Village of Johnsburg

Johnsburg, IL

Village President Edwin Hettermann

Pledge Summary

Village of Johnsburg is a beautiful, quaint, and bustling community, the Village of Johnsburg, Illinois welcomes all to the neighborhood, monarch's too! There is something for everyone in our village. From gorgeous views along Pistakee Lake, amazing village parks for recreational activities, to afternoons laughing with friends and family in the backyard, our village is right where you want to be. With around 6,400 residents in the village, you have the opportunity to make great friendships and be part of a growing community. Our village is expanding economically and recreationally, but we'll never lose sight of our heritage, or give up our connection with nature or hometown values. Village President Edwin P. Hettermann and Trustee/Community Affairs Chair Beth Foreman has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building 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.
- 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 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.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing 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

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- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- 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

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- 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.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Village President Edwin Hettermann	2026	3/23/2026	
Village President Edwin Hettermann	2025	2/19/2025	Signatories
Village President Edwin Hettermann	2024	2/20/2024	Leadership Circle
Village President Edwin Hettermann	2023	3/29/2023	Signatories
Village President Edwin Hettermann	2022	3/23/2022	Leadership Circle

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.).

26

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.)

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26 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.

2

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.

Village owned Property/Parcels; N Lake Dawnwood Drive & Sandalwood Lane

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

Village is disseminating information via website; www.johnsburg.org

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

The Village will continue to make improvements and motivating other organizations to collaborate and improve site location.

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?

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County, Environmental Defenders of McHenry County and Boone-Dutch Creeks Watershed Alliance have been most helpful.

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

Without milkweed, Monarchs can't complete their life cycle and populations plummet. The Village during the Fall season planted 30% increase of milkweed seeds. The seeds won't germinate until spring because they require natural freezing and thawing to soften the seed coat so that the embryo plant can grow.

Selected Action Items

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

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

Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

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.

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.

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

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

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

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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?

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

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

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

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:

June 21, 2022

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

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Monarch Pledge.pdf

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.

The Village of Johnsburg Public Works and the McHenry Township. Johnsburg Friends of the Library.

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

Worked alongside The Land Conservancy of McHenry County mowing schedule, not to exceed six (6) times a year to increase germination of the plantings. The Johnsburg Library hosts a pollinator seminar and the importance of monarchs and bees to pollinations

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)

Village of Johnsburg Park (Parcel(s): 10-07-177-014, 10-07-177-015, 10-07-177-016 and 10-07-177-017)

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

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

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.

2

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?

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The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

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

200

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Two years worth of effort toward natural indigenous planting for pollination and support of monarch butterfly

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).

The Village of Johnsburg printed materials, issued bags of seeds through the Village Hall for customers/residents, social media posting via Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. We did not align this with any garden club. This was done during a community event and seed packets were available at the village hall during spring and early summer

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

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

Monarch Pledge.docx

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

The Johnsburg Community via handouts, and village website and electronic message boards We partnered with our Johnsburg library that is a monarch recording station. They held a pollinator event with a qualified pollinator expert affiliated with The McHenry County Land Conservancy https://www.johnsburg.org/blog/page/monarch-pledge-bringing-butterflies-johnsburg

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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

We partnered with the Johnsburg Library library as well as the Johnsburg Jr. High and High school to expand the pollinator habitat within our local community.

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

Running Brook Farm HOA - Northwest Property & Financial Management- They made an informal commitment to help preserve wild ways and thoroughfares by not mowing and preserving native habitat Johnsburg Farm Estates HOA

Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

in progress and improving. There is no completion date as this is an ongoing expansion process. We plan to expand the pollinator area. We currently have seeded only about 1/3 of the parcel that we have set aside as our village pollinator site. We will extend the area annually until the aproximate 3 acres site is fully tranistioned back to native and pollinator speciesy

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 Johnsburg partnered with the Friends of the Johnsburg Library pollinator group. We had an expert from the McHenry Conservation Organization who gave a presentation on different types of pollinators and the importance of preserving and creating habitats for different pollinators. Local gardening groups and individuals interested in pollinator gardens attended. The library group has also started their own pollinator garden

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

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The Land Conservancy of McHenry County McHenry Township Village of Johnsburg - Community Affairs Parks and Facilities Committee

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?

Johnsburg Public Library, Berkshire Apartment Development, McHenry Township, Walmart

What is the status of this action? Please limit your answer to either "complete" or "in progress" in the answer field below.

Complete

If this action is Complete, please include the date it was completed and share a 1-2 sentence description. Please include a copy of the policy by uploading or linking below.

6-22

If this action is In Progress, please describe your progress and a target date when you plan to complete action.

We have adopted a policy and not an official ordinance to address the preservation and establishment of new pollinator areas. We piggybacked off of our declaration to the Mayor's Monarch pledge and used this as a guiding principle.

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