

City of Dalworthington Gardens

Dalworthington Gardens, TX

Mayor Laurie Bianco

Pledge Summary

The City of Dalworthington Gardens, Texas is a rural oasis in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex. The City covers an area of almost 2 square miles and has a population of approximately 2,200. A 43 acre park includes a lake and offers a chance for people to relax and enjoy being in nature. Mayor Bianco of Dalworthington Gardens first took the Mayor's Monarch Pledge in 2019. 8 action items were pledged to qualify the City as part of the Leadership Circle, a status that we continue to work to maintain in order to raise awareness in the community and encourage conservation practices to support the monarch butterfly. A garden in Gardens Park was reworked in response to one of the first year's action items. It now better supports monarch butterflies on their migration and has received designation as a Monarch Waystation.

Action Items Committed for Program Year 2021

Communications and Convening

- Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for 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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants in community gardens.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
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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 (e.g., 50).

Of these individuals reached, how many are youth (ages 0-18) and how many are adults? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 500 youth and 600 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).

Where is your habitat being created? This may include residences (yards, containers, balconies, etc.), schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, culturally-significant locations, shared public spaces and common areas or parks.

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

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

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event?

How many people attended your event?

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

Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat.

Date of Proclamation:

2/23/21

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

A PROCLAMATION By the Mayor of the City of Dalworthington Gardens

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).

We have laminated several informational sheets relating to monarch migration, citizen science programs, milkweed and more from Monarch Joint Venture. We posted some of them on a kiosk next to a walking path in Gardens park in early March and plan to rotate in others during the rest of the year.

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

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

[garden club post1.jpg](#)

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

[garden club post2.jpg](#)

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

During 2020 members of the DWG Park Board began spring weeding in the monarch waystation garden while socially distancing because our community event had to be cancelled due to the pandemic. People walking by in the park got recruited to adopt sections of the garden. Out of this group was formed a facebook group, Friends of DWG Garden Club. Membership does not require having an adopted section of the monarch

garden. This group shares plants, tips and seeds. They are very interested in gardening so we began posting towards the end of March, 2021 about plants the monarch butterflies need during their migrations so that others might add host and nectar plants to their gardens.

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)

DWG's monarch waystation garden is located in Gardens Park off California Lane between Roosevelt Dr. and Park Dr. It borders one side of part of the main path around the park and both sides of the walk leading to the gazebo.

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

The Horticultural Club from Tarrant County College designed a new look and helped refurbish an existing garden during the summer of 2019. Citizens and staff of DWG also helped prepare the bed and some local students helped plant some of the new additions to the garden.

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

For monarchs, we support Journey North by providing information on a kiosk in our park about their citizen science project and how they can become involved. The City also supports the Great Backyard Bird Count with an annual GBBC event in the park.

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

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

A local citizen has been in charge of milkweed planting.

How many plants were planted?

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

One of our residents dug, transplanted and watered the green milkweed seedlings until they looked like they were established in 2020. At the end of March we are waiting to see what comes back before planting more. Two butterfly weed plants were added to the garden in 2019.

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

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

[CS monarch on flowers.jpg](#)

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

[Finnin monarch.jpg](#)

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

[unknown monarch art.jpg](#)

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

[sky_view1.jpg](#)

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

[sky_view2.jpg](#)

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

[sky_view3.jpg](#)

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

The DWG Park Board hosted an Earth Day 2021, Restore Our Earth, event on Saturday April 24, 2021.

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

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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).

The Park Board purchased supplies and encouraged attendees as part of the event to create chalk art around this year's Earth Day theme in the U.S., Restore Our Earth. The location of this event was held in the area of the monarch waystation garden in Gardens Park. Attendees were treated to the sight of at least a dozen, large monarch caterpillars munching on milkweed. Three participants honored the efforts to restore the monarch butterfly population by creating images of monarch butterflies. The images will remain, to hopefully inspire others using the park to do their part to restore the earth, until weather and sidewalk usage erases them.