

**VILLAGE OF WINNETKA
ENVIRONMENTAL & FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR VIRTUAL MEETING**

Zoom
December 9, 2020
7:00 PM

AGENDA

In accordance with social distancing requirements and Governor Pritzker's Executive Orders 2020-43 and 2020-44, and Senate Bill 2135, the Village of Winnetka Environmental & Forestry Commission Regular Meeting on December 9, 2020 will be held virtually beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be livestreamed via the Zoom platform. At least one representative from the Village will be present at Village Hall in compliance with the Bill, and the virtual meeting will be simulcast at Village Hall for members of the public who do not wish to view the virtual meeting from another location. Pursuant to Executive Orders 2020-43 and 2020-44 issued by the Governor, the number of people who may gather at Village Hall for the meeting is limited due to the mandated social distancing guidelines. Accordingly, the opportunity to view the virtual meeting at Village Hall is available on a "first come, first-served" basis.

The public has two options for observing and participating in this virtual meeting including the ability to provide oral comments during the meeting.

- 1) Telephone (audio only Call 312-626-6799), when prompted enter the Meeting ID- 91436662378 (Please note there is no additional password or attendee ID required)
- 2) Livestream (both audio and video feed) Download the Zoom meetings app to your smartphone, tablet or computer and then join Meeting ID: 91436662378. Event Password: EFC120920.

Public comments should be emailed to bmendoza@winnetka.org. Public comments received by 6:45 p.m. on the day of the meeting will be read at the appropriate time during the meeting. General comments for matters not on the agenda will be read at beginning of the meeting under the Public Comment agenda item. Comments specific to a particular agenda item will be read during the discussion of that agenda item. The Village will attempt to have comments received after the meeting has started read at the end of the meeting. Public comment is limited to 200 words or less. Public comments should contain the following information:

- In the subject line – "Environmental & Forestry Commission Regular Meeting Public Comment"
- Name
- Address (optional)
- Phone (optional)
- Organization or agency representing, if applicable
- General comment or comment on topic of specific agenda item number

All emails received will be acknowledged either during or after the meeting, depending on when they are received. If you do not have access to email, you may leave a message with your public comment at the Public Works office at 847-716-3550 or mail to Public Works, Village of Winnetka, 1390 Willow Road, Winnetka, IL 60093.



**Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission
Notice of Regular Virtual Meeting
December 9, 2020**

The Winnetka Environmental and Forestry Commission will convene on Wednesday, December 9, 2020 via Zoom, at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| <u>Call to Order</u> | |
| 1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks | Presenter Dowding |
| 2) Public Comment | |
| 3) Review and Approval of Minutes | |
| a. Approval of the October 14, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes | Presenter Dowding |
| b. Approval of the November 11, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes | Presenter Dowding |
| 4) New Business/Old Business Updates | |
| a. Village of Winnetka Comprehensive Plan Discussion | Presenter Dowding |
| b. Mayor's Monarch Pledge | Presenter Kunkle |
| c. Pesticides Discussion | Presenter Wynnichenko |
| d. Parkway Usage | Presenter Kunkle |
| 5) Communications | |
| a. Approval of January Communication Items | Presenter Mendoza |
| b. Discussion of February Communication Items | Presenter Mendoza |
| 6) Committee/Staff Reports | |
| 7) Open Forum | |
| 8) Adjournment | |

Posted Time and Date

NOTICE

All agenda materials are available at villageofwinnetka.org (*Government > Council Information > Agenda Packets & Minutes*); *the Reference Desk at the Winnetka Library; or in the Manager's Office at Village Hall (2nd floor)*. The Village of Winnetka, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, requests that all persons with disabilities who require certain accommodations to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting or have questions about the accessibility of the meeting or facilities, contact the Village ADA Coordinator, at 510 Green Bay Road, Winnetka, Illinois 60093, 847-716-3543; T.D.D. 847-501-6041.

WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
October 14, 2020

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held Virtual via Zoom, Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Oral Declaration Regarding In-Person Meetings

Chairperson Dowding read the following declaration regarding in-person meetings. Chairman Dowding stated pursuant to recently adopted amendments to the Illinois Open Meetings Act included in Public Act 101-0640, public bodies may, in certain circumstances, hold entirely virtual public meetings without a quorum physically present in any one location. On March 17, 2020, President Rintz issued a Declaration of Emergency pursuant to the authority granted by the Village Code, the Illinois Municipal Code, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act to address the health threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. On May 29, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued a Disaster Proclamation that declared in-person attendance at public meetings of more than ten people at the regular public meeting location to be infeasible, in accordance the Open Meetings Act, as amended by Public Act. 101-0640. On June 16, 2020, Village President Rintz executed a written determination that given the on-going emergency associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person meetings of the Village's Village Council are not practical or prudent at this time and until further

Call to Order:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.; Voting Members present: Chairperson Chuck Dowding, Liz Kunkle, Chris Foley, and David Varca. Voting Members absent: Barry Sylvester, Rosann Park-Jones, and Ted Wynnychenko. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative absent: Jack Coladarci. Student Representatives present: Marcus Buccellato and Scarlett Harper. Staff Representative present: Brendon Mendoza, Public Works Analyst. Public present: One member of the public was present.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Chairperson Dowding called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members and the public. Staff Representative Mendoza took roll call for attendance.

2) Public Comment: None.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes:

a) Approval of the September 9, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the September 9, 2020 minutes, which was moved by Commissioner Varca and seconded by Commissioner Foley.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnychenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

b) Approval of the September 24, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the September 24, 2020 minutes, which was moved by Commissioner Varca and seconded by Commissioner Kunkle.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnychenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

4) New Business, Old Business/Updates:

a) Village of Winnetka Comprehensive Plan Discussion

Chairperson Dowding stated Commissioner Kunkle and he contacted the Village Manager Bahan regarding the possibility of a Village sustainability intern through the AmeriCorps or Federal College Work Study Program ("FCWSP"). Chairperson Dowding stated the response received is that the Public Works Department is being reorganized into two (2) separate departments, Public Works, and Engineering, Public Works Director Saunders is retiring at the end of the year and that the timing of the request is not ideal as the Village is holding the line on new expenditures and the restructuring of the two (2) departments taking place.

Chairperson Dowding reminded the Commission that a staff member with sustainability responsibilities is a key recommendation for the Village's New 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Chairperson Dowding stated he still feels strongly regarding a sustainability intern and intends to have further discussions with Village Manager Bahan and Public Works Director Saunders as the cost is minimum for a sustainability intern through the FCWSP. Chairperson Dowding stated the details regarding cost were not shared in the original communications and plans to follow-up with Village Manager Bahan and Public Works Director Saunders to include the information. Chairperson Dowding stated he spoke with the FCWSP Officer at Loyla University, who is interested and enthusiastic to provide a student for this position.

Chairperson asked the group for comments. Commissioner Varca asked if an intern was to be hired now, when would they start? Chairperson Dowding stated it could be within a

month or so when a student is found. Commissioner Varca stated the reason why he is asking this is as the Village's New Comprehensive Plan has been put on hold until at least next year, that this sustainability intern would be tasked with assisting the EFC with sustainability initiatives, opportunities, and instrumental for the EFC for the new Comprehensive Plan.

Commissioner Kunkle stated she feels strongly regarding a point person for the EFC and its sustainability initiatives and has been advocating for this for years. Commissioner Kunkle stated she likes Commissioner Varca's point as now is the time to have a sustainability person to assist with the Village's new Comprehensive Plan and other initiatives. Commissioner Kunkle stated that the bigger issue regarding the sustainability intern is while the departments are being organized, that a new intern is being proposed and may be difficult to include during the departmental transitions.

Commissioner Kunkle stated that she recently received an email from Edith Makara of the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus regarding the next round of AmeriCorps volunteers who are sustainability focused and could be involved with Village sustainability initiatives. Commissioner Kunkle stated the application for the next round of interns (2021-2022) is due November 10, 2020 and stated it is a long shot for next year but does not see a downside of filling out the application to express interest and declining if there are not funds available. Commissioner Kunkle stated there are options available for the sustainability intern, such as the AmeriCorps Intern, which would be slightly more costly, or the FCWSP intern which would be less costly. Commissioner Kunkle stated these options and demonstrating the value of the intern need to be presented to Village Manager Bahan, and Public Works Director Saunders and that the Commission should continue to present options. Commissioner Kunkle stated she appreciated that Staff Representative Mendoza was mentioned as available to assist the Commission in the interim as deemed appropriate.

Chairperson Dowding asked Staff Representative Mendoza about the status of the Public Works Forestry Intern. Staff Representative Mendoza stated that the intern is included in the proposed 2021 budget, and the 2021 budget has not been adopted yet.

Chairperson Dowding asked Commissioner Kunkle to put together a one (1) to two (2) page document of additional information for the AmeriCorps sustainability intern and collectively be presented to Village Manager Bahan, Public Works Director Saunders, and Director of Engineering, Jim Bernahl and Village Manager Bahan, as the sustainability intern may be even through the Village Manager's office instead of Public Works.

Commissioner Foley stated it is conceptually a great idea, but stated the communication to Village Management should be subject to the financial and administrative discretion of the Village and does not want to usurp Village authority. Commissioner Kunkle agreed but to continue the discussion with the Village, and does not want to appear to ignore the concerns mentioned by Village Manager Bahan regarding bad timing, cost, and logistics and with that in mind, request reconsideration of the request. Chairperson Dowding stated he hopes that a sustainability coordinator be incorporated in the Village's new comprehensive plan, but an intern would be steps towards that goal.

Commissioner Varca suggested that as part of the motion that the Commission include the further conversation with Village Staff subject to financial and ability to manage the position so that the intent is understood by anyone reading the motion.

Commissioner Kunkle moved that the Village Council create a position whether full time, part time, intern, or other, to act as a sustainability coordinator for the Village, subject to Village Management consideration and was seconded by Commissioner Varca.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnichenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

Commissioner Kunkle moved; that the Village submit an application to express interest in possibly hosting a GRCorps member for the 2021-2022 internship year with the note that this is not a formal commitment, but allows the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to request a position that an intern be available, and if local funding become available that the Village enter a formal agreement with the GRCorps member in August of 2021. Commissioner Foley seconded this motion.

Commissioner Varca & Commissioner Foley both stated they would like to have discussion to learn more about this item before proceeding to vote. Commissioner Kunkle stated there is a deadline of November 10, 2020 to submit an application to express interest in committing to an intern in 2021 and that the submission is not a formal commitment but allows the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus to request a position on the Village's behalf and if funding is available from AmeriCore and the Village approves the position, then the parties enter into a formal agreement regarding the GRCorps member in August of 2021.

Commissioner Foley stated his concern that the motion was previously passed, which requires further discussion with Village Staff and stated this additional motion may be a bit much at once. Commissioner Kunkle stated this is a function of presenting the information and keeping the opportunity of having a GRC member for 2021-2022 season which would go along with the previous motion as an option. Commissioner Foley stated he thinks this option can be included as part of the discussion with Village staff instead of being approved as a separate motion through the EFC. Chairperson Dowding stated there

is an application for the Federal Work Study Program and suggested to complete both, and stated the cost structure and hours allocated to each option is significantly different.

Commissioner Varca stated that what if the previous motion was amended to empower Chairperson Dowding to explore the options with Village Staff and make the appropriate decision. Commissioner Varca stated the Village Manager's email was clear regarding cost and staff resources and stated that it could be a little much to still follow-up with an option that is not low cost.

Student Representative Harper stated that filling out the form is more of a way to keep the opportunity open and not lose the option, but something that would need to be done soon. Commissioner Kunkle stated she made the motion as the deadline is prior to the EFC's November meeting.

Chairperson Dowding and Commissioner Kunkle stated that they will follow-up with this opportunity as an option to Village staff as part of the motion made previous to this. Commissioner Kunkle withdrew her motion.

b) Village Recycling Guidelines Communications

Commissioner Kunkle stated she does not have an update at this time, but the edits were submitted at last month's meeting. Chairperson Dowding asked if the Village likely to update the Recycling Guidelines. Staff Representative Mendoza stated he can work on updating the Village's Recycling Guide with the submitted edits. Chairperson Dowding asked Staff Representative Mendoza to include updating the Village's Recycling Guide as one of the items the Commission would like Staff Representative Mendoza to work on.

Commissioner Kunkle stated that as the Village's recycling contract expires in early 2021 and there could potentially be a new hauler, and the information in the guidelines may be different depending on if a new hauler is awarded the contract that a large overhaul is not necessary right now as the guidelines may change. Commissioner Kunkle mentioned to make sure the current information is accurate and leave it on the website until the new recycling contract is awarded, and then work on and distribute the updated recycling guide following that.

c) New Village Website Discussion

Chairperson Dowding asked if the Commission had any suggestions for the sustainability page. Student Representative Harper stated the Village's Recycling Guide should be promoted on the Village Website.

d) Deerfield Climate Resolution

Commissioner Kunkle stated that she is the Champion to move forward with reviewing the GRC2 and Deerfield Resolution and incorporate them as deemed appropriate in preparation for when discussion resume for the Village's new Comprehensive Plan.

e) Mayor's Monarch Pledge

Commissioner Kunkle stated that the language of the pledge was provided in the agenda packet. Chairperson Dowding stated the action portion of the pledge does not seem to specifically say what actions are required but to commit to support the monarchs. Student Representative Harper stated that this is a pledge that could be referred to during discussions of other topics that includes monarchs. Commissioner Varca stated that to supplement the pledge, that the Commission could possibly undertake additional actions besides posting this on the Village website. The Commission discussed presenting this pledge to the Park District at a later date.

Commissioner Foley motioned that the Village Council and Village President adopt the Mayor's Monarch Pledge and was seconded by Commissioner Kunkle.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnynchenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

f) Pesticides Discussion

Student Representative Harper presented a written article for the Village's communications in Spring related to her pesticides presentation from the September EFC meeting. Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to add this item in the next year mosquito season, which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Varca.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnynchenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

5) Communications:

a) Approval of November Communication Items

The Commission reviewed the November Communication Items. Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to approve the November Communications Items including modifications to the leaf collection article which was moved by Commissioner Kunkle and seconded by Commissioner Varca.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnynchenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

b) Discussion of December Communications Items

The Commission reviewed the upcoming December Communication items. Commissioner Kunkle mentioned to move the EFC Green Awards Application Reminder to the January Communications. Student Representative Harper stated she would draft a communications article regarding mouse traps/bait. Chairperson Dowding and Commissioner Kunkle agreed that an article regarding Styrofoam recycling could be included in December's communications.

6) **Commission/Staff Reports:** None.

7) **Open Forum:**

Commissioner Kunkle stated a friend of hers who uses a private composting bin service, that a Public Works Refuse Staff accidentally collected the composting bin and emptied the container. Commissioner Kunkle mentioned that the container was not near her friend's normal refuse collection area. Commissioner Kunkle wanted to make sure Public Works Refuse employees are aware of what the containers look like so they are not accidentally collected moving forward. Staff Representative Mendoza stated he will follow-up with the Refuse Supervisor to address this.

Commissioner Kunkle stated that she spoke with Beth Drucker of Go Green Wilmette and that Wilmette modified their gas powered leaf blower ban last summer. Commissioner Kunkle stated in the future that she would like to revisit this topic. Student Representative Harper stated that there should be more education of why there is a ban.

8) **Adjournment:**

There being no further business, Chairperson Dowding asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Foley and seconded by Commissioner Kunkle. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

AYES: Foley, Varca, Kunkle

ABSENT: Park-Jones, Wynnychenko, Sylvester

NAYS: None

WINNETKA ENVIRONMENTAL AND FORESTRY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES
November 11, 2020

A record of a legally convened meeting of the Environmental and Forestry Commission of the Village of Winnetka, which was held Virtual via Zoom, Wednesday, November 11, 2020, at 7:00 p.m.

Oral Declaration Regarding In-Person Meetings

Acting Chairperson Varca read the following declaration regarding in-person meetings. Acting Chairperson Varca stated pursuant to recently adopted amendments to the Illinois Open Meetings Act included in Public Act 101-0640, public bodies may, in certain circumstances, hold entirely virtual public meetings without a quorum physically present in any one location. On March 17, 2020, President Rintz issued a Declaration of Emergency pursuant to the authority granted by the Village Code, the Illinois Municipal Code, and the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Act to address the health threat posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. On May 29, 2020, Governor Pritzker issued a Disaster Proclamation that declared in-person attendance at public meetings of more than ten people at the regular public meeting location to be infeasible, in accordance the Open Meetings Act, as amended by Public Act. 101-0640. On June 16, 2020, Village President Rintz executed a written determination that given the on-going emergency associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, in-person meetings of the Village's Village Council are not practical or prudent at this time and until further notice.

Call to Order:

Acting Chairperson Varca called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.; Voting Members present: Commissioners David Varca, Barry Sylvester, Rosann Park-Jones, and Ted Wynnnychenko. Voting Members absent: Chairperson Chuck Dowding, Commissioners Liz Kunkle, and Chris Foley. A quorum of presently appointed members was present. Village Council Representative absent: Jack Coladarci. Student Representative present: Scarlett Harper. Student Representative absent: Marcus Buccellato. Staff Representative present: Brendon Mendoza, Public Works Analyst. Public present: None.

1) Introduction & Chair's Remarks:

Acting Chairperson Varca called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all Commission members and the public. Staff Representative Mendoza took roll call for attendance.

2) Public Comment: None.

3) Review and Approval of Minutes:

a) Approval of the October 14, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes

Acting Chairperson Varca asked the Commission to review the October minutes to get up to speed on the ongoing EFC projects. Acting Chairperson Varca stated he would like to table the October 14, 2020 minutes to the December EFC Meeting if there are no objections. There were no objections.

4) New Business, Old Business/Updates:

a) Pesticides Discussion

Commissioner Wynnnychenko mentioned that he would like to share his recommendations with the whole Commission when present. Commissioner Wynnnychenko shared his recommendations(attached) regarding education, changes to Village code, local government changes, and changes to the Illinois Pesticide Act.

Student Representative Harper stated that there are many ideas, but the Commission should choose a few to focus on, such as discovering if the Park District and School District use pesticides and reaching out to other municipalities to learn if they have addressed this issue.

Acting Chairperson Varca and Commissioner Wynnnychenko agreed that it would be a good idea to share this information with the Commission as a whole and decide the next steps.

Acting Chairperson Varca asked Staff Representative Mendoza to see if he had any contacts at the Park District or School District that would be helpful to find out more about their pesticides uses. Student Representative Harper stated she would contact the Park District and School District.

5) Communications:

a) Approval of December Communication Items

The Commission reviewed the December Communication Items. Acting Chairperson Varca asked for a motion to approve the December Communications Items which was moved by Commissioner Sylvester and seconded by Commissioner Wynnnychenko.

AYES: Varca, Park-Jones, Wynnnychenko, Sylvester

ABSENT: Dowding, Kunkle, Foley

NAYS: None.

b) Discussion of January Communications Items

The Commission reviewed the upcoming January Communication items. The group discussed the LED bulbs article and to update as appropriate.

6) Commission/Staff Reports:

Staff Representative Mendoza provided an update on the 2020 Pumpkin Composting Event that took place on November 4, 2020 at Public Works. Staff Representative Mendoza stated that 673 pumpkins were collected this year, and in comparison to 2019 when 670 pumpkins were collected.

Student Representative Harper asked what happens to the pumpkins that are collected. Staff Representative Mendoza stated that the pumpkins are transferred to a composting facility for composting.

Staff Representative Mendoza mentioned that the form of interest for the GR Corp sustainability position has been completed. Acting Chairperson Varca provided a brief background on the topic as discussed at previous EFC meetings.

7) Open Forum:

Commissioner Wynnychenko mentioned light pollution and stated it is a topic that the Commission may want to consider addressing while addressing gas powered leaf blowers and noise pollution.

Student Representative Harper asked how the Commission prepares communications as she is preparing an article regarding mouse bait. Acting Chairperson Varca explained the process.

8) Adjournment:

There being no further business, Acting Chairperson Varca asked for a motion to adjourn which was moved by Commissioner Sylvester and seconded by Commissioner Wynnychenko. The motion passed, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

AYES: Varca, Park-Jones, Wynnychenko, Sylvester

ABSENT: Dowding, Kunkle, Foley

NAYS: None.



Mayors' Monarch Pledge

The monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans.

We, the undersigned mayors and local or tribal government chief executives, are deeply concerned about the decline of the monarch butterfly population. Twenty years ago, more than one billion Eastern monarch butterflies migrated to Mexico. In the winter of 2014, only 60 million made the trip. The North American monarch population has declined by more than 90 percent in the past two decades. Monarch scientists attribute the decline to degradation and loss of summer breeding habitat in the U.S., and loss of winter habitat in Mexico. Western populations of monarch butterflies that overwinter in California are also in decline.

Cities, towns and counties have a critical role to play to help save the monarch butterfly. Municipalities in particular can provide habitat at public parks, median strips, community gardens and municipal buildings that serve as community hubs such as recreation centers and libraries. Schools, homes and businesses can all provide essential habitat for monarchs too. Simple changes in landscaping ordinances or school policies can make a big difference for the monarch. Educating citizens about how and where to grow milkweed is also a key piece of the puzzle. Creating habitat and educating citizens will benefit other pollinators that need healthy habitat as well.

When mayors speak up and take a stand, citizens notice. Therefore, we hereby commit to help restore habitat for the monarch and encourage our citizens to do the same, so that these magnificent butterflies will once again flourish across the continent.

Sign the pledge at www.nwf.org/mayorsmonarchpledge

1. Take the Pledge

By taking the Mayors' Monarch Pledge, you are committing to both restore habitat in your community and encourage your residents to do the same. Read the **Mayors' Monarch Pledge** language and then **take the pledge online!**

2. Specify Your Actions

We will follow up with the point person specified in the online pledge form and work to identify at least 3 specific actions that your community will initiate in the next year. Mayors who decide to take 8 or more actions will receive special recognition and become a member of the **Mayors' Monarch Pledge Leadership Circle** and those that take on every single action item will become a Monarch Champion City. Once these specific actions have been identified, communities will report their progress through a simple online survey form. Read the **Mayors' Monarch Pledge Action Items** and then **specify which actions you will take.**

3. Take Action

Once you have taken the pledge and specified which actions your community will take over the next year, **it's time to start taking action!** Over the next several months, the National Wildlife Federation will be sharing best practices for cities and municipalities through our online resources section, occasional email updates, social media, and webinars. Please refer to our resources section below for more details.

4. Report Progress

Once you have specified your actions and begun to take action we will ask communities to fill out a simple reporting form on an annual basis. The reporting process will only take 5-20 minutes depending on how many action items you are reporting. The data we collect will allow us to track the collective outcomes and impact of our work.

Pledge Action Items

[HOME](#) / [MAYORS' MONARCH PLEDGE](#) / [ABOUT](#) / **[PLEDGE ACTION ITEMS](#)**

Mayors and local or tribal government chief executives who have taken the Mayors' Monarch Pledge must commit to implement at least three of the 25 following action items within a year of taking the pledge. At least one action must be taken from the "Program & Demonstration Gardens" section. Mayors and local government chief executives taking more than eight actions will receive special recognition as part of the National Wildlife Federation's Mayors' Monarch Leadership Circle. The National Wildlife Federation will follow up with all mayoral points of contact with an annual survey to monitor progress.

Communications & Convening:

1. Issue a Proclamation to raise awareness about the decline of the monarch butterfly and the species' need for habitat.
2. Launch a public communication effort to encourage citizens to plant monarch gardens at their homes or in their neighborhoods.
3. Communicate with community garden groups and urge them to plant native milkweeds and nectar-producing plants.
4. Convene city park and public works department staff and identify opportunities for revised mowing programs and milkweed / native nectar plant planting programs.
5. Convene a meeting with gardening leaders in the community to discuss partnerships to support monarch butterfly conservation.

Program & Demonstration Gardens:

6. Host or support a native plant sale or milkweed seed giveaway event.
7. Facilitate or support a milkweed seed collection and propagation effort.
8. Plant a monarch-friendly demonstration garden at City Hall or another prominent location.
9. Convert abandoned lots to monarch habitat.
10. Plant milkweed and native nectar plants in medians and public rights-of-way.
11. Launch a program to plant native milkweeds and nectar plants in school gardens by engaging students, teachers and the community.
12. Earn recognition for being a wildlife-friendly city by expanding your action plan to include other wildlife and habitat conservation efforts through a program like the National Wildlife Federation's Community Wildlife Habitat program.
13. Create a monarch neighborhood challenge to engage neighborhoods and homeowners' associations within the city to create habitat for the monarch butterfly.
14. Initiate or support citizen-science efforts that help monitor monarch migration and health.
15. Add milkweed and nectar producing plants in community gardens.
16. Expand invasive species removal programs to make it possible to re-establish native milkweed and nectar plants to the landscape.
17. Host or support a city monarch butterfly festival.

Systems Change:

18. Remove milkweed from the list of noxious plants in city weed / landscaping ordinances (if applicable).
19. Change weed or mowing ordinances to allow for native prairie and plant habitats.
20. Increase the percentage of native plants, shrubs and trees that must be used in city landscaping ordinances and encourage use of milkweed where appropriate.
21. Direct city property managers to consider the use of native milkweed and nectar plants at city properties where appropriate.
22. Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's Park Master Plan, Sustainability Plan, Climate Resiliency Plan or other city plans.
23. Change landscape ordinances to support integrated pest management and reduced use of pesticides and insecticides.
24. Adopt pesticides practices that are not harmful to pollinators.
25. California Specific: Pass a resolution to protect over-wintering monarch butterfly habitat on public and private lands.

Mosquito Spraying - Options

- Education – done/in progress
 - Remove standing water
 - Mosquito repellent
 - Loose clothing
 - Screens
- Changes to Village Code
 - Alter how temporary screens are treated in building code
 - Require all/insecticide applicators to have license
 - Require all/insecticide applicators to provide notice
- Local Governmental Changes
 - Park District process/procedures
 - School District process/procedures
 - NSMAD Operations
- Changes to Illinois Pesticide Act
 - Village Council Resolution
 - Contact/work together with other municipalities to advocate for changes

January 2021 EFC Communications Content

1. EFC Green Awards Application Reminder

E-blast Newsletter

The Village of Winnetka's Environmental and Forestry Commission invites nominations for the fourth-annual Green Awards Program. The purpose of the program is to recognize properties and households within Winnetka that demonstrate exceptional commitment to sustainable and environmentally-friendly practices. Residents, businesses and other organizations are encouraged to nominate their house, property, building or project that has been completed within the past five years. The award categories include: Green Building, Recycling/Waste Reduction, Land, Air, Water/Stormwater, Energy, and Innovation/Other.

If you believe your recent project has helped make Winnetka a more environmentally-friendly or sustainable community, the Commission asks that you consider applying. Applications are available through the Public Works Department at 1390 Willow Road, or by clicking here (<https://www.villageofwinnetka.org/244/Green-Awards>). The application deadline is February 28, 2020. Category winners will be announced on Earth Day (April 22, 2021). If you have any questions about the program, contact Brendon Mendoza at 847-716-3568 or bmendoza@winnetka.org.

2. Reduce Energy Use and Costs in your Home and Business

E-blast Newsletter

During the winter months, there are some easy adjustments you can make in your home to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs. Below are several tips to reduce energy consumption and maintain comfortable temperatures in your home this winter:

- Properly maintain your furnace to keep it clean and running efficiently.
- Open curtains on winter days to allow natural sunlight to help heat your home.
- Put on an extra sweater or layer of clothing instead of turning up the heat.
- Only heat rooms you regularly use and close off vents to guest rooms or storage areas.
- Invest in proper insulation to prevent heat from escaping.
- Decorate with LED holiday lights that use less energy and last longer than incandescent bulbs.

3. Make the Switch from Incandescent Bulbs to LED

E-blast Newsletter

Switching from incandescent to LED bulbs will not only save on electric costs but will reduce your overall energy consumption. For example, the energy consumption to use a 60-watt incandescent bulb would cost about \$90 over the course of 10 years. For a 5-watt LED bulb, running over the course of 10 years the actual cost would be only \$18 to operate. LED bulbs also use less wattage while producing the equivalent amount of light of an incandescent bulb. Additionally, CFL bulbs can be recycled at the Municipal Yards Facility at 1390 Willow Road during normal business hours of Monday through Friday, 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

2021 EFC Communications Plan

EFC Communication Process for Monthly Postings

1. EFC and Staff work together to draft and finalized monthly topics and supporting text.
2. Topics and supporting text are discussed and approved by the EFC at monthly meetings.
3. Topics and supporting text are sent to Village Manager's Office each month to be published in the appropriate communication channel (Weekly email newsletter, Winnetka Report, etc).

January

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- EFC Green Awards Application Reminder
- Reduce - Consider how to reduce energy use and costs in your home and business
- Reduce - Switch from incandescent bulbs to LED bulbs (and put incandescent into garbage/landfill and recycle CFL bulbs in the lobby of the Winnetka Public Works)

February

Spring Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – February 12

EFC Green Awards Application Deadline – February 28

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Reduce – Think before you buy
- Reduce - Think before you pack

March

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Coal Tar Sealant Reminder
- Paper Shredding Event
- Electronics Recycling Program Resuming
- Clean-Up Week

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Electronics Recycling Program Resuming
- Reduce - Use your car less
- Reduce - No Idling
- Composting - Backyard

April

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Compost available at Village Yards
- Paper Shredding Event
- Phosphorus Ordinance
- Earth Day – April 22, 2021 and Arbor Day – April 30, 2021

- Clean-Up Week

May

Summer Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – May 14

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Green Award Recipients

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- EFC BMP Guide – Summary & link to document
- Recycling - Break down all boxes
- Recycling - Leave lids on plastic containers
- Pesticides Alternatives

June

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Coal Tar Sealant Reminder
- Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers from June 1 through Oct. 1.
- Recycling - Make sure all containers are free of liquid and food residue
- Recycling - Plastic bags & film
- Forestry - Remove buckthorn and other invasive species

July

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Paper Shredding Event
- Recycling - Plastic silverware
- Recycling – Styrofoam
- Stormwater - Friendly Landscaping

August

Fall Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – August 13

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Curbside Leaf Collection
- Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers from June 1 through Oct. 1.

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Recycling - Paper napkins, towels, and tissues

September

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Zero Waste School Lunches (Part 1) – Start with the Right Gear
- Zero Waste School Lunches (Part 2) – Pack the Right Stuff (and the right amount)

October

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Pumpkin Composting Event
- Recycling – Leaf Collection

November

Winter Winnetka Report Submission Deadline – November 13

Winnetka Report Articles:

- Holiday Lights Recycling

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- America Recycles Day (11/15)
- Composting - Leaf collection
- Battery Recycling
- Plastic bag, film and wrap recycling
- Recycling – Textiles
- Use of natural light during winter

December

Weekly E-Newsletter:

- Holiday Tree Pick-Up
- Holiday Lights Recycling
- Commercial District Business Lighting
- Use of natural light during winter
- Recycling – Styrofoam