Lanark County

County of Lanark, ON

Warden John Fenik

Pledge Summary

Lanark County is a rural community west of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. Lanark County Warden John Fenik committed to preserving habitat for the Monarch butterfly and other pollinators in 2022 by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge. Lanark County has taken the Mayors' Monarch Pledge since 2019 and continues to promote and restore pollinator habitat on rights-of-ways, county land, and within the community.

Action Items Committed for 2022

Communications and Convening

- 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.)
- 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.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

Systems Change

- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Warden Toby Randell	2025	3/28/2025	Leadership Circle
Warden Steve Fournier	2024	3/28/2024	Leadership Circle
Warden Peter McLaren	2023	3/1/2023	Leadership Circle
Warden John Fenik	2022	3/25/2022	Leadership Circle
Warden Christa Lowry	2021	4/8/2021	Leadership Circle

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.).

60

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 youth and 60 adults

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.

1.2

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.

Rights-of-way including roadsides and trails, and on county-owned property

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

Providing free native pollinator-friendly seed to residents

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

Our main motivation for the taking the pledge is our efforts to incorporate pollinator habitat in long-term vegetation management goals

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?

We use the Rights-of-Way as Pollinator Habitat Working Group's pollinator habitat scorecard to assess pollinator habitat on roadsides. More resources are needed to sway public perception of "messy looking" pollinator habitat.

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

Since 2016 we've reduced our herbicide usage by 95%. We also hosted a road tour of our restoration sites in partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Federation. We are also testing out different strategies to reduce weed pressure in restoration projects

Selected Action Items

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.

Lanark County Native Seed Mix 2022.pdf

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

We launched a communication effort to encourage residents to plant pollinator gardens by giving away free native pollinator seed to residents and providing information on our Facebook page. We shared information on pollinator gardens and our free pollinator seed mix.

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.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

cwf-springmowing-map-monarch.jpg

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

Lanark County staff and Canadian Wildlife Federation

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

We work with the Canadian Wildlife Federation to promote their Grow it! Don't mow it! campaign to encourage residents to mow less. We also participated in providing feedback on the Canadian Wildlife Federation's mowing map for Monarchs that indicates safe dates for mowing rights-of-way. We also discussed mowing timing for pollinator plants to avoid mowing during peak blooming periods. We also have developed a seeding program as part of our invasive species program.

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.

Fall Tree Giveaway.jpg

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

3.64Kg of native wildflower seed

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

300

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

Completed in partnership with the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority to giveaway trees - County staff gave away the native seed.

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

PXL_20220824_141156765.jpg

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

IMG_0218.JPG

Where is the demonstration garden located and how does this location relate to the cultural significance of the monarch (if relevant)? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible)

Our demonstration gardens are on Lanark County's property that includes administration offices, long-term care home, and public trails. Location: 99 Christie Lake Road, Perth, ON, Canada

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

None - completed by public works staff

What is the size of the demonstration garden (in acres)? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 0.5 acres). For reference, 1 acre = 43,560 square feet and is about the size of a football field without the end zones. Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0.01

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Monarch caterpillar.jpg

How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).

2

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

None - completed by public works staff

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

Mission Monarch - County staff conducted milkweed surveys looking for Monarch eggs and caterpillars. Data was uploaded to the Mission Monarch website: https://www.missionmonarch. org/. We also participated in tracking the Monarch migration on iNaturalist Monarch Migration in Ontario project: https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/monarch-migration-in-ontario

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

1660

Please describe the extent of revisions or maintenance to invasive species removal programs, as well as the practices or techniques used to remove the invasive plants.

Lanark County has a roadside control program for wild parsnip, which includes spot spraying a selective herbicide and hand removals by staff and volunteers. Since 2016 we've reduced our herbicide usage by 95% and increased our hand control efforts to cover nearly 60% of all roadsides. Spot targeted spraying and hand control allow other wildflowers in the roadsides to grow, while removing the invasive. During hand control measures, staff are provided native wildflower seed to fill in the gaps created by wild parsnip removal.

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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

Pollinator Partnership Canada, Canadian Wildlife Federation and Cain Vegetation Inc.

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

https://www.lanarkcounty.ca/en/doing-business/resources/documents/Lanark-IPM-Revised-Progam-2022-Final-8-15-22.pdf

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Lanark County Native Seed Mix 2022.pdf

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

Canadian Wildlife Federation and Cain Vegetation Inc.

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

https://www.lanarkcounty.ca/en/doing-business/resources/documents/Lanark-IPM-Revised-Progam-2022-Final-8-15-22.pdf

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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

Pollinator Partnership Canada and Cain Vegetation Inc.

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

The Integrated Vegetation Management Plan was adopted in 2016 and updated in 2022 that incorporates pollinator habitat restoration. Draft: https://www.lanarkcounty.ca/en/doing-business/resources/documents/Lanark-IPM-Revised-Progam-2022-Final-8-15-22.pdf; Climate Action Plan tables includes pollinator habitat:

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

https://www.lanarkcounty.ca/en/environmental-initiatives/resources/Community-Climate-Action-Table-Final.2.pdf

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

Pollinator Partnership Canada and Cain Vegetation Inc.

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

The Integrated Vegetation Management Plan was adopted in 2016 and updated in 2022 that incorporates an integrated approach to invasive plant control such as reducing herbicides and using bee safe products: https://www.lanarkcounty.ca/en/doing-business/resources/documents/Lanark-IPM-Revised-Progam-2022-Final-8-15-22.pdf

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Upload any relevant documents, images, or other attachments related to your effort on this action.

Pakenham resize.jpg

Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

Lanark County planted milkweed and pollinator-friendly plants in roadside and trail rights-of-way across the county in the fall 2021. Specifically, we planted at 4 locations along the Ottawa Valley Recreational Trail, CR19 Bennett Lake Road, CR12 McDonalds Corners Road, and on CR21 Elm Grove Road. This year we managed the brush at some locations

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

2100

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

0.96

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Staff provided some weeding, mulching and brush control.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u590:v1.14.0.49966]