City of Hyattsville

Hyattsville, MD

Mayor Kevin Ward

Pledge Summary

The City of Hyattsville, a residential suburb of Washington D.C. located at the head of the Anacostia River is a thriving community with a population of over 18,000. The City maintains a large focus on sustainability and environmental resiliency. With this in mind Mayor Kevin Ward has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with the signing of the Mayors Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the city.

Action Items Committed for 2021

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.
- Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.
- 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

- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Systems Change

- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Kevin Ward	2021	2/23/2021	Leadership Circle

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.).

100

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.)

40

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.

.02

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.

right of way, road sides, community gardens and common areas

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

Through community engagement and education

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

The need to save and Monarch and to plant native species in general

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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?

I have many resources

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

We have added an Environmental Page to our website where residents can find out about how to plant a monarch friendly garden.

Selected Action Items

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:

February 16, 2021

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayor's Monarch Pledge 2021_signed.pdf

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.

2021 butterfly garden after.jpg

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

2021 butterfly garden during.jpg

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

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2021 butterfly garden before2.jpg

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

American Heritage Girls of St. Jeromes Church

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

238

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

The City engaged over 30 young children and adults to replant a part of our Meadow Garden at Melrose Park Trail. 38.94800, -76.946421. Youngsters were taught about the life cycle of the Monarch butterfly and the importance of the plantings were were doing. Parents were provided documentation on how to plant a Monarch Garden and where to find plant materials.

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.

Final Design Landscape 2020-10-08T074742.064.pdf

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)

3500 Hamilton St. Hyattsville MD 20782 38.95459, -76.95833

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

Nonprofit Neighborhood Design Center

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.

.05

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Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

Two Rain Gardens at Driskell Park 38.950870, -76.951488 3911 Hamilton St. Pollinator Garden at City Building 38.952669, -76.941732 4310 Gallatin St. Median across from Park 38.952962, -76.952061 3911 Hamilton Median at Gallatin and 40th Place 38.952658, -76.949201

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

600

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

.07

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

These areas are weeded monthly and mulched/replanted on an Annual basis.

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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

Director of the Department of Public Works and Hyattsville Environment Committee

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.

The Manager of Environmental Programs will begin working with the Hyattsville Environment Committee to establish a policy for the planting of only Native Trees and perennials with a Target completion date of May 2022. These guide lines are already following but have not been written.

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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.

install final 4-16-21-2.jpg

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

Install final 4-16-21-3.jpg

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

New design was developed through Stormwater Maintenance LLC. All designs in the city are geared toward native pollinator gardens. This one was completed end of 2020. Nectar planting

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

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

0

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions/maintenance implemented for mowing or planting programs.

Hyattsville has worked with our Mowing contractor to maintain a "NO MOW" zone at Driskell/Magruder Park for the past 7 years. This year we have decided to post signage for a better understanding and education of why we are not mowing and allowing areas to naturalize.

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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

DPW

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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.

NA

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

There is now real policy for the No Mow Zones however, as stated above we will be adding signage for No Mow Naturalized areas.

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?

DPW

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

Again there is no Policy at this time however per the Director of DPW Lesley Riddle, the City is not planting any non-native perennials. We do continue to plant non native annuals

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

Sustainable Land1_7_16_final.pdf

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

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Hyattsville Environment Committee

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.

2016

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