

Village of Port Barrington

Port Barrington, IL

Village President Keith Vogeler

Pledge Summary

The Village of Port Barrington is a small town nestled in the Fox River Valley (pop. 1584, 2020 Census) approximately 45 miles from Chicago. Established in 1927 and incorporated in 1969, this recreational community has walking, biking and snowmobile trails, boating, fishing, and several parks and marinas within its boundaries. The Fox River Preserve of the Lake County Forest Preserve District is also within the boundaries of Port Barrington, offering its own marina, pavilions, and connecting trails for more outdoor enjoyment. The Village maintains its status as Tree City U.S.A. and Bee City U.S.A. and has incorporated many pollinator-friendly gardens into its stormwater management program. Two new bioswales that were excavated last year have been planting with native, pollinator-friendly species this spring of 2025. Port Barrington works to spread the word about good stewardship of habitat for monarch butterflies through many activities incorporated all year long. By signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, the Village of Port Barrington furthers its commitment to monarch and pollinator conservation.

Action Items Committed for 2025

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- 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

- Create a community art project to enhance and promote monarch and pollinator conservation as well as cultural awareness and recognition.
- 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 gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters, other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
VILLAGE PRESIDENT KEITH VOGELER	2026	4/28/2026	
Village President Keith Vogeler	2025	3/10/2025	Signatories
Village President Keith Vogeler	2024	3/28/2024	Signatories

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).

.5

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

Native monarch habitats tie well into our stormwater management efforts which are well received by our residents. It is important to sustain diverse habitat, including that of the monarchs.

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?

Local native plant sales were beneficial in both staff education and as a resource for referrals to residents.

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).

150

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.

New habitat was completed adjacent to our Public Works building one more pollinator garden was started at residents' homes. All our other Village gardens have received some new plugs/seeds and TLC!

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

The Pledge information was available in our newsletter sent to all homes in our Village. (pop 1584) Giveaways promoting pollinator awareness were provided to all attending community events, which are free to residents.

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.)

75

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

Our Mayor's Monarch Pledge was celebrated during Pollinator Week with give-aways, a coloring contest, signage and dedication of our new native pollinator plant bioswales!

Selected Action Items

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.

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

Public Works employees were involved in planning & planting of new bioswales in our Hermann Park. These bioswales were engineered to handle stormwater runoff from the new Public Works building and have been planted with native pollinator plants. Spring of 2024 saw the excavation of these swales with under seeding that fall. In summer of this year, native plant plugs were added in both the shaded and sunny swales. Our Public Works Team maintains their natural mowing plan in Village parks without unnecessary fertilization, pesticides or herbicides.

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

[Public Works Building Bioswale Plant List.docx](#)

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

[IMG_3384.jpg](#)

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

Four entities participated--Public Works, Village R.E.C. Committee, Office Staff, Board of Trustees

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.

[2025 COLORING CONTEST.jpg](#)

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).

Our Spring Egg Hunt was the perfect time for a coloring contest promoting the upcoming 2025 Pollinator Week!

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

Village R.E.C. Committee, Village Board & Staff, Residents of Port Barrington

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

40

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)

Port Barrington has many small pollinator gardens that it maintains throughout the Village--8 around Village buildings, Hermann Park shoreline, 3 at other parks. The gardens located around the Village Hall are the most visible. Lovely and educational signage is maintained for the public.

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

Village employees, Board of Trustees, Village R.E.C. Committee members, community volunteers

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

[SUN GARDEN SIGN PHOTO.jpg](#)

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

[Leave leaves sign 2.jpg](#)

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.

.25

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

How many plants were planted?

812

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

[2019 6 VILLAGE HALL 2.jpg](#)

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

[1731884855283.JPG](#)

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

[IMG_7759.jpg](#)

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

[2025 RAIN GARDEN VH.jpg](#)

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Many plugs were planted in our two new bioswales in Hermann Park, supplementing the under seeding done last fall. Plugs were also used as "fillers" in pollinator gardens elsewhere in our Village.

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

Village Trustees

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located?

6

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

Educational signage for garden containing pollinator-friendly plants around Village Hall buildings include -flag pole garden -Village Hall rain garden -parking lot rain garden -sunny pollinator garden -milkweed tract Some of the above signs were purchased:
<https://www.pulsedesign.com/outdoor-interpretive-signs-pollinator-garden-insects-monarch-butterfly-bee-native-flower-plants-guide>
https://gifts.xerces.org/?_gl=1*dtjuqe*_gcl_au*NjEzMzA4OTgxLjE3NjM0ODgxNTg.*_ga*MTY5NTI0ODU4NC4xNzQxODAyNjQy*_ga_4H43V6TS1Y*czE3NjM0ODgx

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

[CORNER GARDEN - BEFORE.jpg](#)

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

[2025 RAIN GARDEN VH.jpg](#)

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

[70715590702_366B8BC1-BC7D-4FF2-A0DF-D51C3C91A525.jpg](#)

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

[PARKING LOT GARDEN SIGNAGE.jpeg](#)

Engage with gardening leaders and partners (e.g., Master Naturalists, Master Gardeners, Nature Centers, Native Plant Society Chapters , other long-standing and influential community leaders) to support monarch butterfly conservation.

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

Village of Port Barrington hosted a presentation for Village residents and HOAs given by Citizens for Conservation to show the benefits of native landscaping around the home. www.citizensforconservation.org

Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and their monarch butterfly conservation efforts.

"Citizens for Conservation (CFC) is a volunteer-based nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving and restoring the natural environment that once covered northeastern Illinois. CFC is based in Barrington, Illinois. To date they have worked to protect and restore 732 acres across 14 preserves, in addition to supporting regional restoration initiatives. CFC proactively preserves and restores land with the help of dedicated volunteers and donors who want to protect the health and beauty of the land for future generations. They also work within the community and the region to foster good environmental ethics and practices. Their efforts benefit native plants and animals and enhance ecosystem services such as groundwater protection, flood and erosion control, and carbon storage." They also promote "Habitat Corridors" and will do home visits to support this initiative.