Village of Lake Zurich

Lake Zurich, IL

Mr Tom Poynton

Pledge Summary

Lake Zurich is a suburban Chicago village with many natural areas, wetlands and oak woodlands that are wonderful habitats for monarchs and other pollinators. It also has residents, a village board and staff who are willing to help save the monarch. With the help of a local conservation group, milkweed and other pollinator plants are being distributed and planted. Frequent educational classes in environmentally friendly landscaping are presented. The Village supports the restoration of local natural areas to improve pollinator habitat. This is a community which cares about our local environment and the plight of the monarch.

Action Items Committed for 2021

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.

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.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mr Tom Poynton	2021	1/21/2021	

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.).

3.82

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.)

2000 youth, 20,000 live in this town

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.

0.25

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 parks, school yards

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

All programs are listed on our FB, email other social media

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

We love monarchs and our natural areas that sustain them

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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?

A local naturalist gives us advice

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

Anecdotally, residents are saying that they are seeing more monarchs. Would like to see some accurate stats.

Selected Action Items

Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.

Where are the medians, roadsides and public rights-of-way? (Please provide an address or coordinates, if possible, or describe the location)

We have not yet planted milkweed in any median, roadsides or rights of way but have planted on village owned park property

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

20

What is the total acreage of median and public right-of-way that has been planted with milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

20 bushels on about 20 acres

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

Our volunteers pull weeds and invasives and we advocate for prescribed burns as appropriate

Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation’s Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

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

2022 AOF programs through August.docx

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? If you are involved with another National Wildlife Federation program, please mention that below. (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

I've attached our program list for 2022

How many schools, community groups, leaders, or centers were engaged in this effort? How many of these collaborations and partnerships are "new"? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

0.06

Please list the names of the schools you are working with.

All the Schools in CUSD 95 are on our volunteer list.

What resources, if any, are you providing to educators?

All programs are listed on our FB, email other social media

How many students and educators would you estimate are being reached? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

2000

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

Barrington Area Council on Aging, Ela Area Public Library, Rotary Club of Lake Zurich, and Long Grove

How many acres of monarch and pollinator habitat have been planted through this effort? 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.

0.25

What is the maintenance schedule to ensure planted habitat is maintained?

We work with the Public Works Dept of the Village of Lake Zurich to advocate for prescribed burns and other maintainence

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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:

4 5 2021

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

Mayors Monarch pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Pledge.pdf

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.

KA planting sedges.jpg

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

The Ancient Oaks Foundation, a volunteer conservation organization in Lake Zurich, supplies pollinator plants for our volunteer group to plant.

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 is reluctant to allow the planting of more pollinator gardens if there is not a long term, committed group who will weed etc. Our volunteers do what they can and we have a good organization but there is a point at which you cannot add more areas without sacrificing future upkeep.

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

See above

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

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

The Malins at Oaktober 10 21.jpg

How many plants were sold and/or given away at your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

50 oak trees

How many people attended your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

40

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

Village of Lake Zurich

Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

Seed collecting 10.jpg

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

seed packets.jpg

How many people attended your event? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

10

What species were collected or propagated?

70 different species

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

We have volunteer workdays 2-3 days a month. Attendees include High school environmental club, HS Interact Club, National Honor Society, church groups, local garden clubs,

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

As part of our late summer/fall seed collection efforts on our regularly scheduled volunteer workdays. we collect seeds from up to 70 different native plants species, including 4 types of milkweed, from wetland, emergent, prairie, mesic and woodland species. We then clean, sort and mix them with a matrix. We then spread them on areas that have been newly cleared of invasives. We also distribute milkweeds seeds with planting instructions at any community event that we attend. We also give away milkweed and other pollinator seeds to any donor to the Ancient Oaks Foundation. Attached is a photo of those packets.

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.

MSN butterfly garden.jpg

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)

Lake Zurich Middle School North

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

A science class as part of a monarch unit.

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.

0.6

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

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

Insect Hotel Eagle project 2021.jpg

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

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0.12

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

There is signage about pollinators at many local parks. Attached is a photo of an Eagle Scout project- Insect Hotel with signage. We have placed many other nature based signs around Lake Zurich.

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?

https://lakezurich.org/DocumentCenter/View/10527/Ord-2020-09-377-Noxious-Weeds-Code-Update?bidId=

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

See above

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.

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