# Village of Glen Ellyn

Glen Ellyn, IL

Village President Jim Burket

## Pledge Summary

Glen Ellyn is a welcoming, engaged community where people want to live thanks to our vibrant downtown, diverse cultural offerings and exciting recreational opportunities — all provided in a safe, attractive environment for residents and visitors. Our mission is to support a high quality of life in Glen Ellyn. Supporting a healthy environment is an essential component of this mission, and this is accomplished through increased adoption of sustainable landscaping practices that support both people and pollinators. Over the last decade, the Village of Glen Ellyn has taken steps to set an example for supporting the Monarch butterfly and other pollinators on municipal and park district lands.

## Action Items Committed for 2025

### Communications and Convening

- Engage with Homeowners Associations (HOAs), Community Associations or neighborhood organizations to identify opportunities to plant monarch gardens and revise maintenance and mowing programs.
- Engage with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
- Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.
- 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 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.
- Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.
- 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.

### Program and Demonstration Gardens

- Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.
- Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support

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community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.
- Display educational signage at monarch gardens and pollinator habitat.
- Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
- Plant milkweed and pollinator-friendly native nectar plants along roadsides, medians, or public rights-of-way.
- Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).
- Host or support a native seed or plant sale, giveaway or swap.
- 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).
- Plant or maintain a monarch and pollinator-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent or culturally significant community location.
- Add or maintain native milkweed and nectar-producing plants in gardens in the community.
- Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
- Launch, expand, or continue an invasive species removal program that will support the re-establishment of native habitat for monarch butterflies and other pollinators.

### Systems Change

- Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.
- 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.
- Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
- Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.
- Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.
- Reduce or eliminate the use of herbicides, pesticides, or other chemicals that are harmful to monarchs and pollinators and urban wildlife.
- Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

## Past Pledge Archive

| Mayor Name | Program Year | Pledge Date | Achievement |
|---|---|---|---|
| Village President Jim Burket | 2026 | 3/2/2026 | |
| Village President Jim Burket | 2025 | 11/24/2025 | Monarch Champions |

## Action Items

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**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

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

To provide ongoing support for pollinators and to set an example, in order to inspire others to do the same.

**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?**

Partnerships with organizations such as The Conservation Foundation have been very helpful

**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.).**

300

**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.**

Municipal gardens, community parks and natural areas, roadside gardens, single and multi-family residences, places of worship, and commercial land.

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

While Village communications seek to reach and engage all residents in the community, garden installations seek to reach across Village geographies so that all residents can benefit from beautified public spaces.

**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.)**

150

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

In the past year, Glen Ellyn has accelerated efforts to create pollinator habitat. The results we celebrate were made possible through partnerships with community organizations. We look forward to ongoing collaborations in the coming year.

# 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.)

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

GE Enews C@H Promotion.png

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

To encourage residents to adopt sustainable landscaping and to create pollinator habitats, the Village of Glen Ellyn promotes The Conservation Foundation's "Conservation @ Home" program and "Sustainable Yard Tour" through the Village's weekly e-newsletter and social media during summer months. As of January 2025, 60 yards have been certified in Glen Ellyn, along with habitat in municipal and park district garden beds. Glen Ellyn promotes sustainable landscaping through the Village website, connecting residents with third-party resources: https://www.glenellyn.org/847/Sustainable-Landscaping.

## Convert vacant lots to monarch habitat.

**What is the total acreage of land that has been converted? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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

**How many lots were converted to monarch habitat? Please limit your answer to only the number of lots in the answer field below (e.g., 3)**

1

**Where is the monarch habitat located? (Please provide an address, if possible)**

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453 Forest Ave, Glen Ellyn, IL

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

In progress

**Please describe when the lots were converted to monarch habitat and the planned maintenance schedule.**

The Village of Glen Ellyn purchased commercial land with the intent to create a downtown park, with plans to incorporate sustainable landscaping and pollinator habitat. In 2025, the site was cleared; implementation is planned in future years. More information: https://www.geparksfoundation.org/about

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

**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.**

As municipal gardens are converted to sustainable, pollinator-friendly gardens, pesticide use is naturally reduced. Glen Ellyn has plans in future years to convert more turf to gardens, which will further reduce the use of pesticides in municipal maintenance.

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

Forestry Department and Environmental Commission

## Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.

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

1

**Please describe the milkweed seed collection and propagation effort that you hosted.**

The Glen Ellyn Public Library has initiated a Seed Library (https://gepl.org/service/seed-library). Glen Ellyn volunteers supported the seed library by collecting native seeds from municipal garden beds and contributing them to the Library’s seed library. (this is an

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ongoing effort rather than a specific event, therefore, we cannot accurately answer "how many people attended your event")

**What species were collected or propagated?**

Various native plants including butterfly milkweed (asclepias tuberosa) and yucca

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

Glen Ellyn Public Library

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

Glen Ellyn Park District

**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)**

Habitat Heroes (See Habitat Heroes: https://gepark.org/nature/#restorationworkdays)

**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.**

0

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

N/A

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

Overseen by Park District Natural Areas Management team and augmented by program volunteers on work days

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**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).**

TBD - program is just launching now

**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)**

1

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

This program is offered by the Glen Ellyn Park District, so it is available to all students in Glen Ellyn; it is not limited to specific schools. The program maintains, rather than creates, pollinator habitat. See Habitat Heroes: https://gepark.org/nature/#restorationworkdays This program was launched in 2025, therefore, there is limited data this year.

## Initiate or support community science (or citizen science) efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.

**Please describe the community science program that you supported or initiated. Provide a link to any relevant programs, if possible.**

The Glen Ellyn Park District developed a volunteer citizen science program, engaging volunteers with hands-on opportunities to monitor butterflies and native bees. The leaders received the Pat Miller Community Engagement Award from DuPage Monarchs (https://dupagemonarchs.com/2025/10/15/glen-ellyn-park-district-receives-the-pat-miller-community-engagement-award).

**How many estimated individuals participated in your community science effort? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 150).**

18

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

Glen Ellyn Park District

## 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?**

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Board of Trustees

**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.**

The Weed Control Code of Glen Ellyn (1985) does not designate specific plants, milkweed or otherwise, as noxious plants. The ordinance is directed toward unkempt lawns and acknowledges cultivated gardens as exempt from weed restrictions.https://www.glenellyn.org/DocumentCenter/View/336/Village-Weed-Ordinance-PDF?bidId=

## Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.

**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.**

The Weed Control Code of Glen Ellyn (1985) does not designate specific plants, milkweed or otherwise, as noxious plants. The ordinance is directed toward unkempt lawns and acknowledges cultivated gardens as exempt from weed restrictions (https://www.glenellyn.org/DocumentCenter/View/336/Village-Weed-Ordinance-PDF?bidId=). Furthermore, the Village of Glen Ellyn encourages cultivation of native and sustainable pollinator-supporting landscapes through several communication outlets including the “Sustainable Landscaping” page on the Village website (https://www.glenellyn.org/847/Sustainable-Landscaping).

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

Board of Trustees

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

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

100

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

The Glen Ellyn Park District and The Conservation Foundation (https://gepark.org/2025/08/2025-glen-ellyn-native-tree-shrub-sale-now-open))

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

250

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

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

The Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission has invited volunteers from local community garden groups, such as the Glen Ellyn Garden Club, DuPage Wild Ones, Go Green Glen Ellyn, to participate in planting and maintenance for each of its municipal pollinator garden planting efforts. This introduces club members to native and pollinator-supporting plants and their impact in local gardens.

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

Action 3 - Fire Station Prairie Garden.pdf

## 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.

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

Over the past 10 years (since 2015), Village and Park District staff have created opportunities for fourteen pollinator demonstration gardens to be installed in Glen Ellyn municipal gardens and public parks, including transforming existing spaces and creating new garden areas.

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

Action 4 - Volunteer Park Collaboration.pdf

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

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Glen Ellyn Public Works, Park District, Environmental Commission, The Conservation Foundation, Horticulture students from Glenbard West High School and College of DuPage, and community groups such the Glen Ellyn Garden Club, DuPage Wild Ones, Go Green Glen Ellyn, Scouts, and Moms and Sons Volunteers.

## Engage with developers, planners, landscape architects, and other community leaders and organizers engaged in planning processes to identify opportunities to create monarch habitat.

**Please describe the extent of engagement with these groups and associated opportunities to create monarch habitat.**

Over the last ten years, Glen Ellyn has collaborated with its Environmental Commission, Park District, local professional landscape architects, private investors, and community directors to identify, design, and implement fourteen Monarch-supporting pollinator habitat gardens. As an example, in 2025, the Glen Ellyn Forestry Department and Environmental Commission collaborated with a DuPage County Board Member to create a Monarch waystation on County land in downtown Glen Ellyn. The design for the 4,000sf Montclair Monarch Meadows was developed by a Glen Ellyn-resident certified sustainable horticulturist with mentorship from The Conservation Foundation. A DuPage County grant enabled the site to be cleared of buckthorn invasives and plants to be purchased. The Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission coordinated garden installation volunteers - from local garden clubs and community organizations - as well as 90 students in Dual-Credit Horticulture classes at Glenbard West High School and College of DuPage.

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

Action 7 - Montclair Monarch Meadows.pdf

## Create a community-driven educational conservation strategy, initiative, or practice that focuses on and benefits local, underserved residents.

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

Action 8 - Underserved Area.pdf

**Please describe the process to create the strategy , the strategy goals and content, and/or results of implementation. Please also identify who was engaged in this process, what partnerships were established, and how you engaged these groups. Provide a link, if possible.**

In 2025, the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission collaborated with the Morton Arboretum’s Chicago Region Tree Initiative (CRTI) to bring 24 native trees to an underserved community of multi-family homes. A Community Planting Day brought together a diverse group of volunteers to plant the trees, which will accomplish three goals

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across four building sites: replace failing trees, mitigate parking lot hot-spots, and shade newly-designed community gathering areas.

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

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

2000

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

Action 19 - Volunteer Park Perennials.pdf

**Please describe your effort in completing this action.**

In addition to promoting sustainable landscaping in residential and commercial gardens, milkweed and nectar-producing plants were added to five municipal sites in 2025, representing over 2000 plants: Glen Ellyn Civic Center, Glen Ellyn Fire Station, 100 Streetscape planters, Volunteer Park, and Montclair Monarch Meadows.

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

Glen Ellyn Village staff, Environmental Commission, The Conservation Foundation, the Glen Ellyn Garden Club, Go Green Glen Ellyn, DuPage Wild Ones, Prairie Wind Natives, College of DuPage and Glenbard West Horticulture programs, County Board member

## 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

**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.**

In a roadside garden bed, buckthorn shrubs were thick and and woody. Machinery was used to dig up and remove the invasives. Then community volunteers installed a Monarch-supporting pollinator garden in the cleared area. In two public parks, the Glen Ellyn Park District Natural Areas Management staff cleared two large areas of buckthorn and strategically planned to improve the cleared areas in order to prevent growback. At one site, an Eagle Scout project installed a mulched path in the newly cleared area; staff plans

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to restore the area with native oak and hickory trees. The once-inaccessible area will now become a native woodland for community members to enjoy. At another site, Park District staff and the Environmental Commission partnered with the Chicago Region Tree Initiative (CRTI) and a local non-profit, Go Green Glen Ellyn, to plant over 30 native trees in the cleared area. One example of the restoration's impact: as buckthorn was cleared, a native Paw Paw tree was discovered; the subsequent tree planting project introduced 3 more Paw Paws to create a grove, which will enable species pollination.

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

Action 20 - Invasive Removal.pdf

## 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)**

90

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

In order to promote education and yard certification, "Conservation @ Home" and "Conservation @ Work" signs are displayed at 60+ residential, church, and municipal sites where The Conservation Foundation has certified landscapes (https://theconservationfoundation.org/conservation-home). Monarch Waystation signs are displayed at 30+ sites including Montclair Monarch Meadows and the Glen Ellyn Public Library Butterfly Bistro (https://www.monarchwatch.org/waystations). Signage with QR codes is displayed at Glen Ellyn Park District demonstration gardens - providing Self-Guided Tours (https://gepark.org/guidedtours).

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

Action 22 - Signage.pdf

## 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.

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

Glen Ellyn has partnered with conservation and gardening leaders in the design and installation of more than 10 gardens over the last 10 years. The Glen Ellyn Garden Club meets bi-weekly at the Lake Ellyn Boathouse, and Master Gardener members of the club

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curate the Boathouse demonstration gardens. The Conservation Foundation has partnered with members of the Glen Ellyn Garden Club to professionally design and oversee Glen Ellyn's four most recent pollinator garden installations. Prairie Wind Natives donated native forbs and plants to multiple municipal projects, and members from all clubs contributed to garden installations.

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

Action 5 - Engage Leaders and Master Gardeners.jpg

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

The Conservation Foundation, Glen Ellyn Garden Club, Prairie Wind Natives, DuPage Wild Ones, Go Green Glen Ellyn

## 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.**

Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission, Go Green Glen Ellyn, The Conservation Foundation

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

In 2025, members of the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission and a local group, Go Green Glen Ellyn, partnered with a local non-profit that manages a number of multi-family homes in Glen Ellyn. The challenge was overgrown or dying landscaping and stormwater management issues around the buildings' exteriors. The Conservation Foundation and professional landscape architects volunteered their time to design a sustainable garden concept to beautify the spaces, improve stormwater management, introduce pollinator habitat, and reduce turf by expanding gardens and establishing community gathering areas. Landscape plantings were installed at two buildings in 2025 and funds are being raised to continue the work in future years.

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

Action 6 - Sustainable Design for Multi-Family Sites.pdf

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

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

Action 14 - Roadside After.jpg

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

Action 14 - Roadside Before.JPG

**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.**

4,000sf

**Please describe the maintenance schedule for these planted areas.**

This garden is under the municipal maintenance contract for regular weeding during growing seasons.

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

Montclair Monarch Meadows (478 N Park Blvd, Glen Ellyn, IL) is a garden median between a Metra/municipal parking lot and the DuPage County Prairie Path. It was transformed from a weedy patch into a 4,000sf Monarch Waystation in September 2025. It is registered as a Monarch Waystation, and is visible daily to Metra commuters, Glen Ellyn shoppers, and those biking and jogging on the Prairie Path.

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

1200

## Host or support a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the community to increase awareness, support community unity around a common mission, and/or create habitat for the monarch butterfly.

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

Action 17 - Map of Certified Yards.png

**When did this challenge take place?**

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Summer months

**How many estimated individuals participated in your challenge? Please limit your answer to only the number of individuals reached in the answer field (Enter WHOLE NUMBERS only, e.g. 100).**

65

**What is the total acreage of habitat created? Please limit your answer to only the number of acres in the answer field below (e.g., 2 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.**

2

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

Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission, The Conservation Foundation, Go Green Glen Ellyn

**Please describe your challenge and the results.**

Since 2023, Glen Ellyn has promoted The Conservation Foundation's "Conservation @ Home" sustainable landscape certification program - and as of January 2025, 60 yards are certified, with many more in progress of certification. In 2025, Glen Ellyn's Environmental Commission set a goal to reach 200 certified yards by Glen Ellyn's 200th birthday. This goal was announced in concert with a Monarch butterfly release at the opening of the Village's latest Monarch-supporting pollinator garden, Volunteer Park. Each summer, the Village promotes yard certification and the Conservation Foundation's Sustainable Yard Tour; each January at the annual Sustainability Awards Recognition Night, the Village Board of Trustees publicly recognizes yards that were certified the previous year. Glen Ellyn currently has the most certified yards per capita in the region.

## Earn or maintain recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by participating in other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts (i.e., National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program).

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

Action 16 - Leadership Award.jpg

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

Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission and The Conservation Foundation

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**What program was launched or maintained to complete this effort? (Please include a link to the program, if possible)**

In 2023, the Village of Glen Ellyn and the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission were recognized with the Conservation @ Home Leadership Award from The Conservation Foundation, for their work in creating a community program to promote residential Conservation @ Home certification. This program was adopted by other communities in the following years. In 2025, the Glen Ellyn Environmental Commission set a goal to reach 200 certified yards by 2034 (Glen Ellyn's 200th Birthday) - a milestone toward becoming certified as a NWF Wildlife Habitat 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)**

Glen Ellyn Civic Center (City Hall), 535 Duane Street; Glen Ellyn Fire Station, 524 Pennsylvania Ave; Volunteer Park, 450 Prospect Ave; Montclair Monarch Meadows, 478 N. Park Blvd. These four sites are in the four N, S, W, and E quadrants of downtown Glen Ellyn, at prominent municipal or gateway locations, and as of 2025, all are planted with butterfly and pollinator-supporting plants.

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

In addition to Village staff and Environmental Commission: The Conservation Foundation, the Glen Ellyn Garden Club, DuPage Wild Ones, Prairie Wind Natives, Go Green Glen Ellyn, and students from College of DuPage and Glenbard West High School.

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

Action 12 - Civic Center Garden.pdf

**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.**

.3

## Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed, where appropriate.

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**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.**

Sustainable Landscaping was incorporated into the Village's 2023 Comprehensive Plan (https://www.glenellyn.org/828/2023-Comprehensive-Plan), with native plants specified in many strategic objectives. The Plan calls for use of sustainable landscaping in municipal beds and encourages their use in commercial developments.

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

Board of Trustees and Environmental Commission

## 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.

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

Action 26 - City Perennials.pdf

**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.**

Sustainable Landscaping is incorporated in the Village's 2023 Comprehensive Plan (https://www.glenellyn.org/828/2023-Comprehensive-Plan), with native plants specified in many strategic objectives.

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

In 2024 and 2025, Glen Ellyn put this into practice by transforming three municipal gardens into Monarch-supporting pollinator gardens with milkweed, as well as planting pollinator-friendly perennials and native grasses in 100 streetscape planting beds, with plans to complete 50 more in 2026.

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

Board of Trustees, Forestry Department, and Environmental Commission

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

In Progress

## 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?**

Board of Trustees and Environmental Commission

**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.**

Sustainable Landscaping in incorporated into the Village’s 2023 Comprehensive Plan (https://www.glenellyn.org/828/2023-Comprehensive-Plan), with native plants specified in many strategic objectives. One example for Parks and Open Spaces: “Use native plant varieties in landscaped areas throughout the Village to improve pollinator habitats”.

## Launch, expand, or continue one or more ordinances to reduce light pollution to benefit urban wildlife.

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

In Progress

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

Board of Trustees and Environmental Commission

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

In 2023, Glen Ellyn turned off upward-facing municipal street lamps to support dark sky compliance. Annually since 2023, the Environmental Commission has distributed articles to educate residents on the impacts of nighttime lighting and color temperature. In the 2023 Comprehensive Plan (https://www.glenellyn.org/828/2023-Comprehensive-Plan), the

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Village incorporated dark sky considerations into Residential Screening objectives: “Apply dark sky village lighting standards in transition areas to minimize glare and decrease light trespass…” and includes dark sky lighting objectives for new commercial developments.

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