

Proclamation

MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE

WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly is an iconic pollinator species whose metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly and multigenerational migration spanning thousands of miles has captured the imagination of millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, both the western and eastern North American 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 Town of Carrboro 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 the Town of Carrboro want to participate in this effort; and

WHEREAS, as mayor, Barbara M. Foushee signed the 2023 National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge, and our town has officially committed to taking meaningful action to protect the monarch butterfly; and

WHEREAS, residents of Carrboro can aid in this effort by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat for monarchs and other pollinators in suitable locations; and

WHEREAS, efforts that the Town of Carrboro has taken or will pursue toward this goal include launching a public communication effort, hosting native seed giveaways, expanding the Town invasive species program, displaying educational signage, planting native milkweed on Town properties, updating the Town Code to allow for native plant habitat, and exploring changing ordinances related to pesticide and herbicide use.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Barbara M. Foushee, Mayor of Carrboro, do hereby urge all residents of the community to do their part by planting milkweed, the exclusive food source for monarch larvae, so that every parcel of property in Carrboro may contribute to the survival of the monarch butterfly. I encourage all residents to learn about and celebrate monarch conservation.

This the 8th day of December 2023.


Barbara M. Foushee

