



September 19, 2016  
For Immediate Release

## **Save the Monarch Butterfly Presentation October 1**

The Village is partnering with the Deerfield Park District on Saturday, October 1, for a presentation about the monarch butterfly including their migration pattern, threats to their population and steps residents can take to create a local habitat for migrating monarch butterflies in your own yard.

Host speaker Caron Wenzel, an adjunct professor of Horticulture and Permaculture at College of Lake County and owner of Blazing Star native plant nursery, will lead the discussion at the Patty Turner Center, 375 Elm Street, from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, October 1.

Free milkweed seeds will be given away and a milkweed planting event is scheduled immediately after the presentation. While monarchs get their nutrients from a variety of nectar plants, in their larval stage, monarch caterpillars feed exclusively on milkweed. The monarch will always return to areas rich in milkweed to lay their eggs upon the plant. Families and children are welcome.

This May, Mayor Rosenthal issued a proclamation to help save the monarch butterfly by signing on to the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Pledge. Monarch populations have declined more than 90 percent due to loss of habitat and degradation of wintering habitats in California and Mexico. The pledge is a commitment to create new habitats and educate residents about how they can make a difference.

Since taking the pledge, the Village has distributed free milkweed seeds at the Farmers Market and several locations, worked to encourage the planting of milkweed, where appropriate, and other actions. The Village also has been awarded the "Free Milkweed for Restoration Projects" grant from Monarch Watch to plant milkweed at the Water Reclamation Facility, which has a two-acre mesic prairie.

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Released by the Village Manager's Office  
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