Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District

Round Rock, TX

General Manager Shean Dalton

Pledge Summary

Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District is a Central Texas Community of approximately 25,000 residents. The District has a network of parks, trails, environmental preserves, landscaping, and a beautiful Community Center Garden. As part of the Brushy Creek Life, the District, the Board of Directors, and the General Manager have committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayors' monarch pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the District.

Action Items Committed for 2021

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- 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.

Communications and Convening

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.

Systems Change

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]

- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
General Manager Shean Dalton	2024	2/29/2024	Signatories
General Manager Shean Dalton	2023	4/28/2023	
General Manager Shean Dalton	2022	2/28/2022	
General Manager Shean Dalton	2021	3/1/2021	Signatories

Action Items

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.

0

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

Conservation is one of the strategic goals of our Board of Directors. Helping monarchs is a great conservation effort that is much needed and is helpful to share with the community to have as many people possible contributing to this effort.

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?

Webinars are helpful in finding out what others are doing in their programs. I greatly enjoyed the break out room session and speaking directly with other cities on their efforts. Resources that would be useful may include activity kit ideas/templates, such as the kiwi co style of maker crates.

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.).

421

Where was the habitat created this year? Example locations may include residences, schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, shared

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]

public spaces, and more.

Rights-of-way, roadsides, community center garden at the recreation center, landscaping in parks, and environmental species preserves over caves.

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

Many residents are new to the area (including the state and country). Providing education and seeds to get them interested in growing larval host and nectar plants by talking to them about MMP is a good introduction to conservation. Many of these residents have never gardened or had a place to garden previously. They are very excited about the chance to make a difference and help monarchs survive.

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.)

121 youth 300 adults

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

On the first question, how many acres of monarch habitat have been created, no new areas have been added to make additional monarch habitat. Perhaps the question could be further broken down into existing habitat maintained, private property gardens (inspired by outreach from the pledge) and new areas. Perhaps also allowing for this answer in square feet would be helpful as acreage is harder to calculate, and may be answered in decimal form for new landscaped areas.

Selected Action Items

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)

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

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

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).

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]

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).

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.

Fall open house MMP table.jpeg

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

Constant Contact Newsletter - gardening tips include gardening for pollinators, we have a booth with seeds for nectar and larval host plants at events such as Garden Club Meetings (monthly), Green Thumbs Up meetings with the County Extension office (monthly), twice a year open houses, clean up events (fall and spring cleanups), Texas Recycles Day event (annually), Arbor Day (annually), Christmas tree recycling and seedling give away (annually) and similar outdoor educational events.

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.

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

The maintenance department uses pollinator-friendly plants in plantings throughout the District. Monarch larval host plants and nectar plants are planted in landscaping, seed is distributed through the 32 environmental preserves for native nectar and larval plants.

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

multi sensory learning.jpeg

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

The Property Maintenance Department is the entity planting these areas.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]

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.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and their monarch butterfly conservation efforts.

The District hosts a monthly gardening club that assists in growing and packaging of seeds for giveaways at events to encourage the planting of larval and host plants for monarch and pollinator habitat. A monthly Green Thumbs Up gardening series is held at our Community Center with the collaboration of The County Extension Service and there is always a table for MMP at this event.

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

Master Gardeners, Brushy Creek Garden Club

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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?

Brushy Creek Garden Club, Keep Brushy Creek Beautiful

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

Seed table TX Recycles Day.jpeg

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

4 pounds of seed total have been distributed this year

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

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)

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]

16318 Great Oaks Dr. Round Rock TX 78626 at the Brushy Creek Community Center Demonstration Garden

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

Brushy Creek Garden Club

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

Community Center activity for seeds.jpeg

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.

1.5

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

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

Monarch on lantana.jpeg

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.

131

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Dependant upon area, medians weekly. Environmental preserves monthly. Greenbelts quarterly. Parks monthly.

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

Great Oaks Drive medians ~30 areas. Environmental preserves throughout the District, 32 areas. Parks, 12 areas throughout the District.

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]

1200

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.

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

Frostweed monarch and mantis.jpeg

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

Plantings throughout the District include native nectar and larval host plants. The freeze this year has made it difficult to obtain plant materials. Seeds continue to be planted at preserve areas. The Property Maintenance Manager is also the administrator of the MMP.

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

Property Maintenance Department

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

in progress

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

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

No new landscaping projects were created this calendar year.

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

tropical milkweed.jpeg

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u928:v1.14.0.49966]