City of Woodstock

Woodstock, IL

Mayor Michael Turner

Pledge Summary

Woodstock Illinois is home to about 25,000 residents and is located in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago. Mayor Turner committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge on February 7, 2023. The City of Woodstock, alongside it's residents and environmental ambassadors, look forward to engaging, educating, and advocating for more pollinator habitats throughout the city.

Action Items Committed for 2023

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 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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

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 Michael Turner	2026	2/11/2026	
Mayor Michael Turner	2025	1/28/2025	Signatories
Mayor Michael Turner	2024	1/9/2024	Signatories
Mayor Michael Turner	2023	2/8/2023	Signatories

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Mayor Michael Turner	2022	2/16/2022	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.).

100

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.)

80 adults, 20 youth

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 Parks and Community Gardens

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

N/A

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

Environmental Commission Initiative

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?

Community involvement

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

We've learned a lot and plan to pledge again next year!

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:

02/7/2023

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge Proclamation

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

F - 2023 Mayors Monarch Pledge Proc - Part 2 of 2 - Proclamation.pdf

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.

Community gardeners are ecouraged to participate in and are informed of the City's dedication to pollinator rehibilitation. The local University of Illinois extension group is provided a plot at the gardens site and in exchange they plant and maintain species that provide support for the pollinator's population.

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.

Uiniversity of Illinois, The Land Conservancy of McHenry County, Environmental Defenders, City of Woodstock Public Works, and the City of Woodstock's Environmental Commission.

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

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Public Works maitains and monitors the right of ways within the City as well as approximately 545 acres of City Parks. The Environmental Commission meets monthly along with the City's employee liason, the Director of Public Works. Additionally, the City maintains a service contract with The Land Conservancy to provide guidance and service for protected areas within the City.

Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

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

University of Illinois, The Land Conservancy, and Community Gardens participants.

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

200

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Specifically, new this year in 2023, nearly an acre of grassland/wetland was converted to protected prairie plants with the assistance of The Land Conservancy at the City's Raintree Park.

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?

University of Illinois, The Land Conservancy, and Community Gardens participants.

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.

The City of Woodstock and Environmental Commission are working towards becoming a recognized Tree City USA. Action item is listed as in progress as we have not enacted any new ordinances to support the change. Public Works staff have implemented changes including planting more milkweed at every opportunity. The only oridance changes specifically will come from Tree CIty USA requirements, including a tree maintenance

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ordinance currently being drafted by the Environmental Commission. The tree ordiance should be enacted 2024.

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