Village of Wonder Lake

Wonder Lake, IL

President Dan Dycus

Pledge Summary

Wonder Lake, located twelve miles from the Wisconsin border in the northeast corner of Illinois, is one of the fastest growing small towns in the country. Our population surrounds an 800 acre lake and we are at the southern border of the Hack-Ma-Tact conservation site.

Action Items Committed for 2025

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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- 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

- 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.
- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
President Dan Dycus	2026	4/13/2026	

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u103:v1.14.0.49966]

President Dan Dycus	2025	3/5/2025	Leadership Circle
President Dan Dycus	2024	3/14/2024	Leadership Circle
Village President Anthony Topf	2022	1/26/2022	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.).

5

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.

.5

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.

yards

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

na

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

Unmanaged areas

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?

Village Public Works Dept has bee helpful, would like to get them more involved

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u103:v1.14.0.49966]

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

We have been a hoding pattern this past year.

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).

Village a website that includes the Pollinator Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Department (PHRED) that includes articles about Monarchs.

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.

Working with Wonder Lake Public Works to limit mowing in public areas.

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

Currently reviewing a boulevard that is difficult to mow, Public Works would like to turn this into native plants.

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.

Submitted a plan to the Village to move a creek to create an enlarged wetland and an upland slope that will be used to create a playground and a native plant site.

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u103:v1.14.0.49966]

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

0

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

0

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

0

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)

East Wonder Lake Rd and Oakwood Shores Dr

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

Village of Wonder Lake (PHRED)

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.

.5

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

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

2800 block of Birchwood, Hickory Rd at East Lake Shore Dr., Driftwood at East Lake Shore DR.

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u103:v1.14.0.49966]

250

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.

4

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Collect seed in the fall, add more plants in the spring.

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:

jan 1

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

Wonder Lake Monarch Proclamation

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Proclamation.docx

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)

8200 block of Wonder View Dr, Wonder lake

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

Nippersink Watershed Association

What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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.

1.5

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u103:v1.14.0.49966]

How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)

2

Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.

2025, ongoing

Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

Worked with the Nippersink Watershed Association, the Wonder Lake Master Property Owners Association, the Wonder View Property Owners Associaton,and the Meadows of West Bay Home Owners Association. We provided plant identification, wildflower plant plugs, and labor to help clear and plant.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u103:v1.14.0.49966]