

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** the monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans; and
- WHEREAS,** both the eastern and western monarch populations have seen significant declines. The International Union for Conservation of Nature has added the migratory monarch to its Red List of Threatened Species™ as Endangered, threatened by habitat destruction and climate change in July 2022. The eastern population has fallen by as much as ninety percent and estimates indicate less than one percent of the western monarch population remaining; and
- WHEREAS,** the City of College Park recognizes that human health ultimately depends on well-functioning ecosystems and that biodiverse regions can better support food production, contribute to healthy soil and improved air quality, and foster healthy connections between humans and wildlife; and
- WHEREAS,** cities, towns and counties have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly, and College Park is striving to become a leader; and
- WHEREAS,** on April 22, 2021, I, on behalf of the City, signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge and have officially committed to taking meaningful action to protect the monarch butterfly; and
- WHEREAS,** College Park has committed to becoming a Bee City USA affiliate, collected and packaged native milkweed seeds for seed giveaways, and installed a pollinator-friendly demonstration garden in a busy residential median intersection; and
- WHEREAS,** every resident of College Park can make a difference by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat for the monarch and pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn play, and worship; and
- WHEREAS,** College Park has committed to incorporate more beneficial monarch and pollinator-friendly plant species into future gardens to create habitat for these useful insects.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Patrick L. Wojahn, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2nd, 2022 as **Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day** in College Park, and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate monarch conservation.

PROCLAIMED this 27th day of September, 2022

Patrick L. Wojahn, Mayor
City of College Park