City Of Marengo

Marengo, IL

Mayor John Koziol

Pledge Summary

Marengo is a city located in northern Illinois with a population of approximately 7,500. The city is situated amongst farm and prairie land near the headwaters of the Kishwaukee River. Mayor John Koziol has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with the signing of the Mayor’s Monarch Pledge.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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.)
- 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

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

Systems Change

- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Mike Proffitt	2026	3/23/2026	
Mayor Mike Proffitt	2025	2/28/2025	Signatories
Mayor John Kozial	2024	3/18/2024	Signatories

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Mayor John Koziol	2023	3/22/2023	Signatories
Mayor John Koziol	2022	1/3/2022	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.).

500

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.)

250 youth 250 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

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.

City Property. Park District Property. Private business property

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

Park District property is near a low income housing area

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

To facilitate the growth of pollinator gardens and for the beatification of the city

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?

More grant money to fund signs, soil, general supplies

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

8 community members actively gardening with multiple support members.

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).

https://www.facebook.com/groups/593486818497089 This is the facebook group that we used to communicate among the volunteers. 148 community members actively shared expertise, ideas, volunteering, plants, seeds, time to create the 8 gardens in Marengo

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.

Marengo Park District hosts 3 sites, Thomas L Mazur Law Offices donated $500, City of Marengo hosts 3 sites, Marengo lawn maintenance company was supportive and mowed around the gardens

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

Lawn maintenance for City of Marengo and State Hwy mowing both agreed to mow around the gardens

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.

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

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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.

All the 8 gardens in Marengo incorporated milkweed and other native plants. We are using this fall's seed to reseed for more plantings in 2023

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:

March 15, 2022 passed by city council

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

City of Marengo Participant in Mayors Monarch Pledge on facebook page

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

MMP proclamation.docx

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2022 Marengo city agenda.docx

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2022 Marengo Pledge.docx

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.

Aug City Hall 1.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

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coordinates, if possible)

1 garden was by the main entrance to City Hall, and the other faced S Taylor St located at City Hall 132 E Prairie St Marengo, IL

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

Marengo Park District

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

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