

# 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 for the 3rd annual year! Approximately 7 miles from the Wisconsin border an easily accessible to both Milwaukee and Chicago, Johnsburg is highly sought out by those desiring a more rural lifestyle without sacrificing access to employment, shopping, dining and services. 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 Committee Chair Mike Fouke has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge for the 3rd annual consecutive year and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the Village. Further improvements including the resolution for "No Mow May" which adds to an environment-friendly practice that is on the rise in a move to help emerging insects and early season pollinators.

## 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.
- 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.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

## Systems Change

- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
- 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 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 (e.g., 50).**

2048

**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." (Only allow numerical values.)**

72

**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).**

2.5

**Where is your habitat being created? This may include residences (yards, containers, balconies, etc.), schools, places of worship, rights-of-way, roadsides, community gardens, culturally-significant locations, shared public spaces and common areas or parks.**

Village owned Property/Parcels; N Lake Dawnwood Drive & Sandalwood Lane; 1800 Block of Sunnyside Beach Dr; Johnsburg Library Front of Bldg and raised median and pork chop; Johnsburg Junior High School west Prairie Parking Lot area

**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](http://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(s).

**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, Environments 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 20% increase of milkweed seeds. The seeds won't germinate until spring because they require natural freezing and thawing to soften the seed to so that the embryo plant can grow.

## 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:**

22 February 2024

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

**Upload a copy of your proclamation.**

[Monarch Pledge.pdf](#)

**Upload a copy of your proclamation.**

[No Mow May.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.**

[Monarch Pledge.pdf](#)

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

[No Mow May.pdf](#)

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

[Final Cert's Production for Its Fox River Day 2024.pdf](#)

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

<https://www.johnsburg.org/bc-cac>;  
<https://www.johnsburg.org/community/page/%E2%80%9Cit%E2%80%99s-our-fox-river-day%E2%80%9D-certificate-appreciation-recognition>; <https://www.johnsburg.org/news>; &  
<https://www.johnsburg.org/calendar>

**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.**

Event and Expo's with Johnsburg Junior High School (Johnsburg Outdoor Club); Environmental Defenders of McHenry County; McHenry County Conservation District, Johnsburg Public Library, McHenry Township on natural open spaces, etc...Planting pollinator species and milkweed and encouragement on No Mow May Proclamation and standard practices to increase natural pollinators.

**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.**

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

[No Mow May.pdf](#)

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

Johnsburg Jr. High School & Johnsburg Outdoor Club Environmental Defenders of McHenry County McHenry County Conservation District Johnsburg Public Library McHenry Township Community Affair Committee - Parks and Facilities Village Parks Lead Foreman and Public Works

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

Maintenance implementation practices to increase pollinating, providing and exchanging seeds to increase natural wild flower and pollinator species with heavy emphasis on milkweed. Protocols and check-in on pollinator sites with the Land Conservancy of McHenry County and Environmental Defenders of McHenry County

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

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

[Article 6A - Requirements for Greenways, Landscape.pdf](#)

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

601A. Park, Recreation and Open Space Requirements; 601A. Park, Recreation and Open Space Requirements; 602A.1 Natural Resources Areas. The developer shall design and construct within any "Natural Resources Area", shown on aforementioned Plan

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

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

[Ord 24-25-05 Outdoor Lighting Regulations.pdf](#)

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

Village of Johnsburg Board of Trustees, developed from Ordinance Committee

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

Complete, part of Municipal Code

**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 August 2024

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

Complete, part of Municipal Code

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

**How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event?**

Given away; approx. 50-60 Plant seed packets at Expo's. Additional Seeding with entities worked with to increase pollinator species planted on Village Sites

**How many people attended your event?**

200

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

Environmental Defenders of McHenry County, The Land Conservancy of McHenry County and McHenry County Conservation District

**Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.**

**How many people attended your event?**

100

**What species were collected or propagated?**

natural / native wild flower species and emphasis on milk weed seeds from Conserv FS

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

Environmental Defenders of McHenry County and The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

**Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.**

Partnership and participation with The Land Conservancy of McHenry County and seeding event with McHenry County Conservation District

**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)**

N Lakedawnwood Dr & Sandalwood Lane, Village Parcels approx. 2 acres in partner ship with The Land Conservancy of McHenry County

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

Community Affiars Commitee - Parks and Facilities Team, The Land Conservancy of McHenry County and volunteers from Johnsburg Outdoor Club (JJHS)

**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.**

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?**

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County and Village Parks Lead Foreman Joe Kleinhanzl

**How many plants were planted?**

6

**Please describe your effort in completing this action.**

Six (6) seeding and overseeding of natural pollinator species of plants with extra emphasis on milkweed from local Conserv Fs

**Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.**

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

[Johnsburg Sign for Pollinator Site.pdf](#)

**How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located?**

2

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

Please see the signage with all the information displayed; Prairie plants provide a diversity of life and beauty to this area. Countless pollinators, birds, and other wildlife depend on their leaves, flowers, and stems for food and shelter throughout the year. Oak trees were planted throughout the park through The Land Conservancy of McHenry County's Project Quercus.

**Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.**

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

[No Mow May.pdf](#)

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

Community Affairs Committee and Village of Johnsburg Board of Trustees

**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.**

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Village President and Village Board of Trustees recognizes No Mow May to actively promote and educate the community about the critical period of pollinator emergence and the generation of crucial pollinator supporting early spring foraging opportunities.

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

Complete

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

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

[Article 6A - Requirements for Greenways, Landscape.pdf](#)

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

Village Board of Trustees

**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.**

The developer shall design and construct within any "Natural Resources Area", shown on aforementioned Plan, a greenway and pedestrian trail with the following specifications.

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

Complete and in action for Developments