

Monarchs

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plants for the butterflies.

Grand Central Landfill is a gold certified wildlife habitat with the Wildlife Habitat Council, focusing their conservation efforts on open grassland habitat that supports pollinators such as Monarchs, songbirds and raptors.

"It has always been our interest to support those in our community that are focused on advancing the environmental education of conservation initiatives. This particular program is a community science project that is advancing the education of migration and population status of the Monarch Butterfly. The data collected from tagging Monarchs help to identify the migration paths, the origin of the butterfly's that reach Mexico and the mortality rate during migration."

Commented Adrienne Fors, Sr. Community Relations Specialist for WM.

"We encourage residents to support monarch populations at home by planting pollinator gardens. The most important plant for Monarch butterflies is Common Milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca* L). Milkweed is the host plant, and the only plant that Monarchs will lay their eggs on and the only food that the caterpillars eat."

Together, Doug Burton, Dan Zmoda and the team at Grand Central tagged 11 Monarchs with the help of the community at the event.

"WM is grateful to have environmental education partners like Doug Burton, Dan Zmoda and our friends at DCNR's Jacobsburg Park. Their passion about birds, grasslands, and butterflies continuous to educate our team and together we enjoy sharing this knowledge with the community." stated Ms. Fors.



Releasing monarchs



A tagged monarch



Look closely, it's a praying mantis

