Village of Richmond

Richmond, IL

Village President Toni Wardanian

Pledge Summary

Richmond is a village located 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 2026

Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

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.

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 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

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

To promote Monarch habitat and education

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?

PDF educational pamphlets and attendance at NWF Network-Wide Webinars

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.).

2089

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.

n/a

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

All programs are open and available to everyone

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.)

400

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

This year's goals focus on education outreach and supporting a vast network of home-grown habitats

Selected Action Items

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

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

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500

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

None

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

Seed Giveaway Packets and Brochures.jpeg

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

Seed Giveaway Packets.jpg

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

100

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:

September 17, 2026

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

Village of Richmond Mayor's Monarch Pledge Day October 3, 2026

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

PRO#2026-06; Village of Richmond Mayors' Monarch Pledge Day October 3, 2026.Fully Executed.pdf

Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

How many plants were planted? (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only)

0

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

5.5.26 McConnell Park Pollinator Garden Initial Maintenance After Photo.JPEG

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

McConnell Park Pollinator Before Maintenance on 5.5.26.jpg

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

McConnell Park Pollinator After Maintenance 5.5.26.JPEG

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

McConnell Park Pollinator Garden Initial Maintenance 5.5.26.JPEG

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

McConnell Park Pollinator Garden After Maintenance 5.5.26.JPEG

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

FallCleanup2026.jpg

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Volunteers worked to clean up previous year installation of Pollinator Garden and maintained

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

Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge and Small Waters Education

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)

1

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

Educational information includes a variety of plant images and native botanical names of species that help in the pollination process, as well as provide suggestions for visits to plant their own pocket refuge. The QR code offers additional links to more information on pollinators.

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

PocketRefugeSigninstalln.jpg

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

PRPGinterpretivesign.jpg

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

PRPG2signs.jpg

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