Village of Buffalo Grove

Buffalo Grove, IL

Village President Beverly Sussman

Pledge Summary

This past year we continued to plant milkweed as directed by Jeff Weiss in conjunction with the BG public works projects. I spoke to Rotary in Glenview, and held several zoom meetings with Sierra Club Woods & Wetlands group subcommittee called Milkweed for Monarchs Campaign. We have partnered with other Monarch groups locally, both in meetings and activities. Northwest Cook County Sierra Club and Ancient Oaks foundation are two of these groups we associate with, along with providing plants and material by Monarch Joint Venture bookmarks and brochures for handouts at events. Milkweed seed packets were supplied by me and handed out at Farmers Markets in various communities and the Green Fair in BG. Monarch butterfly/pollinator gardens were planted by us at 6 locations in the area supported by the Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council environmental social committee which I lead. Prairie restoration, including seed collection, cleaning and redistribution lead again by Jeff Weiss helped other areas be restored for pollinator and butterfly habitat. All together we can say 8-10 Action items were addressed in the NWF Monarch Pledge program.

Action Items Committed for 2022

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.)
- 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.

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.
- Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and

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pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

Systems Change

- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

Past Pledge Archive

Mayor Name	Program Year	Pledge Date	Achievement
Village President Eric Smith	2025	12/9/2024	Leadership Circle
Village President Eric Smith	2024	3/29/2024	Leadership Circle
Village President Beverly Sussman	2023	3/21/2023	Leadership Circle
Village President Beverly Sussman	2022	1/14/2022	
Village Manager Dane C. Bragg	2021	2/19/2021	

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.).

40000

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.)

30000 adults 10000 children

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.

Yards, Rights of Ways, and Public Spaces

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

Adding pollinators and native plants in public parks and rights of ways.

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

It is the right thing to do.

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?

Best practices

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

n/a

Selected Action Items

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.)

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

Maintain communication for resident planting thru BG newsletter and social media

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.

Tom Milas forestry manager and Jeff Weiss for continued projects in village

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

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Tom Milas forestry manager and Jeff Weiss for continued projects in village

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.

discussions on projects outside of village and participate in planting for Monarch conservation

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

discussions on projects outside of village and participate in planting for Monarch conservation

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)

Maintain several areas around Village Hall, park buildings with Waystation signage.

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

BG Monarchs

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.

1

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

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

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Monarch butterfly/pollinator gardens were planted by us at 6 locations in the area supported by the Northwest Suburban Interfaith Council environmental social committee which I lead. Prairie restoration, including seed collection, cleaning and redistribution lead again by Jeff Weiss helped other areas be restored for pollinator and butterfly habitat.

How many milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

1000

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.

As needed

Launch or maintain an outdoor education program(s) (e.g., at schools, after-school programs, community centers and groups) that builds awareness and creates habitat by engaging students, educators, and the community in planting native milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Schoolyard Habitats program and Monarch Mission curriculum).

What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? If you are involved with another National Wildlife Federation program, please mention that below. (Please include a link to the program, if possible)

Milkweed for Monarchs Campaign

How many schools, community groups, leaders, or centers were engaged in this effort? How many of these collaborations and partnerships are "new"? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

50

Please list the names of the schools you are working with.

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What resources, if any, are you providing to educators?

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Seeds and brochures

How many students and educators would you estimate are being reached? Please limit your answer to only number of adults and youths engaged in the answer field (e.g., 200 students and 20 educators).

50

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

Sierra Club Woods & Wetlands group

How many acres of monarch and pollinator habitat have been planted through this effort? 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.

1

What is the maintenance schedule to ensure planted habitat is maintained?

as needed

Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.

How many garden signs are being displayed and where are they located? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

3

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

information about the monarch and is habitat

Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).

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

Sierra Club Woods & Wetlands group

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

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in progress

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

it will continually be done

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?

Buffalo Grove Public Works 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.

it will continually be evaluated and encouraged

Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.

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

100

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

1000

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

Seed giveaway at Farmer's Market, Libraries, schools, by mail, etc.

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