Village of Richmond

Richmond, IL

Village President Toni Wardanian

Pledge Summary

Richmond is a village in McHenry County (Northeastern Illinois) with a population of 2,089. The high quality North Branch of Nippersink Creek and the recreational Prairie Trail run through the village which also has a number of public parks. Richmond is also the gateway community to the Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge. Village President Toni Wardanian has committed to saving the monarch butterfly and other pollinators by signing the Mayors' Monarch Pledge and looks forward to engaging residents in building more pollinator habitat throughout the village.

Action Items Committed for 2025

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.

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.

Systems Change

- 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
Village President Toni Wardanian	2026	1/13/2026	Signatories
Village President Toni Wardanian	2025	3/27/2025	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

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number of individuals reached in the answer field below (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only.).

2089

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.

0.01

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.

McConnell Park

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

Choosing programs and projects that are free and open to the public.

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

To promote Monarch preservation.

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?

Free educational materials to distribute and guides for introductory projects.

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

Has been met with widespread positive responses and motivation in the future to continue programming..

Selected Action Items

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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:

June 5, 2025

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

Village of Richmond Pollinator Week June 15-22, 2025

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

PRO#2025-05; Village of Richmond Pollinator Week June 15-22, 2025.pdf

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.

IMG_0894.JPG

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

IMG_0901.JPG

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

IMG_0903.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)

5200 Nippersink Drive, Richmond IL 60071

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

Small Waters Education and Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge

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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.

0.01

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

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

Bat House installed at McConnell Park June 7, 2025.jpg

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

Bat Houses installed at McConnell Park, June 7, 2025.jpg

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

Troop 340 Boy Scouts

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.

Saturday, June 7, 2025. Installation of Bat Houses and elimination of mosquito spraying.

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