

**PROCLAMATION  
RECOGNIZING MONARCH PLEDGE DAY**

**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 City of Fort Atkinson 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 City of Fort Atkinson is striving to become a leader; and

**WHEREAS**, Every resident of the City of Fort Atkinson 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; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 8, 2024, the City of Fort Atkinson has committed to launching a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods, committed to issuing this proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat, committed to planting a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at a prominent location in the City and display educational signage at the monarch garden and pollinator habitat.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Bruce Johnson, as City Council President of the City of Fort Atkinson, do here by recognize February 8, 2024, as Monarch Pledge Day in the City of Fort Atkinson, and encourage all residents to participate in community activities that support and celebrate monarch conservation.

Proclaimed this 20th day of February 2024.

CITY OF FORT ATKINSON

  
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Bruce Johnson, Council President

ATTEST:



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Michelle Ebbert, City Clerk/Treasurer/Finance Director