Village of Riverwoods

Riverwoods, IL

Mayor Kristine Ford

Pledge Summary

The Village of Riverwoods is a small residential community located in Lake County, Illinois. The Village was born out of an idea by Edward Ryerson to offer residents the experience of living in a unique woodland setting. The woodlands in the Village remain a treasured community asset, requiring their preservation and stewardship and the community is known for its commitment to "living with nature." The Village strive to protect its local ecosystems and vital species, such as monarchs.

Action Items Committed for 2026

Communications and Convening

- Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.
- 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.)

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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Kristine Ford	2026	4/24/2026	
Mayor Kristine Ford	2025	2/15/2025	Signatories
Mayor John Norris	2021	4/2/2021	

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

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number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

300

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.)

0

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.

N/A

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

This is an area that we can improve.

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

protecting our native areas and pollinators.

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 zoom informational meeting are helpful. It is nice to hear what other communities are doing.

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

We have passed out free milkweed seeds at events.

Selected Action Items

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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.

Native Plant Spotlight _ Black-Eyed Susan _ Riverwoods IL.pdf

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

The Village posts articles in newsletter regarding native plants and their importance for pollinators.

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.

RPC Celebrates Successful Native Plant Sale and Arbor Day Event _ Riverwoods IL.pdf

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

100

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

75

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

Riverwoods Preservation Council

Issue a proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat. This proclamation must incorporate a focus on monarch conservation.

Date of Proclamation:

N/A - This was not completed

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

No 2026 proclamation was issued.

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2025-03-04_proclamation_MayorsMonarchPledge_kFord.pdf

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?

Riverwoods Preservation Council

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

0

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

The Village of Riverwoods property is surrounded by native plants. We have a native plant stewardship program that helps maintain the Village Property as well as the native plant demonstration garden on the police department property.

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