Village of Hebron

Hebron, IL

Village President of Hebron Robert Shelton

Pledge Summary

Hebron, Illinois is a rural village with a population of 1,386. The village is nestled on the stateline of Wisconsin and in the far north of McHenry County. We are primarily a farming community surrounded by the Hebron Township. Village President Robert Shelton has committed to saving the Monarch Butterfly and other pollinators by signing this pledge. He looks forward to engaging the community in building more pollinator habitats throughout the village.

Action Items Committed for 2023

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.
- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.

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

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- 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.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Village President Steve Morris	2026	1/14/2026	
Village President of Hebron Steve Morris	2025	1/19/2025	Signatories
Village President of Hebron Robert Shelton	2024	2/9/2024	Signatories
Village President of Hebron Robert Shelton	2023	3/21/2023	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.).

80

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.)

60 adults and 20 youth

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.

1

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.

At all four of our Village entrance signs

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

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Our activities are published on our Facebook as well as the marque at our local bank and flyers through out the village and businesses.

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

To add more natural habitat for our butterflies and pollinators. This benefits our local farmers as well

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?

I feel that making a connection with other Cities and villages has been a great network. Since this is our first year, in a community of 1300 people, I feel we will grown as more people become engaged.

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

I was able to pass a 'No Mow May' event. We shared seed pods with several businesses as a free seed swap. I created a Caterpillar named 'Millie' for children to paint rocks and add to, while engaging in conversation about how butterflies eat and 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:

March 27, 2023

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

I made an announcement during our Village Board meeting.

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Screenshot_20231122_101233_Word.jpg

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

mayor monarch pledge.pdf

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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.

Facebook Group Cover.png

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

Facebook Post (1).jpg

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

Facebook Post (3).png

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

Millie.png

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

Facebook Post copy 2 (1).png

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

sign1.jpg

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

sign2.jpg

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

sign3.jpg

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

sign4.jpg

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

20230825_141907.jpg

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

Board Comments, printed flyers, social media

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.

Unfortunately we do not have local garden clubs in the area. However I promoted pollinators on our Facebook page constantly.

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.

This was not completed this year. We are a very small community and have limited groups to participate.

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

We had three applications for participation in the No Mow May event

Create a community art project to enhance and promote 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.

20230825_141907.jpg

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

8 x 10 in (4).png

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

Our community art project was to create a converstaion about the importance of butterflies and caterpillars. This was for the communities to complete by painting a caterpillar body. We had approximately 40 rocks when completed.

How many individuals were engaged in this effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 50).

40

Please describe the community art project that was implemented in your community and how it contributed to cultural awareness and recognition (e.g., number of art installations, type of art).

The project was called "Millie the Caterpillar" It was designed to engage the youth and adults in conversations about Butterflies. Painted rocks were added to Millie's body. The community was able to watch Millie grow.

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.

Facebook Post copy 3.png

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

This was a seed drop off for the public to take free

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

20

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

none

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Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

20

What species were collected or propagated?

Common Milkweed

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

This was staged at 4 business and posted on our Facebook page

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

I added milkweed pods in a basket and delivered the basket to 4 business with a flyer enclosed in the previous questions

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.

Facebook Post (3).png

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)

At all four of our village signs

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

none

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.

.5

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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)

This action was not completed

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

0

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.

0

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

This action was not completed

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?

We did not complete this action. However we are planning this for next year

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

This action was not completed

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

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).

0

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

This action was not completed

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

This was not completed

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)

0.01

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

We did not complete this action.

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.

Facebook Post.jpg

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

None

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

Action completed at the end of May

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.

May 31, 2023

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

This action was done only for the month of may

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?

i made an announcement during our Village Board meeting.

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

The overall response was positive and I look forward to brining this up at our board meeting next year.

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.

none

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

This action was not completed

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