City of Woodstock

Woodstock, IL

Mayor Michael Turner

Pledge Summary

Woodstock, Illinois is home to approximately 25,000 residents and is located in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago. The City is home to 553 acres of parkland including developed parks, natural areas, community gardens and open spaces. Mayor Michael Turner is committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge on February 6, 2024. The City of Woodstock, alongside it's residents and environmental ambassadors, vow to continue engaging with our community to encourage pollinator habitat rehabilitation. 2024 marks the third year of Woodstock's commitment.

Action Items Committed for 2024

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.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

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

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

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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
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.)

25

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

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help expand equitable engagement in community processes and access to high-quality, usable nature?

Community involvement

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

We incorporated our pledge into the City's Parks Master Plan for continued support for years to come!

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:

1/9/24

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge Proclamation

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2024 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 encouraged to participate in and are informed of the City's dedication to pollinator rehabilitation. 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.

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University 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.

Public Works maintains 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 liaison, 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.

In 2024, Public Works continues to cultivate the newest addition of grass/wetlands consisting of prairie plants at Raintree Park.

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?

University of Illinois, The Land Conservancy, and Environmental Commission.

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 completed and adopted a new Parks Master Plan in November 2024. This 10-year guide will assist staff to continue developing greenspace and pollinator gardens for the

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community in coming years.

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).

As part of the Parks Master Plan, staff hosted multiple community engagement opportunities including focus groups, community surveys, and community workshops to solicit public input and participation in environmental initiatives, like the Monarch Pledge.

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