

CITY OF PHOENIX



PROCLAMATION

The monarch butterfly is one of the most important pollinator species. Monarch's multi-generational migration, metamorphosis, and overwintering habits have captured the imagination for millennia. Unfortunately, the western population of the monarch butterfly has declined over the last 25 years. Some of the primary drivers of this population decline are habitat loss, climate change, and pesticide use.

The migration route for monarch butterflies is up to 3,000 miles, this means that milkweed and other nectar plants along their route are extremely important. Arizona is on the migration route for western and eastern monarch butterflies- they can be present in Phoenix from September to May. Native plants are essential to the history of our unique Sonoran Desert ecosystem.

Phoenix has joined the National Wildlife Federation's Mayor's Monarch Pledge, committing the city to take actions to support the monarch butterfly population. September is the beginning of the fall planting season in Phoenix and every resident can make a difference by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitats for the monarch butterflies. This pledge supports necessary conservation of our Sonoran Desert biodiversity. By helping Monarch butterflies, we can also make our community more ecofriendly and sustainable.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KATE GALLEGO, Mayor of the City of Phoenix, Arizona in accordance with the law do hereby proclaim September 2021, as

PLANTING FOR MONARCHS MONTH

in the City of Phoenix and encourage all Phoenicians to participate in this important pledge.



Mayor Kate Gallego
City of Phoenix