Village of Algonquin

Algonquin, IL

Village President Debby Sosine

Pledge Summary

Algonquin is a town in the northwest suburbs of Chicago with a population of roughly 30,000. The city is nestled in the Fox River Valley and is home to over 250 acres of restored natural area. President Sosine of Algonquin, IL has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with the signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging the community in establishing more pollinator habitat throughout the Village.

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

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Village President Debby Sosine	2026	1/9/2026	

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Village President Debby Sosine	2025	1/10/2025	Signatories
Village President Debby Sosine	2024	3/31/2024	Signatories
Village President Debby Sosine	2023	2/17/2023	Signatories
Village President Debby Sosine	2022	1/6/2022	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.).

2000

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.)

500 youth 1500 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.

114.8

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.

Shared public spaces, parks

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

Algonquin does not have marginalized communities.

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

The Village of Algonquin invests in the ecological health of our open spaces to improve the quality of the environment and to provide ecosystem services to the community.

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?

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Access to additional funding through grants and other programs would be helpful to continue our work.

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

The Village of Algonquin hired a full-time Ecologist/Horticulturist in 2022 to manage the natural areas program and formal park plantings.

Selected Action Items

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:

6/7/2022

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

Pollinator Week

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2022.0607 VB Packet.pdf

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Pollinator Week Proclamation 2022.pdf

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

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

New development has been required to provide natural areas dedicated to the village that have been restored with established pollinator habitat.

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

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

__WTP3 RAIN GARDEN.pdf

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)

Rain Garden installation at our Water Treatment Plant #3. Garden located at 1000 Square Barn Road in Algonquin, IL.

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

Algonquin Public works Water Division.

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.

0.04

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.

In 2022, the Village performed active maintenance controlling weedy and invasive species from 344.8 acres of restored natural areas.

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.

The Village partners with multiple ecological contractors to perform maintenance on our restored sites. Activities include: prescribed burning, herbicide applications, mowing, and woody removal.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

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How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

18

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

Information is around native ecosystems, stream restoration, native species, pollinators, rain gardens. The village has 16 different types of natural area informational signage installed at multiple sites.

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.

Village of Algonquin Public Works and the Parks and Forestry Division participated.

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

The Village worked with our landscaping contractor to ensure naturalized areas were not mown and were left tall so that the native forbs were able to flower and provide benefits to our local pollinators.

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?

Local ecological contractors, our staff ecologist.

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.

Our natural areas maintenance plan is scheduled to be completed by 12/31/2023. This plan will formalize and integrate efforts across municipal divisions to create a robust, integrated, ecologically-focused, and budget conscious management plan for the 350 acres of restored natural areas that the Village actively maintains. This involves splitting up the

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village into three zones, and batching the work on a 3-year rotating schedule: 1st year- Prescribed burn and post-burn herbicide visit. Year 2- Intensive management through cultural, mechanical, and chemical treatments. Year-3 fallow. The plan will include target species, approved materials and methods as well as performance specifications.

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