City of Springfield

Springfield, IL

Mayor James Langfelder

Pledge Summary

The City of Springfield is the capital of the great state of Illinois, with a population around 113,000. Springfield lies in a valley and plain near the Sangamon River, with its own Lake managed by City Water, Light & Power (CWLP). There are multiple public and private schools in Springfield. In an effort to be a more environmentally friendly city, Mayor Langfelder of Springfield, IL has committed to helping the monarch butterfly (our state insect) and other pollinators by their signing of the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and completing the action steps necessary to do so.

Action Items Committed for 2023

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- 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.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Misty Buscher	2026	1/30/2026	
Mayor Misty Buscher	2025	1/31/2025	Signatories
Mayor Misty Buscher	2024	3/11/2024	Signatories
Mayor James Langfelder	2023	2/3/2023	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.).

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u444:v1.14.0.49966]

700

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.)

500 youth and 200 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.

0.05

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.

Common areas

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

By participating at free events for the community that bring in diverse families throughout the city of various income.

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

Positive

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?

More free seed packets with variety beyond common.

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

The best efforts here are community outreach and seed dispersal. Its hard to maintain gardens of mass within an urban setting with no volunteers.

Selected Action Items

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

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u444:v1.14.0.49966]

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

EAF 2023 Poster.jpg

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

Over 250 native seeds

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

450

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

urban forestry commission, IEPA,IDNR, CWLP, and Henson Robison Zoo

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.

IPOLLINATE.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)

Located at 200 E Lake Shore Dr. Springfield IL 62712

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

University of Illinois Extension

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.

0.05

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u444:v1.14.0.49966]

Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

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

doc03241720230621144317.pdf

How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).

2

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

University of Illinois Extension

Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.

The IPollinate program is a citizen scientist effort to enumerate pollinators throughout Illinois. Below is the link to the program and its deliverables.
https://ipollinate.illinois.edu/tools-for-our-community-scientists/

Host or support a monarch butterfly festival that is accessible to all residents in the community and promotes monarch and pollinator conservation, as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

EAF 2023 Poster.jpg

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

Earth Stewardship Day -- QJ Form.pdf

How many estimated individuals attended the event? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field ((Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only), e.g. 500)

800

What was the date of your festival?

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u444:v1.14.0.49966]

4/22/2023 and 5/3/2023

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

IEPA and City of Springfield

Please describe the details of your monarch butterfly festival and how you ensured the event was accessible by all residents in the community (e.g., events, length, notable successes, outreach, location).

Earth Awareness Fair was a festival celebrating the Earth and conservation where we held a booth for the Monarch Butterfly, open to the public. Earth Stewardship day was an event where we held a booth for the Monarch Butterfly, open to the elementary and middle school district children to attend.

Created with the DynamicPDF Essentials Edition. [u444:v1.14.0.49966]