## ? About Symbolic Monarch Migration & Mayor's Monarch Pledge

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Hi there, Mary Ellen, Lyndsey, and Will!

Hope you all are doing well! I am currently working with Bullington Gardens to finalize details for the 2022 Symbolic Monarch Migration program as part of Bee City USA – Hendersonville's educational programs. I am unclear on what, if any, cooperation may be taking place between the Bee City USA – Hendersonville program and the City of Hendersonville Mayor's Monarch Pledge initiative. For example, do you all plan to include any of Bee City USA - Hendersonville's Monarch Month events (including the Symbolic Monarch Migration) as part of your 2022 report for the Mayor's Monarch Pledge? Please also see the draft Symbolic Monarch Migration announcement below and let us know if you wish for the City of Hendersonville Mayor's Monarch Pledge to be included as highlighted or not.

Finally, do you wish to use the existing page located at <a href="https://www.hendersonvillenc.gov/monarchs">https://www.hendersonvillenc.gov/monarchs</a> for the City of Hendersonville Mayor's Monarch Pledge? If not, I will request that it be removed when I send a few other updates to Allison related to some of the City's other remaining pollinator pages.

Thanks very much! Kim



Presented by: Bee City USA – Hendersonville (a program of City of Hendersonville Tree Board and Bullington Gardens) and Milkweed Meadows Farm

OR use this version if Patrice or I can confirm the City of Hendersonville (ESB?) may be planning to include the Symbolic Monarch Migration program as part of their Mayor's Monarch Pledge and/or also wishes to be listed:

Presented by: Bee City USA – Hendersonville (a program of the City of Hendersonville Tree Board and Bullington Gardens), City of Hendersonville Mayor's Monarch Pledge (link to https://www.nwf.org/mayorsmonarchportal/Community?CommunityId=420), and Milkweed Meadows Farm.

Although monarch butterflies born in the summer will live only a few weeks, the generation that emerges in late summer and early fall is different. These butterflies are born to migrate and may live up to eight or nine months. From the Hendersonville area, their epic journey to Mexico covers at least 2,000 miles. Like clockwork, the first migrating monarchs typically reach their overwintering habitats high in the mountains of central Mexico by the first of November. To celebrate this incredible natural phenomenon and highlight the importance of working together to protect endangered monarch, Henderson County classrooms, youth organizations, and individual students are invited to participate in the 27<sup>th</sup> annual Symbolic Monarch Migration. Join more than 25,000 children from across the United States and Canada in creating paper butterflies to send to Mexico for the winter. As the real-life monarchs arrive in Mexico for the winter, the symbolic paper butterflies will be delivered to schools in the monarch sanctuary region. Sometime in spring after the living monarchs' departure from Mexico, groups of paper butterflies will also return north, carrying special messages from the students in Mexico. United by the monarch butterfly, children across North America learn authentic lessons of conservation, cooperation, and ambassadorship.

Audience: Children of all ages. Participate as a group (classroom or other group of youth) or as an individual.

Cost: Free! Bee City USA - Hendersonville has funds available for Henderson County classrooms, youth organizations, and individual students to participate at no charge.

## Directions for Participation:

<u>Schools/Organizations</u> - Review all program requirements in the <u>leader packet.</u> Instead of purchasing a "Passenger Ticket" for your group, please email us (provide your school or organization name plus your name and contact info) to receive a free registration code and instructions for how to register your classroom/group to participate in the Symbolic Monarch Migration program at no cost. The deadline to request a free registration code for your group is Friday, September 30, 2022. The deadline to mail your group's symbolic/paper butterflies is Friday, October 7, 2022. <u>Individual students</u> - Students who are not part of registered classroom or group may participate by creating a paper butterfly delivering it to Bullington Gardens by Friday, October 7, 2022.