



## Proclamation

### MAYOR'S MONARCH PLEDGE DAY

- 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 western and eastern monarch populations have seen significant declines with less than one percent of the western monarch population remaining, while the eastern population has fallen by as much as ninety percent; and
- WHEREAS** The City of Maple Grove recognizes that human health ultimately depends on well-functioning ecosystems and that biodiverse regions can better support food production, healthy soil and air quality and can 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 Maple Grove is striving to become a leader; and
- WHEREAS** On March 20, 2023, I Mark Steffenson signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge and have officially committed to taking meaningful action to protect the monarch butterfly; and
- WHEREAS** Maple Grove has committed to the following action items in 2023:
1. Proclaim March 31, 2023 as Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day in the City of Maple Grove; and
  2. Launch a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods; and
  3. Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants; and
  4. 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 planting programs; and

5. Engage with gardening leaders and partners to support monarch butterfly conservation; and
6. Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning process to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat; and
7. Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap; and
8. Maintain monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration gardens at Town Green and Central Park; and
9. Maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants in community gardens; and
10. Support the re-establishment of native habitats for monarch butterflies and other pollinators; and
11. Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat; and
12. Continue enforcement of ordinances that support reducing light pollution; and

**WHEREAS** Every resident of Maple Grove can make a difference for the monarch 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

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Mark V. Steffenson, as Mayor of the City of Maple Grove, do hereby proclaim March 31, 2023 as **Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day** in Maple Grove and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate monarch conservation.

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Mayor Mark Steffenson

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Date