Village of Union

Union, IL

Buildings and grounds trustee Ian McCartney

Pledge Summary

Union is a small, rural community of around 600 residents located in the southwest corner of McHenry County. The village is surrounded on all sides by farms. We have remained a small community for pretty much the whole of our existence and enjoy the quiet, peaceful atmosphere of the village.

Action Items Committed for 2022

Communications and Convening

- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

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

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
President Anthony Fredrickson	2026	1/8/2026	
President Anthony Fredrickson	2025	1/14/2025	Signatories
President Robert Wagner	2024	3/12/2024	Signatories
Buildings and grounds trustee Ian McCartney	2022	12/14/2021	Signatories

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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150

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 youth, 120 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.

.05

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.

on village property, on township property and on a bank private property

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

None in Union

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

to add an educational tool for the community to build their own gardens

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?

donated chips, soil, pots from volunteers

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

very successful. We hope to add more gardens and enlarge the 3 we have

Selected Action Items

Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

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Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.

Lechner Top Soil, Village of Union both helped out and donated materials or land

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.

Cody farmers.jpg

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

coral 3.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)

on Coral Twp land 6550 Olson Rd Union, on village land 17703 Ocock Rd Union, and Prairie Community Bank 18001 Jefferson St Union

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

donated concrete blocks from community leader, donated seed from volunteers, donated soil Lechner Top Soil Inc

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.

.05

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

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

mulch at Union Village.jpg

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

Union coral 2.jpg

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

MCHS FFA, Prairie Community Bank, Village of Union

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.

April 2022 Village mowers agreed to mow around our gardens

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