



The Village of Glenview

NEWS RELEASE

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GLENVIEW TAKES THE MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE

April 8, 2016 – The Village of Glenview has joined a movement aimed at helping save the monarch butterfly, an iconic species whose populations have declined by 90 percent in the last 20 years.

Village President Jim Patterson signed a proclamation at the April 5, 2016 Village Board of Trustees meeting developed by the National Wildlife Federation, which commits municipalities to create habitat and educate citizens about how they can make a difference at home for the monarch butterfly population.

The pledge was requested by the Village of Glenview's Natural Resources Commission. "In the interest of the well-being of the community as a whole, their request to support the monarch butterfly habitat speaks to a quality of life for all residents of Glenview and likely carries outside our borders," Village President Jim Patterson said. He thanked the commissioners "for bringing this to the forefront. The return on investment is significant."

Some of the actions the Village intends to take include:

- Making monarch butterflies a topic at the Green Table at this summer's Glenview Farmers Market
- Installing a garden attractive to monarch butterflies at the downtown Metra train station in the fall

Active in this initiative has been Glenview resident Abigail Derby Lewis, project director of "A Monarch's View of the City," which is a collaborative venture between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chicago Wildness and The Field Museum. The project aims to guide where the best places are to put monarch habitat in urban areas, and what the best strategies are to engage communities in this effort. Derby Lewis is a Conservation Ecologist in the Field Museum's Keller Science Action Center, and also serves on the Village of Glenview's Environmental Review Committee.

"I am very proud to live in a community that values nature in such a meaningful way," Derby Lewis stated.

(more)

Residents are encouraged to help stabilize the monarch population by creating important habitat in their own backyards. Monarchs need:

- Milkweed, which is the only plant on which they lay their eggs
- Native flowers that are not sprayed with chemicals, to provide nectar for adult butterflies. Planting a variety of flowers that bloom throughout the growing season provides a supply for them to feed on.

Glenview is an urban conservation leader, and the Mayors' Monarch Pledge continues the natural resources strategies laid out in the Village's Plan for Nature, which was added to Glenview's Comprehensive Plan in 2008.

The proclamation, a list of the National Wildlife Federation's action items and more information can be found here:

- http://glenview.granicus.com/MetaViewer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=1465&meta_id=63461
- <http://www.nwf.org/How-to-Help/Garden-for-Wildlife/Community-Habitats/Mayors-Monarch-Pledge.aspx>

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