Village of Schiller Park

Schiller Park, IL

Mayor Nick Caiafa

Pledge Summary

Action Items Committed for 2024

Communications and Convening

- 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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Chad Meyers	2026	2/18/2026	
Mayor Chad Meyers	2025	3/13/2025	Signatories
Mayor Nick Caiafa	2024	3/26/2024	Signatories
Mayor / Village President Nick Caiafa	2023	4/3/2023	Signatories
Mayor Nick Caiafa	2022	3/14/2022	
Mayor Nick Caiafa	2021	3/19/2021	

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 (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

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Of the total number of individuals engaged, how many youth (0-18) were reached through the Mayors' Monarch Pledge in your community this year (Jan. - Dec.)? If none, please write 0.” (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.)

30

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). Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0

Where was the habitat created this year? Example locations may include residences, schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, shared public spaces, and more.

Most of this program is based around maintaining native plants to existing parks, but some homeowners have added plants to their homes.

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

We have reached out to Leyden High School for volunteers to plant. Is it a very diverse high school with many students immigrants or the children of them.

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

Being by O'Hare airport has led in the destruction of natural habitat and nature starved areas. We wish to remedy that.

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 most helpful would be funds to plant native bulbs. Community engagement strategies would be next, especially for non-english speakers.

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

We are working to expand this to more parks next year and reach out to homeowners.

Selected Action Items

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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.

Just the Village of Schiller Park staff.

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

We were unable to expand operations due to staffing constraints and loosing a point person on this project.

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

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

500 seed packets were given away.

How many people attended your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

100

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

The recreation departments Kids Klub.

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

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

We did not have the staff capacity to manage the program this year. There are no partner organizations to report.

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

0

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

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Native plants were seeded from a packet and we saw growth over the summer months, but we do not have a definitive number. Previously planted natives were maintained.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

2

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

These signs have information on several types of native plants, and information about the Monarch butterfly and it's dependence on them.

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