



PROCLAMATION *of the* TOWN OF KNIGHTDALE

MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE

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

WHEREAS, both the western and eastern 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 Knightdale 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 Knightdale is striving to become a leader; and

WHEREAS, I, Mayor Jessica Day, have signed the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge and have officially committed to taking meaningful action to protect the monarch butterfly; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Knightdale is committed to raising awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat by encouraging residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods; by engaging with community garden groups and urging them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants; by engaging with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders to identify opportunities to create monarch habitats; by hosting a native seed or plant giveaway; by displaying educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitats; and by planting or maintaining a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at a prominent community location; and

WHEREAS, every resident of the Town of Knightdale can make a difference for the monarch by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat for the monarch and pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn, play and worship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jessica Day, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of Town of Knightdale, do hereby proclaim April 15th, 2026 as Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day in the Town of Knightdale and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate monarch conservation.

This the 15th day of April, 2026.

Jessica Day, Mayor

Heather M. Smith, Town Clerk