Proclamation

2026 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 in recent years, and with commitments through the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge, communities work to create habitats for monarch butterflies and pollinators; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Black Mountain is committed to restoring and preserving habitats that support the monarch's migration each year maintaining pollinator-friendly habitat gardens at Town Square, Lake Tomahawk, the Black Mountain-Tyson Public Library, Veteran's Park, Black Mountain Primary School, and other public spaces; and

WHEREAS, since 2015, the Town maintains official monarch waystations at Veteran's Park, Lake Tomahawk, Black Mountain-Tyson Public Library and Black Mountain Primary School, and displays educational signage about these efforts; and

WHEREAS, in 2025, the Town of Black Mountain was one of only seven municipalities in North Carolina that joined the "Leadership Circle" by taking eight or more actions for the monarch butterfly; and

WHEREAS, citizens can make a difference for the monarch by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide a habitat for the monarch butterfly in locations where they live, work, learn, play and worship.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C. Michael Sobol, Mayor of the Town of Black Mountain, do hereby commit to the 2026 Mayors' Monarch Pledge with the National Wildlife Federation and proclaim this, the **9th day of March, 2026** as **"Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day"** and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate monarch butterfly conservation.

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C. Michael Sobol, Mayor

Attest: _____
Wesley M. Barker, Town Clerk