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Village of Deerfield Takes NWF’s “Mayors’ Monarch Pledge” to Help Save the Monarch Butterfly

Deerfield, IL - (May 17, 2016) – On May 2, 2016, Mayor Harriet Rosenthal took the National Wildlife Federation’s Mayors’ Monarch Pledge, committing to take action to help the monarch and other pollinators. This new, national campaign will work with mayors and local government chief executives to help save the declining monarch butterfly.

While monarchs are found across the United States — numbering some 1 billion in 1996 — their numbers have declined by approximately 90 percent in recent years, a result of numerous threats, particularly loss of habitat due to agricultural practices, development and cropland conversion. Degradation of wintering habitat in Mexico and California has also had a negative impact on the species.

“Mayors and other local government officials play a pivotal role in advancing monarch butterfly conservation in urban and suburban areas,” said [Collin O’Mara](#), president and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation. “By working together we can ensure that every American child has a chance to experience majestic monarchs in their backyards and communities.”

Through the National Wildlife Federation’s Mayors’ Monarch Pledge, cities and municipalities commit to creating habitats and educating citizens on ways they can make a difference in their very own home. Mayors who take the pledge commit to at least 3 of 25 specific actions to help save the monarch butterfly. These actions include creating a monarch-friendly garden, hosting or supporting a native plant sale or milkweed seed giveaway effort, planting milkweed and native nectar plants in medians and public rights-of-way and 22 other possible actions.

Mayor Rosenthal proclaimed May 2, 2016 as: “Mayors’ Monarch Pledge Day” in the Village of Deerfield. The Mayor encourages residents and Village staff to take steps to increase the planting of milkweed and nectar plants to preserve and strengthen the monarch butterfly population. [#GreenUpDeerfield](#)

Learn more at NWF.org/MayorsMonarchPledge and get more updates from the National Wildlife Federation at NWF.org/News.

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