

## Memorandum

To: Middletown Sustainability Committee

From: Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner

Date: December 12, 2022

RE: December Green Team meeting agenda for Tuesday, December 20<sup>th</sup> in person and via Lifesize

**Topic: December Sustainability Committee meeting**

**Time: December 20, 2022, 05:00 PM Eastern Time**

**Meeting link**

<https://call.lifesizecloud.com/12429552>

**Passcode**

21769

**Phone**

United States:+1 (312) 584-2401

Meeting discussion items:

1. November meeting minutes approval
2. Green Lecture series with library (Ann) – Holiday Greenery decorating December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm; Karen Whitehair program in March!
3. Outreach sub-committee report – Pollinator protection yard signs or door-hangars
4. Little Seed Library – any follow-up discussion?
5. Website updates (Gene) – terms and conditions disclaimer; connections page.
6. Green Expo – date for next year – Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – sent out Save-the-Date email
7. Bee City USA – Mark has been working on IPM resolution for next year's submittal and we might just use the one we currently have
8. Mayor's Monarch Pledge – annual report due December 1<sup>st</sup> has been approved!
9. Pollinator demonstration gardens – Memorial Park garden plant theft and response; Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle planting; pollinator garden care and watering schedule; budget of \$2,000 – spent \$1,200 in 2022.
10. Compost project – compost bins available for purchase at municipal center.
11. Lunch Out Of Landfills – no update
12. Tree plantings – tree planting maintenance/inventory schedule (see below); Ben Fritton tree planting offer; SilvoCulture grant for fruit and nut trees (Ann); Arbor Day tree planting will be Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>

13. Tree trails – Bethany, forestry board member, joined us to help with tree id on Cone Branch trail; still stumped on exact species of chestnut and hickory. New trees to add to Wiles Branch tree trail – white ash and black willow.
14. Tree City USA – Cindy submitted the Tree City annual report, as well as the Growth Award application
15. Gift Tree Program – flyer boxes at Wiles Branch Park, Memorial Park and on Cone Branch Trail – please monitor as you frequent those areas; another new application came in!
16. Utility work in Glenbrook and impact to street trees -
17. Recycling event – will look to continue program biannually with next event on March 11, 2023.
18. No Idle Zone – discussion
19. Green Schools – discussion
20. Streetlight program - discussion
21. January meeting date – third Tuesday – January 17<sup>th</sup>

**GOALS FOR 2022:**

PLANT <b>100</b> TREES IN 2022 – ✓ <b>More than 300 were planted!</b>					
GIFT TREE PROGRAM - GOAL OF <b>\$1000</b> – <b>\$600 realized so far</b>					
QUANTIFY/SHOW PROGRESS ON <b>25%</b> CANOPY BY <b>2025</b>					
HOLD GREEN EXPO - ✓					
SUPPORT MES & MMS LOOL PROGRAM - VOLUNTEER SUPPORT - ✓					
PROMOTE & SELL 20 COMPOSTING BINS – <b>5 sold</b>					
PROMOTE & SELL 25 RAIN BARRELS (GRANT REQUEST)?					
EVALUATE & RECOMMEND STREETLIGHT BUYBACK PROGRAM TO TOWN BOARD					
CREATE <b>2 AC</b> POLLINATOR MEADOW NEAR SOLAR ARRAY					
EDUCATION ON STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAMS					

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Habitat advisor volunteers

**TREE PLANTING MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

**February 7 (Tuesday) 12:30-2pm – FRO area at Wiles Branch Park**  
**February 10 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Wiles Branch Park**  
**February 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Wiles Branch Park**

**March 10 (Friday) 10:30-12pm – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane**  
**March 14 (Tuesday) 12:30-2pm – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane**  
**March 17 (Friday) 10-11:30am – FRO area at Alt 40/Knoll Side Lane**

## **DRAFT November Middletown Sustainability Team Meeting Minutes**

Date and time: Tuesday, November 15, 2022, 05:00 - 6:15 PM Eastern Time

In Attendance: In-person and Virtual: Cindy Unangst, Pam McDonald, Adam Stanzione, Bill Spare, Kristin King, Mark Carney, Kevin Stottlemyer, Ann Payne

### **Meeting Minutes:**

1. October meeting minutes approved.
2. Green Lecture series with library (Ann) – Maryland Birds program October 29<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm – did anyone attend? Pam reported that it was well attended and a very informative talk. The speaker shared a very useful handout that Pam will share with Gene to add to our website. Next program is tomorrow with an Olive Oil tasting: Olive Oil 101 November 16<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm; Holiday Greenery decorating December 17<sup>th</sup> @ 1:00pm; Karen Whitehair program in March!
3. Outreach sub-committee report – Leave the Leaves and/or pollinator protection yard signs or door-hangars. Ann reported it is too late for this year but is something the outreach committee can consider for next year. Cindy reported that the town is revamping the sign regulations for the town, and we might want to wait to see what they will be. Ann brought up the idea of a seed garden to Waneta. She reported that Lenora Gracken(?), a librarian at the Middletown Library has started a seed library at the library and is working with a master gardener for this project. Waneta was very excited about the Green Team partnership with this: the library will focus their seed library on vegetables and the Green Team could focus on wildflowers. Two master naturalists on our team (Ann and Karen) could monitor seeds on our side. Kevin reported that the town board supports this idea and thought that the seed library could be placed near the pollinator garden. Waneta thought that the seed library should be placed inside the library to maintain seed quality (the current seed library is kept inside).
4. Website updates (Gene) – terms and conditions disclaimer—Commissioner Jennifer Falcinelli thought our website's terms and conditions should be under the town website's.
5. Green Expo – date for next year – Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Earth Day! Cindy has sent out Save-the-Date email to vendors. Cindy said she already has confirmation of many vendors wanting to participate in the event.
6. Bee City USA – need to start working on IPM for next year's submittal. Mark reported he is working on a declaration that states that the town does not use chemicals on landscaping or in parks. The town will need to ensure that its contractors for grounds maintenance comply with this mandate.
7. Mayor's Monarch Pledge – annual report due December 1<sup>st</sup>!

8. Pollinator demonstration gardens – Cindy discussed the robbery of plants from the Memorial Garden. Cindy would like to focus on Village of Foxfield eyebrow and circle planting for next spring. Edamarie has provided us with a list of plants, and we will need to compare plants needed with North Creek nurseries. Mark reported that it is best to order sooner than later so the plants can be reserved. Cindy will contact Edamarie for more details and finalizing the list of plants. Town will be responsible for care of the garden. Pollinator garden care and watering schedule will be set up again in Sign Up Genius for team members to volunteer.
9. Compost project – compost bins available for purchase at municipal center. Cindy shared report of monthly compost bin usage. Average since inception is 500 lbs./month. Usage is lower as we move into the fall. Highest usage was during the summer.
10. Lunch Out Of Landfills – no update.
11. Tree plantings – The October tree plantings went very well. Ann Twig from DNR provided the tree planting demo. Tree planting maintenance/inventory schedule (see below); Ben Fritton tree planting offer still has not been implemented. The team would like to offer the free trees to residents in the spring in coordination with our Arbor Day tree planting event to be held on April 28, 2023. Cindy with help from Bill Spare has continued to inventory survival rates of past tree plantings: Free trees planted by town staff during the pandemic—Cindy inventoried these trees as Remsberg, Wiles Branch, Washington St., pretty good survival rate with some deer rubs on trees in the parks.  
  
SilvoCulture grant for fruit and nut trees: Kevin visited Fox Haven Farm and saw how they have implemented their Silviculture grant. Our grant is still pending, and Kevin learned a lot about their program.
12. Sonya Demiray of the Tree Board reviewed Cindy’s fall tree planting report and let her know that she can help with getting volunteers for tree plantings in the future.
13. Tree City USA – Cindy is working on actions to complete for next year’s Growth Award. Cindy is keeping spreadsheet of all trees we have planted, and maintenance time spent in the town. She discussed adding in bags of mulch and stakes for each tree into the grant application. While it will mean less trees from the grant money, it will ensure better protection for the trees that are planted.
14. Gift Tree Program – flyer boxes at Wiles Branch Park, Memorial Park and on Cone Branch Trail – Pam will refill each box. A new application came in! To honor Jessica Elder—a fringe tree to be added to the Memorial Tree park along the Cone Branch Trail at Linden Blvd.
15. Recycling event – will look to continue program biannually with next event on March 11, 2023. Cindy shared flyer about the Spring recycling event—Ann suggested adding the lithium battery recycling event that the Rotary Club sponsored on November 5 in Middletown. The Redwood Institute would receive the batteries and process them. Rotary expressed interest in participating in our future recycling events, so Cindy will contact them for the April event.

16. No Idle Zone - discussion. Sean has some ideas about this but is not present this evening. Will revisit in December.
17. Green Schools: Cindy attended information session about this and will have more information to come.
18. Buy Back streetlights program: Potomac Edison is willing to convert all of our street lights to LED without the town having to buy back the lights. This would be a cost savings to the town as if the town did the conversion, there would be a lot of town staff time and the need to purchase special supplies. The team would like to know about the brightness and the spectrum of the lights. Will all the lighting be dark sky compliant? Kevin reported that the lights need to match current lighting in Middletown Glen.
19. FCPS feasibility study—next Thursday vote by the Board of Ed. Meeting for the community is this Thursday, 11/17 at 6 p.m. at the high school. The proposal being considered is to demolish all 3 schools. Co-shared school for elementary and middle and new high school where the elementary school was. There would be a new large loop driveway around the schools that would destroy the pine grove and oldest cottonwood tree (one of the oldest in Maryland). FCPS is fast tracking this or they might lose funding by 11/21. FCPS has not contacted or worked with the community on this at all including the burgess and commissioners. Cindy said this will have to go through the Middletown Planning commission—traffic, setback, landscaping, etc.
20. December meeting date – third Tuesday – December 20<sup>th</sup>

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EDUCATION ON STORMWATER PERMIT PROGRAMS					

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**





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# DRAFT

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31 West Main Street  
Middletown, MD 21769  
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301-371-6171  
301-371-6474 (fax)



**RESOLUTION NO. 17-07**

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE MIDDLETOWN SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE AND GREEN TEAM RESOLUTION ON ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING POLLINATORS**

**WHEREAS**, the Middletown Sustainability Committee recommends the Town of Middletown support pollinator populations by modeling pollinator friendly practices and by educating its citizens about pollinators, including disseminating information about the ways residents can help, due to currently unsustainable threats to the survival of these pollinators; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town of Middletown is applauded by the Sustainability Committee for having already adopted many safer, less expensive, and more effective Integrated Pest Management practices for pest control; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to spare pollinators, the Town and its residents can avoid purchasing “pest-free” plants, which may contain systemic poisons harmful to pollinators; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and its residents can boost both pollinator food and habitat by decreasing the size of lawns and increasing more diverse garden areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town and its residents can help many pollinator species by installing plants that provide nectar (food) and habitat.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown that recognizing the importance of pollinators to the well-being of all, the Town of Middletown resolves

to:

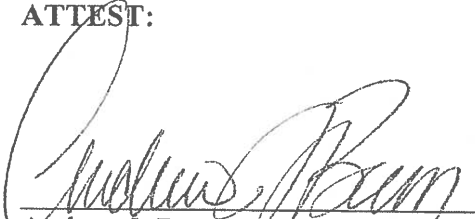
- Continue managing land it owns or operates following best Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. The town will continue to avoid the use of pesticides, will purchase and apply only pollinator-safe products, and will continue to seek new pollinator-safe methods of control and management. The town will seek sustainable means of controlling all 'pests' including weeds, insects, and diseases.
- Support efforts to educate the broader community about these actions and stress their importance.
- Urge all businesses, homeowners, and homeowner associations within the jurisdiction to avoid the purchase and application of pesticides and other products hazardous or lethal to pollinators.
- Discourage those within its jurisdiction from the unnecessary cosmetic use of hazardous lawn and garden chemicals and instead encourage and support Integrated Pest Management Practices for control, including appropriate plant selection and maintenance.
- Review its mowing practices in order to raise grass to the IPM recommended 2.25 to 4" height in areas used for recreational purposes and raise grass to the legal 8" height in appropriate non-recreational areas.
- Add fewer exotic non-native plants, which may choke out and replace native plants and/or provide inadequate nutrition for pollinators, and, instead, install more native perennial plants; identify and dedicate potentially pollinator-friendly areas, such as the new Wiles Branch Pollinator Meadow currently under construction; continue creating habitat by replacing unnecessary turf grass with trees, shrubs, subshrubs and herbaceous plants known to shelter pollinators; and leave some areas with brush piles, bare earth patches and fallen trees so that native pollinators can nest.
- Review its bid solicitation documents so as to insert specifications for pesticide materials; assure pesticides, when used, are applied by Maryland Department of Agriculture Certified Applicators<sup>11</sup>; review existing contracts, service agreements and de-centralized purchase of products to screen for unsafe chemicals; and request IPM in bids and contracts with landscapers, pest-management companies, and other independent contractors engaged by the town.

INTRODUCED ON THE 23<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF October, 2017

PASSED ON THE 13<sup>th</sup> DAY OF November, 2017

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 13, 2017

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andrew J. Bowen, Town Administrator

BURGESS AND COMMISSIONERS  
OF MIDDLETOWN

By:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
John D. Miller, Burgess

**Middletown Sustainability Committee and Green Team**  
**A Resolution on Issues and Recommendations Concerning Pollinators**

*"The consequence of a dying bee population impacts man at the highest levels on our food chain, posing an enormously grave threat to human survival. . . Mankind will not survive the honey bees' disappearance for more than five years."*<sup>1</sup>

*Albert Einstein*

**GLOSSARY**

- Cosmetic Pesticide Use - pesticides used for non-essential applications to alter the appearance of landscape features such as lawns, trees, and gardens.
- Essential Pesticide Use - pesticides used for serious infestations, e.g, rampant invasive species, health concerns, poisonous, structural damage (termites, etc.),
- IPM (Integrated Pest Management) - a scientific approach to plant management based on prevention, monitoring, and other techniques that limit the use of pesticides to essential use.
- Pesticide - a broad term that refers to chemicals used to kill insects, plants and fungi
- Pollinator - an animal that moves pollen in a way that enables plants to reproduce, i.e., pollinators cause plants to make fruit or seeds.

Approximately 87.5 percent of the earth's flowering plants depend on pollinators such as butterflies, moths, bees, beetles, other insects, and some birds and mammals.<sup>2</sup> We humans depend on pollinators for one in every three bites of food we consume. Due to currently unsustainable threats to the survival of these pollinators, the Middletown Sustainability Committee recommends the town of Middletown support pollinator populations by modeling pollinator friendly practices, many of which the town already practices, and by educating its citizens about pollinators, including disseminating information about ways we can help.

Global attention focussed on pollinators when alarming honey bee losses were first noted in 2006. (Because honey bees are an agricultural commodity, they are more easily counted than many other pollinators). In 2017, we continue to see the whole earth's bee population shrink. A recent study of 1437 native (North American) bee species found more than half are in decline, with one in four slipping toward extinction.<sup>3</sup> The UN's 2016 IPBES report predicts that globally more than 40% of insect pollinators - particularly bees and butterflies - will soon face extinction.<sup>4</sup> Many of Maryland's important agricultural crops, valued at \$2.3 billion (2012), depend on

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<sup>1</sup><http://www.globalresearch.ca/death-and-extinction-of-the-bees/5375684#sthash.A2Xk8lHF.dpu>

<sup>2</sup> <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.1600-0706.2010.18644.x/abstract>

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/native\\_pollinators/pdfs/Pollinators\\_in\\_Peril.pdf](http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/campaigns/native_pollinators/pdfs/Pollinators_in_Peril.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ipbes.net/article/press-release-pollinators-vital-our-food-supply-under-threat>



pollination for their productivity. Last year, our state suffered the fifth highest honey bee loss in the United States, at a huge 60.9%.<sup>5</sup>

The iconic North American migrating Monarch butterfly population is also suffering a precipitous decline. Hundreds of other native pollinators species, although more difficult to quantify, are known to be disappearing as well. Many land birds rely on pollinator larvae to feed their young. U.S. breeding land bird populations have dropped by over one billion individuals since 1970.<sup>6</sup>

#### CAUSES

Suspected causes for declines in pollinator populations include toxic chemicals, habitat loss, changes in weather patterns (climate change), diseases, and parasites. Modern gardens, farms, and lawns are often treated with fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides which are top suspects in recent catastrophic pollinator loss. Decorative exotic (non-native) landscape plants, popular in our gardens, replace native plants and often provide little or no nutrition or habitat for pollinators. Some are systemically pre-treated with chemicals lethal to insect pollinators..

#### INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

Integrated Pest Management is an effective and safe scientific approach to pest management based on prevention, pest identification, monitoring, use of safe alternatives to pesticides, and the use of pesticides only when appropriate. The UN's [Food and Agriculture Organisation](#) says that by considering the best techniques and integrating controls, interventions "discourage the development of pest populations and keep pesticides and other interventions to levels that are economically justified." These controls also "reduce or minimize risks to human health and the environment."<sup>7</sup>

Middletown's Sustainability Committee applauds the town of Middletown for having already adopted many safer, less expensive, and more effective Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices for pest control. IPM on the town's land uses a variety of effective natural control techniques that reduce risks to human, pet, and pollinator populations.

#### ROLE OF HABITAT LOSS

Roadways, chemically treated lawns, development, and agricultural mono-cropping contribute to habitat loss, a critical factor in pollinator disappearance. Turf grass is commonly mowed too short to provide habitat, and, when cultivated as a monocrop (one species only, unmixed with other low-growing and flowering species), provides no nectar to feed pollinators either. Seventy percent of native bee species are ground nesters, unable to nest in short, dense turf or thick mulch. By decreasing the size of lawns and increasing more diverse garden areas, the town of Middletown and its residents can boost both pollinator food and habitat. A number of

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<sup>5</sup><http://www.baltimoresun.com/features/green/blog/bs-md-honeybee-decline-20150514-story.htm>

<sup>6</sup><http://www.partnersinflight.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/pif-continental-plan-final-spread-single.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.fao.org/agriculture/crops/core-themes/theme/pests/ipm/en/>

organizations provide easy-to-use planting guides. The Xerces Society, Pollinator Partnership, and the USDA have excellent, regional plant lists broken down by season. In accordance with IPM guidelines, maintaining a grass height of at least 2.25" to 4" encourages root growth, shades out weeds, increases water retention, and protects habitat for some pollinator species.

#### ROLE OF CHEMICALS

Commonly used fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides are top suspects in catastrophic butterfly and bee losses. Bodies of honey bees recovered from collapsing colonies in the U.S. are found to contain large amounts of toxic chemicals frequently used by home gardeners and farmers.

Neonicotinoids (neonics) are a relatively new class of insecticides. They affect the central nervous system of insects, resulting in paralysis and death. They are absorbed into every cell of a treated plant, making every part of the plant toxic. Neonicotinoids include imidacloprid, acetamiprid, clothianidin, dinotefuran, nithiazine, thiacloprid and thiamethoxam. Ornamental plants may be systemically treated with neonics, in which case the whole plant is toxic. Visits to neonic pre-treated plants can be lethal to butterflies (including monarchs), beetles, bees, and other insects. Ornamental garden plants pretreated with neonic pesticides may far exceed lethal chemical amounts recommended for agricultural application.<sup>8</sup> These chemicals should be reduced or avoided altogether, especially for cosmetic application.

Cosmetic use of lawn chemicals is the use of chemicals on properties simply for appearance, rather than for reasons commonly deemed necessary. Control is typically considered necessary for invasions of noxious growths such as poison ivy, poison sumac, etc.; for highly invasive weeds such as Johnson Grass, kudzu, mile-a-minute, etc., and for venomous or disease carrying insects.

The Sustainability Committee notes with pleasure that the town of Middletown does not use toxic chemicals cosmetically on most of its park properties. In order to spare pollinators, the town and its residents can also avoid purchasing "pest-free" plants, which may contain systemic poisons harmful to pollinators.

The Maryland legislature passed the Pollinator Protection Act of 2016 to reduce the use of 'neonics,' neonicotinoid pesticides. Neonics are strongly implicated in pollinator population losses. Beginning in 2018, stores cannot legally sell neonics, except to those with certification and proof of necessity. Homeowners who possess banned or unwanted compounds can drop these chemicals off during annual county-wide Hazardous Waste Collection events.

#### PLANT SELECTION

The Sustainability Committee is pleased to see the town installing native trees and shrubs. By decreasing the size of mowed lawns and increasing more diverse garden areas, Middletown

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<sup>8</sup> <http://ento.psu.edu/publications/are-neonicotinoids-killing-bees>

and its residents can add more native plants, which provide both pollinator food and habitat, reducing the need for costly 'treatment.' The town of Middletown and its residents can help many pollinator species by installing plants that provide nectar (food) and habitat. By choosing selective native plants with 'built-in' pest control and by using more informed landscaping practices, local lawns and gardens can encourage natural pest controls (IPM) with little effort.

#### IN CONCLUSION

Local pollinator losses can be reversed when communities plant safe, chemical-free native plants which thrive naturally without requiring expensive treatments with hazardous chemicals. The use of lawn and garden chemicals solely for cosmetic purposes should be avoided. Integrated pest management (IPM) practices in establishing and maintaining properties are encouraged. Responsible hobby bee-keeping, as directed by and in compliance with Maryland Department of Agriculture<sup>9</sup> and Frederick County<sup>10</sup> codes, can help the declining honey bee population. Gentle cultivation and intentional plantings can protect many small bees living in our backyards.

Middletown's Sustainability Committee applauds the town's efforts in practicing sustainable land management. Residents are urged to learn as much as they can about the unsustainable plight of our pollinating species and to pursue the many simple ways to help. The Middletown Green Team and Sustainability Committee would like to share with the community more detailed information about how to make the transition to sustainable garden and lawn care practices.

NOW, THEREFORE, RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF POLLINATORS TO THE WELL-BEING OF ALL, THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN RESOLVES TO:

- Continue managing land it owns or operates following best Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices. The town will continue to avoid the use of pesticides, will purchase and apply only pollinator-safe products, and will continue to seek new pollinator-safe methods of control and management. The town will seek sustainable means of controlling all 'pests' including weeds, insects, and diseases.
- Support efforts to educate the broader community about these actions and stress their importance.
- Urge all businesses, homeowners, and homeowner associations within the jurisdiction to avoid the purchase and application of pesticides and other products hazardous or lethal to pollinators.
- Discourage those within its jurisdiction from the unnecessary cosmetic use of hazardous lawn and garden chemicals and instead encourage and support Integrated Pest

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<sup>9</sup> [http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/apiary\\_inspection.aspx](http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/apiary_inspection.aspx)

<sup>10</sup> <http://frederickbees.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/ordinance.pdf>

Management Practices for control, including appropriate plant selection and maintenance.

- Review its mowing practices in order to raise grass to the IPM recommended 2.25 to 4" height in areas used for recreational purposes and raise grass to the legal 8" height in appropriate non-recreational areas.
- Add fewer exotic non-native plants, which may choke out and replace native plants and/or provide inadequate nutrition for pollinators, and, instead, install more native perennial plants; identify and dedicate potentially pollinator-friendly areas, such as the new Wiles Branch Pollinator Meadow currently under construction; continue creating habitat by replacing unnecessary turf grass with trees, shrubs, subshrubs and herbaceous plants known to shelter pollinators; and leave some areas with brush piles, bare earth patches and fallen trees so that native pollinators can nest.
- Review its bid solicitation documents so as to insert specifications for pesticide materials; assure pesticides, when used, are applied by Maryland Department of Agriculture Certified Applicators<sup>11</sup>; review existing contracts, service agreements and de-centralized purchase of products to screen for unsafe chemicals; and request IPM in bids and contracts with landscapers, pest-management companies, and other independent contractors engaged by the town.

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

IPBES (2016): S.G. Potts, V. L. Imperatriz-Fonseca, H. T. Ngo, J. C. Biesmeijer, T. D. Breeze, L. V. Dicks, L. A. Garibaldi, R. Hill, J. Settele, A. J. Vanbergen, M. A. Aizen, S. A. Cunningham, C. Eardley, B. M. Freitas, N. Gallai, P. G. Kevan, A. Kovács-Hostyánszki, P. K. Kwabong, J. Li, X. Li, D. J. Martins, G. Nates-Parra, J. S. Pettis, R. Rader, and B. F. Viana (eds.). Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, Bonn, Germany. 36 pages. *Summary for policymakers of the assessment report of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services on pollinators, pollination and food production.*

Pollinator Partnership and NAPPC. *Selecting Plants for Pollinators: A Regional Guide for Farmers, Land Managers and Farmers in the Eastern Broadleaf Forest Oceanic Province*; <http://pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/EasternBroadleafOceanicrx20FINAL.pdf>

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, *Plants for Pollinators* ([https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/?cid=NRC\\_S143\\_022326](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/plantsanimals/pollinate/?cid=NRC_S143_022326))

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<sup>11</sup>[http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/pesticide\\_regulation.aspx](http://mda.maryland.gov/plants-pests/Pages/pesticide_regulation.aspx)



Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. *Xerces Model Policy to Protect Pollinators from Harmful Pesticide Exposures*, <https://xerces.org/pesticide-local-policy/>

# Town Of Middletown

Middletown, MD

Burgess John Miller

## Pledge Summary

Middletown is a small town of about 4,600 people located in the center of the fertile Middletown Valley in western Frederick County, MD. It is home to farms and natural environments that support our community and the natural species that live within it. Our Sustainability Committee recognized by Sustainable Maryland has worked diligently to raise awareness of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. Town officials are also deeply concerned about the decline of the monarch butterfly population and have begun numerous efforts to help save them. Our local golf course is working to preserve areas where milkweed grows, mowing patterns have been changed, a pollinator garden has been planted in the highly-used Memorial Park, and public communication efforts have ramped up. We are proud of our progress and recognize that there is more to do to protect the monarch butterfly. Join us in protecting habitat for our local monarch population!

## Action Items Committed for 2022

### Communications and Convening

- Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat.
- Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)
- 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 plant planting programs.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

### Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants in community gardens.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

### Systems Change

- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- Change ordinances so herbicides, insecticides, or other chemicals used in the community are not harmful to pollinators.

## Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Burgess John Miller	2022	12/13/2021	Leadership Circle
Burgess John Miller	2021	2/9/2021	Leadership Circle

## Action Items

**In total, how many individuals have been reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan-Dec)? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field below (e.g., 50).**

300

**Of these individuals reached, how many are youth (ages 0-18) and how many are adults? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 500 youth and 600 adults).**

60 youth; 240 adults

**In total, how many acres of monarch habitat have been created in your city in the last 12 months? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 3).**

1

**Where is your habitat being created? This may include residences (yards, containers, balconies, etc.), schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, culturally-significant locations, shared public spaces and common areas or parks.**

residences and community gardens

**How are you leveraging the Mayors' Monarch Pledge program to engage marginalized communities, such as low-income communities or communities of color?**

We are not engaging specific communities and are reaching out to all residents as a whole. Our events are accessible to all residents.

**What was your community's motivation for taking and continuing to work on the Mayors' Monarch Pledge?**

Just the deep concern about the decline of the monarch population and wanting to do our part to help save them.

**What resources have been most helpful to you thus far and what new resources would you like to see to help meet your goals? What resources would be useful to help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?**

The Network-wide meetings have been helpful. Social media templates and signage would be helpful.

**What else should we know about your monarch butterfly conservation efforts over the last year?**

Our pollinator garden had plants stolen from it this fall, so we plan to further our education efforts to let others know that we are a good resource for where to purchase plants and what plants would work best for a particular area.

## **Selected Action Items**

**Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.**

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions implemented for mowing and maintenance programs.

**Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat.**

**Date of Proclamation:**

March 14, 2022

**Title of Proclamation (i.e. – Monarch Day or Pollinator Week):**

Mayor's Monarch Pledge Month

**Upload a copy of your proclamation.**

[Monarch Pledge Month Proclamation 2022.pdf](#)

**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 plant planting programs.**

**How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.**

Middletown Sustainability Committee Public Works Department

**Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and revisions/maintenance implemented for mowing or planting programs.**

Members of the Middletown Sustainability Committee met with the Public Works department staff to discuss the mowing program and an Integrated Pest Management Program initiative to prohibit the use of herbicides in the Town.

## **Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.**

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Monarch Alliance Native Plant Sale FB post.jpg](#)

**How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event?**

300 seed packets were given away at the Town's Heritage Festival held in late September.

**How many people attended your event?**

300

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to host the event?**

Local Girl Scout troop, Monarch Alliance, Heritage Festival

## **Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.**

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[large bag of milkweed seeds.jpg](#)

**How many people attended your event?**

6

**What species were collected or propagated?**

common milkweed and butterfly weed seeds were collected

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to host the event?**

Christmas in the Valley committee

**Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.**

Members of the Middletown Sustainability Committee collected milkweed seeds to distribute at the annual Town Christmas in the Valley event. Seeds were put in small envelopes with instructions and given to 200 residents.

**Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.**

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Spring 2022 photo of pollinator garden.jpg](#)

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[monarch caterpillars at new pollinator garden.jpg](#)

**Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)**

The demonstration garden is located at the heavily used park in the center of Town at 310 South Church Street.

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?**

Middletown Sustainability Committee and Public Works department

**What is the size of the demonstration garden (in acres)? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 0.5 acres ). For reference, 1 acre = 43,560 square feet and is about the size of a football field without the end zones.**

0.1

**Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar producing plants in community gardens.**

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Middletown Pollinator Garden Plant Additions April 2022.docx](#)

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Middletown Pollinator Garden Apr 8 2022.pdf](#)

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?**

Middletown Sustainability Committee

**How many plants were planted?**

100

**Please describe your effort in completing this action.**

The Middletown Sustainability Committee maintains the garden and determines if additional plants are needed, or if plants should be divided, throughout the year. They help to maintain the plants and keep weeds out.

**Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.**

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Spring 2022 photo of pollinator garden.jpg](#)

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Pollinator garden signage.pptx](#)

**How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located?**

31

**Please describe the educational information on the sign(s), and provide any links to externally purchased sign(s).**

Each of the plant species in our pollinator garden has a small metal label with the name of the plant with both the common name and the scientific name.

**Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.**

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?**

Planning and Zoning staff

**What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.**

In progress

**If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.**

The Town has lists of native trees and shrubs that must be used by developers in their landscaping plans. Staff is working to add to that list, as well as encouraging use of milkweed.

**Change ordinances so herbicides, insecticides, or other chemicals used in the community are not harmful to pollinators.**

**What community organizations, groups, or leaders (if any) did you partner with or engage to complete this effort?**

Middletown Sustainability Committee and Public Works department

**What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.**

in progress

**If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.**

The Town is working on an Integrated Pest Management Program and hopes to have it completed this winter.

**Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you have community members who speak a language other than English, we encourage you to also communicate in that language; Champion Pledges must communicate in that language.)**

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Monarch Alliance Native Plant Sale FB post.jpg](#)

**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Kaia's brochure - Copy of Why Plant.pdf](#)

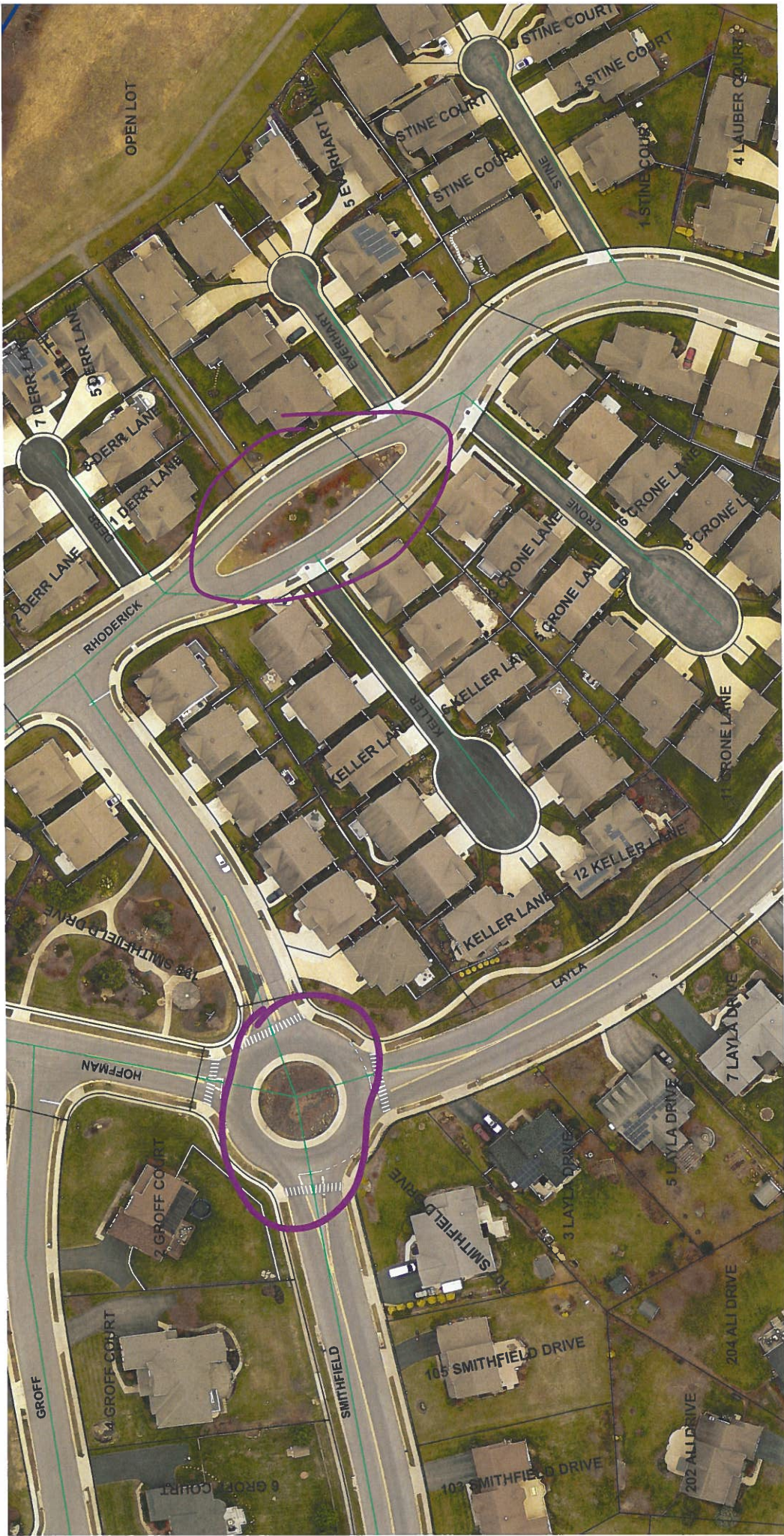
**Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.**

[Kaia and Monarch booth.jpg](#)

**Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).**

We advertise Monarch Alliance native plant sales on our Facebook page, as well as links to articles about monarch protection and planting for monarchs. We also host a page dedicated to our work in monarch conservation on our website: <https://www.greenmiddletown.com/mayors-monarch-pledge>. A local girl scout, Kaia Wynne, produced a brochure about butterflies and what residents can do to help save them. She distributed hundreds of the brochures at the Town's Heritage Festival in late September and had a display about monarch butterflies.







## RECOMENDED NATIVES

Amsonia-Bluestar	Sun	3'	May	blue	gold fall foliage
Iris Cristata	Sun		May	Violet blue	
Aster , Aromatic	Sun	2'	Aug-Nov	violet	long blooming
Camassia	Sun	18"	May	blue + yellow anthers	Bulb
Bee Balm, M. didyma	Sun/pt S	2-3'	July-Aug	scarlet red	Mint family
Anise Hyysop	Sun	2-4'	June-Sept.	Lavendar/purple	Aromatic
Wild Monarda	Sun/pt S	2-4'	July-Sept.	Pink	Mint Family
Obedient Plant	Sun/pt S	4'	Aug-Sept.	Pink	stately, clumping
Joe Pyeweed 'Baby Joe'	Sun/pt S	2'	July-Sept.	Mauve to purple	
Goldenrod- 'Fireworks	Sun/pt S	2-3'	Aug-Sept.	Golden yellow	arching habit
Bluestem Goldenrod	Shade	1-3'	Aug-Oct	Gold-purple stems	graceful
Butterfly Milkweed	Sun	1-3'	June-Aug.	Bright Orange	likes hot & dry
Swamp Milkweed	Sun/pt S	4'	June-Aug.	Rose pink	Prefers moist site
Mountain Mint (P. Muticum)	Sun/pt S	2-3'	July-Sept.	White	
Native Columbine	Shade/pt.sh	2'	April-June	red/yellow	
Summer Phlox	Sun-Shade	2'	Summer	Pinks to white	

## SMALL SHRUBS

Golden St. Johnswort dwarf sps.	Sun/pt S	2'	all season	yellow w/ bl green foliage	Find dwarf cultivar
Virginia Sweetspire "Little Henry"	Sun	2-3'	all season	white - scented	scarlet fall foliage
Black Chokeberry, Lowscape Mound	Sun	3-5'	all season	white flowers,	bl. berries & red foliage

Dwarf Viburnum	Sun/pt Sh	2'	all season	white - scented	Viburnum opulus 'Nanum
<b>RECOMENDED NATIVES</b>					
Dwarf Virburnum	Sun/pt.sh	1.5-2'	all season	white - scented	V. trillium "Jewelbox"
Dwarf Oakleaf Hydrangia		to 3'	all season	white to pink to rose	"Munchkin" or "Ruby Slippers"
Dwarf Buttonbush -	Sun/pt S	3'	June-Aug.	white butterfly magnets	"Sugarshack"
Dwarf Ninebark	Sun/pt.sh	5'	all season	pink-white	"Nanus" - bark, foliage, flowers, all beautiful native
Winterberry Holly	Sun/pt.sh		seasonal interest	red berries	Attracts spring pollinators
<b>GROUNDCOVERS</b>					
Phlox subлата	Sun/pt.sh	8"	April-June	many colors	evergreen
Phlox Carolina	Sun/pt.sh	18"	June-July	pink	Mat-forming
Bellflower, Serbian	Sun/Sh	10"	April-June	Blue	Mat-forming
PA Sedge	Shade	16"			clumps- no mow grass



# Middletown Foxfield Pollinator Suggestions

## MONTH OF BLOOM

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
<b>Shrubs</b>												
<i>Callicarpa americana</i>			█									
<i>Ceanothus americanus</i>							□	□				□
<i>Monarda bradburiana</i>			█	█	█							
<b>Ground Covers</b>												
<i>Aster ericoides</i> 'Snow Flurry'							□	□	□	□		
<i>Callirhoe involucrata</i>							█	█	█			
<i>Lysimachia lanceolata</i> var. <i>purpurea</i>					█	█	█	█	█			
<i>Pycnanthemum muticum</i>							█	█	█			
<b>Perennials</b>												
<i>Amsonia</i> tab. 'Storm Cloud'				█	█	█	█					
<i>Baptisia australis</i>					█	█						
<i>Eupatorium hyssopifolium</i>							□	□	□			
<i>Liatris microcephala</i>							█					
<i>Liatris spicata</i>												
<i>Packera aurea</i>			█	█	█	█	█	█				
<i>Penstemon digitalis</i> 'Blackbeard'							█	█	█			
<i>Phlox subulata</i>				█	█							
<i>Solidago</i> 'Golden Fleece'							█	█	█	█		
<i>Solidago rugosa</i> 'Fireworks'						█	█	█	█	█		
<i>Vernonia lettermanii</i> 'Iron Butterfly'						█	█	█				
<b>Grasses</b>												
<i>Andropogon ternarius</i> 'Black Mountain'							█	█	█			
<i>Bouteloua curtipendula</i>				█	█	█	█	█	█			
<i>Carex amphibola</i>												
<i>Carex cherokeensis</i>					█	█						
<i>Panicum virgatum</i> 'Shenandoah'								█	█			
<i>Schizachyrium scoparium</i> 'Standing Ovatio'							□	□	□			
<b>Conifers</b>												
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i> 'Wiltonii'												
<i>Juniperus virginiana</i> 'Grey Owl'												



# MONTHLY SUSTAINABILITY REPORT

**START DATE:** 11-01-2022 **END DATE:** 11-30-2022

Town of Middletown  
313 S. Church St  
Middletown, MD 21769



## OFFSET EQUIVALENTS:



**C02**  
EMISSIONS  
FROM

**24**

GALLONS  
OF GAS  
CONSUMED



GREENHOUSE  
**GAS**  
FROM

**521**

MILES  
DRIVEN  
BY AN AVERAGE  
PASSENGER VEHICLE



**CARBON**  
SEQUESTERED  
BY

**4**

TREE  
SEEDLINGS  
GROWN FOR  
10 YEARS



**C02**  
EMISSIONS  
FROM

**25,545**

SMART  
PHONES  
CHARGED

## COLLECTION WEIGHTS:

Total Weight: 595 lbs (0.3 Ton)

**4539 METROPOLITAN COURT  
FREDERICK, MD 21704**

**240-608-0283  
INFO@KEYCOMPOST.COM**



## MY APPLICATION



Questions/Comments



### SUBMISSION FORM

Tree City 2022

What category best describes your community?\*

- Town

Social media channels for city and/or department

City's Forestry Department Website

<http://www.greenmiddletown.com>

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/middletowngreenteam>

Twitter

Generic email address for city government (Example:

[forestry@cityname.com](mailto:forestry@cityname.com))

[office@ci.middletown.md.us](mailto:office@ci.middletown.md.us)

### MAYOR OR EQUIVALENT INFORMATION

Mayor Name

John Miller

Professional Title

Burgess

Mayors Address

31 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769, United States

Email Address

[burgess@ci.middletown.md.us](mailto:burgess@ci.middletown.md.us)

Phone Number

+1 (301) 371-6171

### CITY FORESTRY CONTACT

(This is the person from your community we will be reaching out to if we have any questions about the application.)

City Forestry Contact's Name

Cynthia Unangst

Professional Title

Staff Planner







## \*SHIPPING ADDRESS FOR RECOGNITION MATERIALS

31 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769, United States

### City Forestry Contact's Email Address

cunangst@ci.middletown.md.us

### Phone Number

+1 (301) 371-6171

## PR/COMMUNICATIONS CONTACT:

Annette Alberghini

### Professional Title

Office Manager

### Address

31 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769

### Email

aalberghini@ci.middletown.md.us

Standard 1 - A Tree Board or Department

### Select which best describes your community

- Community has both a Tree Board and a Department
- Chair/City Manager

### Tree Board Meeting Frequency

- Monthly

## CHAIRPERSON

### Chairperson's Name

Cynthia Unangst

### Professional Title

Co-Chair Middletown Sustainability Committee

### Chairperson's Address

31 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769, United States

### Email Address

cunangst@ci.middletown.md.us

### Phone Number

+1 (301) 371-6171

### How many additional Tree Board members are there?

- 4

## BOARD MEMBER 1

### Board Member 1 Name

Karen Whitehair

### Board Member 1 Email

sourdoughcreek@earthlink.net







## BOARD MEMBER 2

**Board Member 2 Name**

Ann Payne

**Board Member 2 Email**

paynestake@gmail.com

## BOARD MEMBER 3

**Board member 3 name**

Aghesanne Danehey

**Board member 3 Email**

adanehey@umd.edu

## BOARD MEMBER 4

**Board member 4 name**

Pam McDonald

**Board member 4 Email**

pammcdnld@gmail.com

## DEPARTMENT CHAIR/CITY MANAGER

**Department Chair/City Manager Name**

Cynthia Unangst

**Professional Title**

Staff Planner

**Phone**

+1 (301) 371-6171

**Address**

31 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769

**Email Address**

cunangst@ci.middletown.md.us

Standard 2 - A Community Tree Ordinance

**Date current tree ordinance was established**

7/01

**Our ordinance below\***

- Uploaded files have not changed

**Our attached ordinance:**

- Is in effect 24/7/365





\* Attach File

Each applicant is required to upload their community's current tree ordinance.





## Attachments

NAME	CREATED DATE	
forest conservation	Nov 30, 2022 8:02:50 PM UTC	   

*If sharing a URL, please ensure it is a public webpage, not a link to a document sharing platform (e.g. Google Docs or Dropbox)*

Standard 3 – A community forestry program with an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita

*Please answer the questions below with the full numerical amounts and do not use symbols or commas. (i.e. 5000.01 not \$5,000.01). If a category does not apply to you, please enter 0.*

For a list of qualifying expenses, [click here](#).

### \* Community Population

4943

### \* Tree Planting and Initial Care

Include cost of tree purchases, labor and equipment for planting, planting materials, stakes, wrapping, watering, mulching, competition control, etc.

4523

### \* Tree Maintenance

Include pruning, insect and disease management, fertilization, watering, etc.

0

### \* Tree Removal

Include cost of equipment, supplies, labor, etc.

0

### \* Management

Include public education, professional training, memberships, salaries, street and park tree inventory.

900

### Utility Line Clearance

(If allowed by your state coordinator).

0



### \* Volunteer Time

Number of volunteer hours and other contributions from civic organizations.

#### Correct Examples:

- 10
- 12
- 284
- 3778

#### Incorrect Examples:

- 10 hrs
- 12 hours
- \$284.94
- 3,678

140

#### Other

Include any other expenses not mentioned.

41685

#### Please specify other expenses (if applicable)

Yard waste bags purchased by Town and distributed to residents at no charge cost \$17,820 a year. Monthly cost for yard waste bag pick-up from April - December is \$2,631.60 per month, or \$23,864.40 per year.

**TOTAL EXPENDITURE PER CAPITA: 10.38**

**TOTAL EXPENDITURES: 51301.00**

#### Community Tree Management Statistics

Please include only whole numbers below.

##### \*Number of Trees Planted

340

##### \*Number of Trees Pruned

150

##### \*Number of Trees Removed

0

Attach Files

Annual work plan (if required by your state).





### Attachments

NAME	CREATED DATE	
No Data		

*If sharing a URL, please ensure it is a public webpage, not a link to a document sharing platform (e.g. Google Docs or Dropbox)*

Supporting budget document(s).

### Attachments

NAME	CREATED DATE	
EarthPlanter trees sales order 2022	Nov 30, 2022 8:43:47 PM UTC	
tree planting sales order Fall 2022	Nov 30, 2022 8:40:52 PM UTC	
tree planting sales order Spring 2022	Nov 30, 2022 8:42:21 PM UTC	

*If sharing a URL, please ensure it is a public webpage, not a link to a document sharing platform (e.g. Google Docs or Dropbox)*

Standard 4 - An Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation

**How did your city celebrate Arbor Day during the 2022 calendar year?**

**Date observance was held**

4/29/22

**Did your community's Arbor Day celebration include any type of participation from K-12 schools?\***

- Yes

Attach Your Signed Arbor Day Proclamation\*

### Attachments

NAME	CREATED DATE	
Arbor Day proclamation 2022	Dec 6, 2022 8:40:30 PM UTC	

*If sharing a URL, please ensure it is a public webpage, not a link to a document sharing platform (e.g. Google Docs or Dropbox)*

Supplemental files





This can be a program from your Arbor Day events, photos, or press releases.

### Attachments

NAME	CREATED DATE	
Fall tree planting photo	Dec 1, 2022 2:41:56 PM UTC	<input type="button" value="SET AS LOGO"/>
Photo from event	Dec 1, 2022 2:39:33 PM UTC	<input type="button" value="SET AS LOGO"/>
Tree Planting flyer	Dec 1, 2022 2:37:24 PM UTC	

*If sharing a URL, please ensure it is a public webpage, not a link to a document sharing platform (e.g. Google Docs or Dropbox)*

**What is something that has changed in your community as a result of earning Tree City USA recognition?\***

We truly feel that the community is becoming more and more aware of our status as a Tree City USA recognized municipality due to the signage at our most heavily used municipal park and along our Main Street. When residents see tree issues within the Town, we are contacted by the concerned citizens to make sure they are addressed. Residents also seem more aware of the benefits of planting native trees since the Town only allows developers to plant native species. As part of our Arbor Day event, we gave 100 trees away to town residents on a first come-first serve basis and all the trees were spoken for in short order! We were happy to see the photos that residents sent us of their free planted trees. We allowed residents to ask for one or two, and most chose two free trees.

**Trees are an important solution to urban issues. Increasing tree canopy can lead to improved human health and climate resilience. How is your city or town identifying neighborhoods that need trees most? What resources would assist you in planting and caring for trees in these areas?**

We are able to determine using GIS software and aerial photography which neighborhoods need trees the most. We were happy to see that some of the residents in those areas which large lots took advantage of the free





trees that were offered to plant on their properties. We look for grant opportunities to pay for trees and have a goal of planting at least 200 trees a year in town. This year through a partnership with Potomac Edison, we were able to plant more than 300 trees.

### Signature Form

**\* Before you print off your signature form, all sections of the application must be complete.**

**To finalize your application, you will need to obtain a signature of your mayor or top city official. Your application requires the appropriate signature to be complete.**

**Click on the button below to populate your mayor signature page. (You will need to push this button anytime you make revisions to your application.)**





- Populate Signature Page

### [Download Mayor Signature Form](#)

- Scan and upload the signature form

Upload the signature form here

### Attachments

NAME	CREATED DATE	
Town of Middletown Signature Form	Dec 7, 2022 6:15:42 PM UTC	   

By checking this box, if my application is approved, I agree to have my name and email included on the Tree City USA Member Resource Center Directory. This

- resource is only available to other recognized Tree Cities and may be made available to qualified researchers studying municipal urban forestry for surveying purposes.

By checking the box, you are granting the Arbor Day Foundation and its assigns, licensees, successors, representatives, employees, program partners, and agents (collectively, the "Arbor Day Foundation"), the irrevocable and unrestricted right to use uploaded images from this application. You grant the Arbor Day Foundation the irrevocable right to use, copy, prepare derivative works from, distribute, and publish the provided photographs in any medium or means of

- distribution, including print, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter and in Arbor Day Foundation publications or on its website, for any lawful







commercial or other purpose, and to register the copyright of such photographs throughout the world. By granting rights to the photos, you are representing that you own the rights to the uploaded pictures on this application and that Arbor Day Foundation has permission to use said photos.

**By submitting your application, you agree to the [Tree City USA terms and conditions](#).**

Please press the submit button below, once your application is complete. A successfully submitted application will redirect you to a new page. If you are not redirected, please scroll to the top of your application to see a notification of what information is missing/incorrect in order to submit your application.





MY APPLICATION



*Tree City*  
**SUBMISSION FORM** = *Growth Award 2022*

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

- Community must have been certified as a Tree City USA last year and submitted a recertification application this year.
- Community must earn 10 points according to Growth Award Eligible Activities – which were new or significantly improved this year.
- Attach documentation for each eligible activity listed below. Appropriate documentation includes narrative descriptions, copies of documents, copies of printed brochures, and newspaper clippings.
- For a list of eligible activities, visit <https://www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityUSA/growthAwards.cfm>

**Community Name:**

Town of Middletown

**CITY FORESTRY CONTACT**

**Forestry Name**

Cynthia Unangst

**Forestry Address**

31 West Main Street, Middletown, MD 21769, United States

**\*Email Address**

cunangst@ci.middletown.md.us

**Phone Number**

+1 (301) 371-6171

**CATEGORY:**

- D. Performing the Work
- A. Building the Team
- C. Planning the Work
- E. The Community Framework

**A. BUILDING THE TEAM**

- Budgets

**ACTIVITIES:**

- A3: Grant Applications

**A3. Grant Applications**

**Description:**





Two or more applications for grant funding were submitted (not necessarily awarded) during the year to accomplish specific community forestry projects or programs.

**Documentation:**

List and describe purpose for the two or more grant applications submitted

**Describe how activity was achieved within the calendar year you are applying for.**

We applied for and received two grants in 2022 for our tree planting efforts. For our Arbor Day tree planting event, we partnered with Potomac Edison who paid for one third of the cost of the 205 native trees that were purchased. We also received a \$1,000 grant from the Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee (MUCFC). 100 of the native trees were given to town residents to plant on their properties and the other 105 were planted with the help of about 40 volunteers on public property. The purpose of the planting was to help increase the tree canopy, improve water quality in Town limit the amount of mowing needed, and for aesthetic purposes.

In the Fall of 2022, we received a grant from the Maryland Department of Transportation Urban Tree Program towards the purchase of 127 native trees that were planted on public property with the help of about 30 volunteers. The purpose of the planting was to help increase the tree canopy, improve wildlife corridors and water quality in Town, and for aesthetic purposes.

Additionally, we received a grant from Keep Maryland Beautiful for the purchase of 10 native flowering trees that were placed in large planters in our downtown district. The trees, besides adding beauty, also provide flowers for pollinators and fruits for wildlife.

**Activity File Upload (Optional)**

[2022 MUCFC Grant Final Report.pdf uploaded.](#)

**C. PLANNING THE WORK**

- Policies
- Plans

**ACTIVITIES:**

- C2: Species List
- C8: Single-Issue Plans

**C2. Species List**

**Description:**

During the year, the city established as policy a list of tree species that are eligible (recommended) or ineligible (prohibited) for planting on public property. List should be published as a stand-alone document, appended to the tree management plan, or included in the standards & care manual (E11).

**Documentation:**

Describe update to list, species added or subtracted.





**Describe how activity was achieved within the calendar year you are applying for.**

The Town developed a list of recommended trees for planting on public property, as well as a list of invasive plants that are not to be planted with the town limits. They are stand-alone documents and are available on the town website.

**Activity File Upload (Optional)**

[List of Native Overstory Trees.docx uploaded.](#)

**C8. Single-Issue Plans**

**Description:**

During the year, the city adopted a written plan to address one or more tree care issues, such as:

- a) tree planting
- b) emergency/storm response
- c) insect/disease response
- d) natural areas management
- e) wildfire preparedness
- f) tree risk management
- g) species adaptability to climate change

**Documentation:**

Describe new plan(s), provide online link.

**Describe how activity was achieved within the calendar year you are applying for.**

In 2022, the Staff Planner created, and the Town adopted, a written plan to address tree planting measures.

Steps taken for tree planting plan in 2022

- 1) Determine where on public property trees are most needed.
- 2) Based on location(s), determine most appropriate trees to be planted.
- 3) Using GIS, show locations for tree plantings along with species for each site.
- 4) Look for grant funding for tree planting event.
- 5) Based on funding available, place tree order with nursery.
- 6) Advertise tree planting event to residents and students.
- 7) Meet with public works staff to plan for event.
- 8) Public works staff digs holes using auger.
- 9) Tree planting event takes place.
- 10) Follow-up to ensure trees were planted correctly.

**Activity File Upload (PDF of plan)**

[Tree Planting Plan Policy 2022.docx uploaded.](#)

**D. PERFORMING THE WORK**

- Planting Trees

**ACTIVITIES:**

- D2: Tree Planting Projects
- D3: Survival Monitoring

**D2: Tree Planting Projects**



**Description:**

During the year, the city, local utility, or non-profit partner continued to install new trees as part of an existing program (see D1) to plant trees on public or private property.

**Documentation:**

Describe annual results, link to report, if one exists.

**Describe how activity was achieved within the calendar year you are applying for.**

The Town of Middletown was able to plant over 300 trees in 2022 thanks to grant funding through MUCFC, Potomac Edison and Keep Maryland Beautiful. We held community tree planting events on April 29th in which we celebrated Arbor Day and planted 93 native trees on public property on the west side of town in park locations, and also on October 21st when we planted 108 trees on public property on the east side of town along a walking trail. We had 40 volunteers help out for the Arbor Day planting event including Potomac Edison employees and high school students. In October we had 30 volunteers consisting of high school students, other town residents and some families.

**Activity File Upload (Optional)**

[Tree planting log.xlsx uploaded.](#)

**D3: Survival Monitoring****Description:**

During the year, sponsors of community tree planting programs (see D1) conducted field inspections and reported survival data on trees planted within the past five years.

**Documentation:**

Summarize results of survival and growth for the year.

**Describe how activity was achieved within the calendar year you are applying for.**

Members of the Middletown Sustainability Committee conducted field inspections of some of the previous years' tree planting events. Trees planted in November 2019 along the Middletown Parkway had a survival rate of 93%. Trees planted in October 2020 in the North Pointe subdivision had a 66% survival rate. Trees planted in September 2020 in the Remsberg parking lot grassy strips had a 92% survival rate, along the entrance to Wiles Branch Park had a 62.5% survival rate, and along the drive to Boileau Drive had a 100% survival rate. The trees that were planted in Spring 2021 at the Cone Branch Pocket Park had a 100% survival rate.

**Activity File Upload (Optional)**

[No file uploaded.](#)

**E. THE COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK**

- Outreach

**ACTIVITIES:**

- E13: Publications





## E13: Publications

### Description:

During the year, the city or non-profit partner published and distributed new or updated materials for the public about tree planting and care (such as the list of recommended street trees, pruning instructions, etc.).

### Documentation:

Describe publication content

### **Describe how activity was achieved within the calendar year you are applying for.**

The Town's website ([www.middlestown.md.us](http://www.middlestown.md.us)) along with the Middletown Sustainability Committee's website ([www.greenmiddlestown.com](http://www.greenmiddlestown.com)) have native tree lists and tree planting guidelines. They are shown on the Town website under its "Sustainability Efforts in Middletown" page and on the committee's website under Natural Landscaping. The Town website also includes the Tree Canopy Report for Frederick County that was done in 2016, and additional information is available on the committee's website.

### **Activity File Upload (OPTIONAL)**

No file uploaded.

### **TOTAL: 20**

By checking the box, you are granting the Arbor Day Foundation and its assigns, licensees, successors, representatives, employees, program partners, and agents (collectively, the "Arbor Day Foundation"), the irrevocable and unrestricted right to use uploaded images from this application. You grant the Arbor Day Foundation the irrevocable right to use, copy, prepare derivative works from, distribute and publish the provided photographs in any medium or means of distribution, including print, social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter and in Arbor Day Foundation publications or on its website, for any lawful commercial or other purpose, and to register the copyright of such photographs throughout the world. By granting rights to the photos, you are representing that you own the rights to all the uploaded pictures on this application and that Arbor Day Foundation has permission to use said photos.





## **SPRING RECYCLING EVENT – SATURDAY, MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2023**

Plan now to collect items that can be recycled or re-used and take them to our spring recycling event on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup> which is also the Town's next bulk trash day. Items that will be collected in the parking lot behind the Middletown Municipal Building include used clothing and textiles, metals, paint cans (\$5 each) and electronics. See below for the details.

**Used clothing – collected by Helpsy:** <https://www.helpsy.co/>

It's hard to believe but over 85% of clothes wind up in the trash! It's the norm to recycle plastics, glass, metal and paper but sadly clothes, shoes, and accessories have long been ignored. In fact, 10% of our landfills are textiles. That's 100 pounds per person, per year. HELPSY is a for-profit corporation with an environmental mission to radically change the way people think about clothing recycling. They make reusing and recycling your clothes and shoes more convenient and easier than ever.

**Metals – collected by Knights of Columbus member, Bill Traub**

The money collected from the sale of the metal is distributed to local charities and the funding is primarily used by the Middletown Ministerium to pay for supplies used for the Community Days of Service to area residents who are in need of repairs to their homes and properties.

**Paint cans – collected by Yuck Old Paint:** <https://yuckoldpaint.com/>

Good, reusable paint is distributed to international humanitarian construction projects, stateside theater groups and local licensed contractors. Paint that is not usable is appropriately processed for proper legal disposal per state regulations so that it is no longer a threat to the water and soil tables. The charge per paint can is \$5/each.

**Electronics– collected by The Buddy Project:** <https://www.thebuddyproject.org/>

The Buddy Project will take just about everything except tube style monitors and televisions. All computer hard drives are wiped to DoD standards or destroyed and proof of destruction is offered as well as a tax deduction. The organization is headquartered in Frederick and is dedicated to helping disabled and low income individuals. Their service provides refurbished computers to those who are intellectually and developmentally disabled, and the computers are set up specifically for those clients.

# No Idling Zone Please Turn Off Engine Sign

1 Review



**Item #:** T5526-A8D

**Sign Reads:** No Idling Zone Please Turn Off Your Car Engine While Waiting For Student Dismissal

**Compliance:**

- OSHA 1910.1200(c)
- Shipping Declarations

[Edit Sign](#)

**Size:**

12 × 18"

18 × 24"

**Material:**

- .063" White Rust-Free Aluminum ⓘ
- .063" Engineering Grade Reflective Aluminum ⓘ
- .063" High Intensity Prismatic Reflective Aluminum ⓘ
- .063" Diamond Grade Reflective Aluminum ⓘ

**Laminate:** None

**Mounting:** Two 3/8" holes (one at top, one at bottom)

**Packaging:** Sold Individually

Qty	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-19	20-39	40+
Each	\$26.40	\$25.30	\$24.55	\$23.85	\$23.10	\$22.45

Qty  **Price: \$26.40**  
Low Price Guarantee ⓘ

**+ Add to Cart**

**Ships Monday**

Order within 2 hrs 6 min ⓘ

**Need a quote for a large order?** Call 800-274-5271 or chat online.

This No Idling Zone Sign has effective messages to establish a no idle zone or clean air zone and serves as a reminder for motorists to turn off their engine. The full text reads "No Idling Zone Please Turn Off Your Car Engine While Waiting For Student Dismissal", and is one of the best-sellers in our array of Clean Air No Idling Zone signs designed to protect our children. Our No Idling Zone Signs are available in multiple messages, sizes, and materials.

## Recommended Accessories