City of Quasqueton

Quasqueton, IA

Mayor Joe Miller

Pledge Summary

Quasqueton is a city in eastern Iowa with a population of roughly 570. The city is nestled alongside the Wapsipinicon River and is home to the beautiful Veteran's Memorial Park and Campground located on the banks of the river. Veteran's Memorial Park and Campground and other community gardens are wonderful pollinator habitats. Mayor Miller of Quasqueton, Iowa has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators with their signing of the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the city.

Action Items Committed for 2026

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.

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

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.

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- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Mayor Joe Miller	2026	2/5/2026	
Mayor Joe Miller	2025	2/17/2025	Signatories
Mayor Joe Miller	2024	3/30/2024	Leadership Circle

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.).

50

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.)

5

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.

Campground, residences, rights of way

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

Providing community activities free of cost to participants

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

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Support pollinator habitats that play a critial role in sustaining both nature, food web and human society

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 resources providing seed for community activities and local residents participating in creating pollinator habitats. More resources for free materials to host community activities. More publicity for events.

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

We are reaching out to our community for participation and have great local support in the grand effort to save pollinators and create and provide habitats for them to be established in our community. We need to establish larger areas publically visable.

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:

12/08/2025

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

May as Milkweed for Monarchs Month

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

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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.

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

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

Social media posts are shared on the City's Facebook page on progress of the city's pollinator habitats, pollinator events, and communication to public to encourage participation.

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.

Screenshot 2026-11-03 132153.png

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

Quasky Garden Club ensures the milkweed is maintained and re-established each season in the city flower bed. The garden club also plants flowers for the pollinators to feed on.

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.

Public Works department, parks recreation department, parks campground department, city council members

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

Public works and the parks departments are aware of the pollinator habitats established on city land, and they help to sustain the areas by no spraying herbicides, now mowing certain areas and allowing native plants to thrive with already established pollinator plants in them. City council member have collected milkweed seeds to provide for the milkweed community participation events. City Council member has established entire right of way into milkweed habitat and not mowing the area.

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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.

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

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

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

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

30

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

11

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

City Clerk helped host the event through the City.

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.

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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

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coordinates, if possible)

City Hall flower garden, 113 N Water St, Quasqueton, IA

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

City Clerk and Quasky Garden Club

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.

0.10

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

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

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

Screenshot 2026-11-03 133409.png

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

714 E Linn St, Quasqueton, IA; 204 N River Dr, Quasqueton, IA - Veterans Memorial Park and Campground.

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.

.1

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

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No maintenance unless area not thriving.

Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

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

City Clerk

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.

Ordinances may not be updated, however, the city clerk is educated and well aware of what a pollinator habitat looks like compared to other overgrown weeds.

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?

Public Works and Parks Department

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.

Progress of establishing areas to include native plants, shrubs or trees. Target date of Spring 2027.

Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.

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

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Public Works and Parks Department

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

Complete

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.

2026 - no use of pesticides in the campground area. No policy was written or approved, the action of non use of pesticides is just taken by the departments.

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