Village of Romeoville

Romeoville, IL

Mayor John Noak

Pledge Summary

The Village of Romeoville is proud to sign the Mayors' Monarch Pledge to promote our local Monarch population. As Mayor, I recognize the importance of maintaining this species and will focus on preserving and growing their ecosystems throughout our community. Myself, the Village Board and our almost 40,000 residents are committed to protecting this iconic North American species by planting a Monarch waystation on Village property and by encouraging and educating our residents to increase these efforts community wide. Our Village feels that through thoughtful and meaningful change, we can make a difference for these native and beautiful Monarchs to thrive in and around our community.

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 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.
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

Systems Change

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

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Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor John Noak	2026	3/2/2026	
Mayor John Noak	2025	1/29/2025	Leadership Circle
Mayor John Noak	2024	3/26/2024	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.).

3200

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.)

250

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.

.5

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.

We are encouragining residents to plant in their yards, schools, parks, and new residential developments.

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

We are using Social Media posts and information on our website to reach everyone in the community.

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

We recognize the importance of maintaining this species and will focus on preserving and growing their ecosystem. Our Village feels through thoughtful and meaningful change, we

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can make a difference for these native and beautiful Monarchs to thrive in and around our community.

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?

Existing programs to help offset costs.

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

We started a new Conservation & Sustainability Commission, inventoried all the Village Monarch Waystations. Ordered new informational Monarch Waystaion signs to post at each site. We are working on programs for next year to help increase resident awarness.

Selected Action Items

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.

Free Plant Voucher 2024.pdf

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

Native Plant Sale.png

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

11,402 plants, trees and shrubs

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

1500

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

Nature Foundation of Will County

Engage with city parks and recreation, public works, sustainability, and other relevant staff to identify opportunities to revise and maintain

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mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.

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

Romeoville Recreation Department, Romeoville Public Works Department, V3 Companies.

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

The Village worked with V3 to add all the monarch habitats to their inspection/maintenance reports. They plan to sow in more Milkweed seed in areas that are deficient. After a controlled burn they plan to reseed and be mindful of the seed mix.

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

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

Village staff is working with developers, such as the most recent Edward Rose and Sons development on the final development plans for the residential project that includes 708 senior and multi-family units on 69 acres. The plans include 5 Monarch butterfly waystations. The development will be called Monarch Grove.

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.

3-30 social media.jpg

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

6-24 social media.jpg

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

7-28 social media.jpg

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

The Village created several Social Media posts in addition to providing information on our Website.

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 20, 2024

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

Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Monarch Pledge.pdf

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?

V3, Edward Rose & Sons, and Valley View School District

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

in progress

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

We are working on Ecological Management with V3 to ensure adequate plantings. Also, we are working with Edward Rose & Sons on their new development to include 5 Monarch Waystations and the school district to incorporate additional Monarch Waystations.

Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.

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

Conservation Park - Butterfly Garden.jpg

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

Rain Garden.docx

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)

Consertation Park, 524 Belmont Dr., Romeoville, IL 60446

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

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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.

0.25

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