tools for community data analysis, and partnerships with peer organizations for support and training.

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

In the past year, monarch conservation efforts have focused on habitat restoration, including growing native milkweed, and influencing policy

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Selected Action Items

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.

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

GMF2.jpg

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

Arbor Day Bell Rock.jpg

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

FOMR.png

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

GMF.jpg

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

600

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

500

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

Mayor Christensen, Christopher Rosa-Tree Warden, Friends of the Malden River, residents

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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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)

Forest Dale Cemetery established in 1895, is a prominent public cemetery located at 42.43816606920852, -71.06215761399179

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

Forest Dale Cemetery, Christopher Rosa-Tree Warden, Mayor Christenson, Friends of the Arboretum at Forest Dale

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

Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Date of Proclamation:

May 4, 2025

Title of Proclamation (i.e. – Monarch Day or Pollinator Week):

Monarch Butterfly Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Malden Monarch Proclamation.pdf

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.

26.jpg

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

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31.jpg

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

83.jpg

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

27.jpg

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

goodwin1.jpg

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

trees.jpg

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

Christopher Rosa-Tree Warden, Mayor Gary Christenson

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

complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

November 2025

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

The tree warden continues to plant more native tree species every planting season and will continue to do so indefinitely. Approximately 400-600 trees are planted annually with 96% being native.

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