

Village of Johnsburg

Johnsburg, IL

Village President Edwin Hettermann

Pledge Summary

The Village of Johnsburg is a beautiful, quaint, and thriving community that warmly welcomes all to the neighborhood; monarchs included, now for the fifth consecutive year. Located approximately seven miles from the Wisconsin border, Johnsburg offers convenient access to both Chicago and Milwaukee, making it highly desirable for those seeking a more rural lifestyle without sacrificing proximity to employment, shopping, dining, and essential services. There is truly something for everyone in our Village. From the scenic views along Pistakee Lake and well-maintained parks offering a variety of recreational opportunities, to relaxing afternoons spent with family and friends, Johnsburg is a place you'll be proud to call home. With a population of around 6,400 residents, our community fosters meaningful connections and the opportunity to build lasting friendships. As Johnsburg continues to grow both economically and recreationally, we remain committed to preserving our heritage, maintaining our connection to nature, and upholding our strong hometown values. Village President Edwin P. Hettermann and Trustee/Development & Government Affairs Chair Keith Von Allmen have reaffirmed their commitment to environmental stewardship by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge for the fifth consecutive year. This initiative supports efforts to protect monarch butterflies and other vital pollinators while encouraging residents to establish and maintain pollinator-friendly habitats throughout the Village. Additional environmentally conscious efforts include the adoption of "No Mow May," a growing initiative designed to support early-season pollinators and emerging insect populations by allowing natural lawn growth during the critical spring period.

Action Items Committed for 2026

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- 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.

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.

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 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).

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

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?

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).

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.

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

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.)

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

Selected Action Items

Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 acres). For reference, 1 acre = 43,560 square feet and is about the size of a football field without the end zones.

How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)

Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)

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

Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.

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.

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

How many people attended your event?

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

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

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)

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

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.

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

How many plants were planted?

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

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

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:

February 17, 2026

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

Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

[Final&Signed_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.

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

[Final&Signed_No Mow May.pdf](#)