Village of Union

Union, IL

President Anthony Fredrickson

Pledge Summary

Union is a small village in McHenry County in Illinois. We are approximately 60 miles northwest of Chicago. We are known for the Illinois Railroad Museum and McHenry County Historical Society and Museum. We have been members of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge for several years and look forward to continuing do this for years to come. The gardens are beautiful and help make our community a place people want to visit.

Action Items Committed for 2026

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.)

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.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

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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.).

10

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.

-0.03

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.

Veterans Park

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

It is open to anyone who wants to help

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

Help keep the village looking good!

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?

Other people involved with the program.

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

Trying to get the weeds under control in the new garden

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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.)

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

When working in the garden, several people have stopped and asked questions. I encourage them to plan a monarch garden!

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

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)

in the Veterans Park which is across from a farmers field. 17703 O'Cock Rd. Union, IL

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

Mayor of Union

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.

0.02

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)

4

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

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One sign is at the garden at Prairie Community Bank - Jefferson St. Union The other 3 signs are at each garden located at Veteran Park in Union. One garden is by the village hall entrance. Another one is located by the Welcome to Union sign at the intersection of O'Cock Rd. and Main ST. The third sign is by the pump house. The signs tell that this is a monarch butterfly garden. The purpose is to protect the monarchs and help to keep them in existence.

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

other gardeners

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

in progress

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

it is an on going project. Always learning from others. A garden is never completed.

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