Village of Lake in the Hills

Lake in the Hills, IL

Village President Ray Bogdanowski

Pledge Summary

The Village of Lake in the Hills, Illinois is located in the far northwest suburbs of Chicago with a population of 28,982. Since 1952, Lake in the Hills has provided a high quality of life for its residents and businesses. The community is home to 34 parks, with the largest natural resource being the 240-acre Fen at Barbara Key Park. The Village's recreational programs focus on utilizing outdoor spaces to bring the community together throughout the year. Aligning with the Village's dedication to the preservation of our natural areas, Village President Ray Bogdanowski has demonstrated his commitment to creating or preserving pollinator habitats and educating citizens about how they can make a difference. With his signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, he encourages Village residents and staff to take steps to increase the planting of milkweed and nectar plants to preserve and strengthen the monarch butterfly population.

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 gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Village President Ray Bogdanowski	2026	4/27/2026	
Village President Ray Bogdanowski	2025	3/24/2025	Signatories

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Village President Raymond Bogdanowski	2023	2/6/2023	Signatories
Village President Ray Bogdanowski	2022	3/22/2022	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.).

300

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.)

200 adults; 100 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.

0.03

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.

Pollinator Garden at Sunset Park

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

Sunset Park is free to visit and accessible to all (both financially and physically). The pollinator garden is located on the southeast end of the park, near the playground. This placement was intentional so as to increase the exposure and visibility for park visitors.

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

In February 2022, President Bogdanowski joined the Mayors' Monarch Pledge to help save the monarch butterfly. Our community is committed to creating habitats for pollinators and educating residents about how they can support the monarch butterfly and other pollinators as they play a vital role in our ecosystem.

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?

The how-to guide and informational video have been helpful resources; Educational signage templates for posting at the site would be useful

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

Our 1,400 square foot garden features native plants recommended by the Land Conservancy of McHenry County.

Selected Action Items

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.

Pollinator Garden Communications.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)

Sunset Park (5200 Miller Road, Lake in the Hills, IL, 60156).

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

Village President Ray Bogdanowski, Village Administrator Shannon Andrews, and Public Works Director Tom Migatz joined Rotary Club members, Public Works staff, volunteers, and The Land Conservancy of McHenry County Community Engagement Specialist Sarah Michehl to install the garden.

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.

0.03

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.

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Date of Proclamation:

February 24, 2022

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

Mayors Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Pledge Day.pdf

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.)

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

Pollinator Week Campaign - June 2022.pdf

Please describe the methods of public communication below (e.g., printed materials, social media, print media).

As part of the PR campaign for Pollinator Week, various communication channels were utilized; this includes bi-weekly e-blasts (Resident Insider e-newsletter), electronic marquees, website article, print corrugated board sign, and social media outlets.

Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

The Village of Lake in the Hills partnered with the Rotary Club of Lake in the Hills and the Land Conservancy of McHenry County, in addition to community volunteers.

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and their monarch butterfly conservation efforts.

In 2021, the Rotary Club of Lake in the Hills joined Operation Pollination, which recognizes the importance of restoring and maintaining pollinator habitat on public and private lands. The Rotary Club planted its inaugural pollinator garden in Algonquin in May 2021. The

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Land Conservancy of McHenry County partners with the residents in and around McHenry County to preserve natural, scenic and agricultural land for the benefit and health of the whole community. Sarah Michehl, Community Engagement Specialist with The Land Conservancy of McHenry County, participated in the pollinator garden installation.

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