Village of Trout Valley

Trout Valley, IL

Village President Robert Baker

Pledge Summary

The Village of Trout Valley is a small community in northeast Illinois and has a population of approximately 500 residents. The Village is situated on the banks of the Fox River and is heavily wooded with natural landscapes and a nine-acre natural Fen. The Village maintains multiple pollinator gardens on public land

Action Items Committed for 2026

Communications and Convening

- 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.)

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

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

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.).

200

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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.

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.

Indivual residences and roadsides throughout Trout Valley

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?

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

Selected Action Items

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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.

Planting of Bed B at the Barn.jpg

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

Communication is primarily through the weekly Trout Valley electronic newsletter and the Facebook page "Trout Valley Nature Conservancy"

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.

Arbor Day tree sapling.jpg

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

20

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

10

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

None

Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

What is the total acreage of land treated to remove invasive plants? Note: 1 acre = roughly the size of a football field.

1 acre

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Please describe the extent of revisions or maintenance to invasive species removal programs, as well as the practices or techniques used to remove the invasive plants.

Removed phragmites from the Fen. Trout Valley contracted with Tallgrass Restoration to hand wick the phragmites with herbicide.

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