Village of Trout Valley

Trout Valley, IL

Village President Robert Baker

Pledge Summary

Trout Valley is a small village, but it is an area of outstanding beauty and of historical importance having been planned by Jens Jensen, the famed landscape designer. Through the activities of our Conservancy Board, we are committed to preserve, restore and enhance the beauty of our natural areas. We are home to a fen, and actively maintain its wetlands, native plants and local wildlife. The Mayor's Monarch Pledge is consistent with these aims and will add focus to the existing efforts to support native species.

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 community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.

Program and Demonstration Gardens

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

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Village President Robert Baker	2026	2/4/2026	
Village President Robert Baker	2025	4/17/2025	Signatories
Village President Robert Baker	2024	4/29/2024	Signatories

Action Items

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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.).

75

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.)

0

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.

0.5

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.

Community garden beds

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

Hopefully marginalized communities will be inspired by Trout Valley's Mayors' Monarch Pledge

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

Our love of nature, which is the main reason why the majority of residents move to Trout Valley moved here in the first place

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?

The Land Conservancy of McHenry County have been most helpful in establishing our pollinator gardens.

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

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Signing the Monarch Butterfly Pledge has encouraged residents to establish their own pollinator gardens at their homes.

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:

May 11, 2024

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

Monarch Day

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

2024 Pledge.pdf

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.

Wildflower Prservation Walk on May 11, 2024.jpg

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

The Village of Trout Valley maintains a Trout Valley Nature Conservancy page on Facebook and also has a weekly electronic newsletter to inform residents of the importance of maintaining monarch butterfly habitat.

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.

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The Village of Trout Valley has a Nature Conservancy Group that we engage with electronically. https://www.troutvalleyil.com/nature-conservancy.html

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.

Pollinator Garden 1.jpg

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

Pollinator Garden 2.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)

The demonstration garden is located at the Trout Valley Lodge, One Howard Way, Trout Valley, Illinois 60013 Coordinates 421132.6N 881502.2W

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

Trout Valley Nature Conservancy Group

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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