Village of Richton Park

Richton Park, IL

Village President Rick Reinbold

Pledge Summary

Richton Park, IL is a wonderful place to start a family, open a business, entertain, and create a quality of life that's fulfilling and satisfying. The opportunities are endless, and we are aggressively growing to match those opportunities and goals. Richton Park is a place that you can call "Your Home." It is Richton Park's priority to provide vibrant, effective, high-quality services that foster safety, quality of life, and economic vitality throughout our community. The Village of Richton Park recognizes that human health ultimately depends on well-functioning ecosystems, and that bio-diverse regions can better support food production, healthy soil, air quality and also foster health connections between humans and wildlife. For this reason we are looking to establish a commitment to local, state and national efforts that protect and conserve habitats for pollinators like the Monarch Butterfly. Our efforts will assist our community in establishing a greater connection between residents and wildlife in general.

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.
- 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.
- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

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.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.

Systems Change

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- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.
- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.
- 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
President Richard Reinbold	2026	12/9/2025	
Village President Rick Reinbold	2025	3/28/2025	Leadership Circle

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.).

5700

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.)

80

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.

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 Gardens, Resident Yards

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

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We are partnering with our local high schools to provide opportunities for students to participate in our year round efforts to enhance the community through planting flowers and other beautification efforts

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

The village of Richton Park has a vested interest in implementing evironment friendly programs to benefit our local ecosystem, also to beautify the community.

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 previous examples of actions plans used was helpful and were good examples to follow. Another resource that can be utilized for the future would be to connect with other Monarch Friendly communities to identify opportunities for partnership. Also having environment organization educate youth on Monarch Butterflies and their importance to the environment.

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

We have designed a strategic plan to assist in our future community engagement regarding the program and outreach efforts to the community.

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:

03/21/2025

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

Mayors Monarch Butterfly Pledge

Upload a copy of your proclamation.

Mayors Monarch Butterfly Pledge-Proclamation 2025.pdf

Launch or maintain a public communication effort to encourage residents to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods. (If you

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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.

MMP Program 2025.jpg

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

We utilized social med and also marketed program at our local village events. We also provided information in our village newsletter.

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

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

Clean Up Day pic 3.jpg

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

Clean Up Day Pics.jpg

Please describe the groups you engaged with and how you engaged with these groups below.

Local Sororities and organizations in our area, such as Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and Local Amazon facility employees, also resident groups in our community.

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)

Demonstration garden is located at the Richton Park Village Hall's garden area. This location is important because various village event for the youth and community are held in this area.

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

Our Village Human Relations Commission and Friends of Richton Park and our Village Board of Trustees.

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.

12

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)

4445 Sauk Trail Richton Park, IL. 60471

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

25

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.

8ft by 12 ft

Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.

twice monthly

Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.

How many community organizations and groups participated? Please list them below.

6 groups as of right now, we will be conducting outreach to other organizations to identify future collaboration.

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

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Community group will meet on designated days during the warmer months to plant additional monarch friendly plants, also during our Village Clean Up Days, which consist of planting and parks grounds maintenance.

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

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

Community Commissions and Committees. Such as our Senior Citizen Advisory Committee, Human Relations Commission and Sister Cities Committee.

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

20

Please describe your effort in completing this action.

Coordinated volunteers for the event and also invited outside organizations to participate as well.

Launch, expand, or continue an effort to change municipal planting ordinances and practices to include more native milkweed and native nectar producing plants at city properties.

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

Village Board of Trustees and Village 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.

Village board will be revisiting planning for future milkweed planting and other monarch friendly plants.

Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city’s Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.

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

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Village Board of Trustees and Village 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.

Board will be reviewing information for the future to add to village policies.

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?

Village Board of Trustees and Village 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.

In Progress , tentative completion date will be 08/30/26

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

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

Public Works Director

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 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.

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N/A

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

Village Public Works department is reviewing information, with a tentative completion date of 8/30/25

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