



Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus' planting - October 3, 2016

Friends of Hackmatack NWR Monarch Activities Report - 2016

MONARCH/POLLINATOR - HABITAT INSTALLATIONS

In 2016, *Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge* worked with multiple partners and US Fish and Wildlife Service Chicago Field Office to install eight site plantings of monarch/pollinator plants with multiple partners.

Approximately 2000 quarts and plugs plants, supplied by the US FWS Chicago Field Office, where installed in May and June in the Hackmatack NWR McHenry County outreach area including:

- Two Right-of-Way (ROW) plantings at O'Brien Road Prairie on Route 47 (IDOT owned), and Route 14 and Lake St. Woodstock (City of Woodstock owned). Ongoing maintenance - Environmental Defenders of McHenry County.
- McHenry County SWCD Dean Rd site. Ongoing maintenance - Environmental Defenders of McHenry County.
- Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus (LUREC), ecology class student planting. Ongoing maintenance - LUREC.
- Two gardens at Dole and Lake Avenues at Crystal Lake Park District (CLPD) Main Beach with a local scout troop. Ongoing maintenance - CLPD.
- McHenry County Conservation District (MCCD) site, with US FWS sponsored Youth Conservation Corps. Ongoing maintenance - MCCD.
- Wonder Lake island site, with Nippersink Watershed Association and Wonder Lake Sportsman's Club. Ongoing maintenance - Nippersink Watershed Assoc.
- McHenry County Fair site, with Environmental Defenders and Girl Scouts. Ongoing maintenance - Environmental Defenders and County Fair Board.

The McHenry County Fair Board sited their planting in the "Conservation World Tent" area of county fair grounds, and intends to continue conversion of the area to an eventual 2-acre prairie. The Friends have applied for several habitat grants, and will continue to look for funding to help our partners expand habitat - both small and large installations - within the Hackmatack NWR refuge footprint and the greater Hackmatack Public Outreach Area.



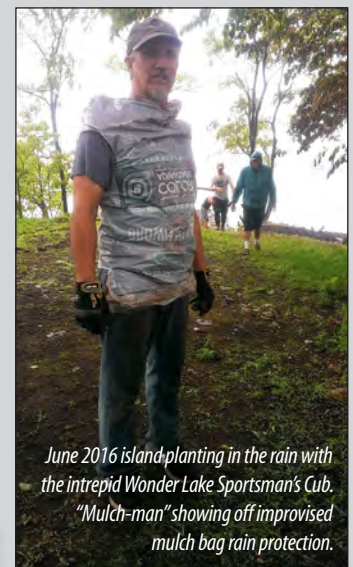
LUREC planting May 2016

Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus, May 2016 ecology student planting. 396 host and nectar plants installed.



ROW Plantings maintenance June/July 2016

Right-of-Way prairie enhancement planting at Route 47 and Lake Avenue, Woodstock, with Environmental Defenders of McHenry County.



June 2016 island planting in the rain with the intrepid Wonder Lake Sportsman's Club. "Mulch-man" showing off improvised mulch bag rain protection.



October 3, 2016

Crystal Lake Park Distric Main Beach complex planting - two gardens planted with local scout troop help.



October 3, 2016



County Fair Grounds planting - June 2016

County Fair Grounds planting October 7, 2016

Friends of Hackmatack Monarch Activities Report - 2016

MONARCH/POLLINATOR - PUBLIC OUTREACH



The *Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge* (Friends) formed the *Monarch Committee* in 2015, and continued the highly successful activities in 2016. With partners from the Friends outreach area of McHenry, IL and Walworth County, WI, Monarch/pollinator issues outreach work began again this Spring and will culminate in November with a booth at the *Green Living Expo* at McHenry County College.

In Spring, the kick-off of our Monarch outreach began with an information booth the hugely attended Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee's Native Plant Sale at McHenry County College. (Friends gave out free host plants 2015). In June, Resurrection and Bethany Lutheran Churches collaborated with the Friends on Monarch display materials and information for their church environmental stewardship events.

August is Monarch Mania Month began with a week-long Monarch/pollinator information booth at the McHenry County Fair in conjunction with the Environmental Defenders, then we participated with a Monarch booth at Wisconsin Farm Technology days in Walworth WI, partnering with Openlands. The McHenry County Conservation District held three outreach events including a butterfly garden tour and two events aimed at children, and sponsored a lecture from Dr. Karen Oberhauser, one of the foremost Monarch researchers and director of the Minnesota Monarch Lab.

The Friends became aware that McHenry County has a large Hispanic population from Michoacan area of Mexico, home of the Monarch Butterfly Biosphere Reserve. Crystal Lake Park District Main Beach area hosts many Hispanic families on weekends. With that in mind, the *2nd Monarch Family Fun Fair* was held again at the Crystal Lake Beach Pavilion, on Sunday August 28, and included a Monarch quiz in both Spanish and English. And, thanks again to Crystal Lake Culver's, all the fair-goers who completed the quiz took home a Free Ice Cream token. The twelve partner's booths included a monarch art show from the students of Creative Arts, Inc. with free face painting, live caterpillars & butterflies, climate information, plant expert booths, school science activities, monitoring information, and more. And, this year, the WPPC did a live Monarch butterfly tagging demonstration and release for fair-goers.

Over 1000 People were reached with this year's *Monarch Committee* Activities. The *Monarch Committee* will continue their work in 2017.



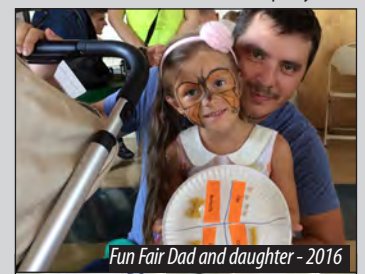
WPPC Plant Sale May 2016



McHenry County Conservation District's Conservation World Booth, August 2016



Creative Arts, Inc. Summer Nature Camp - 5 yr olds



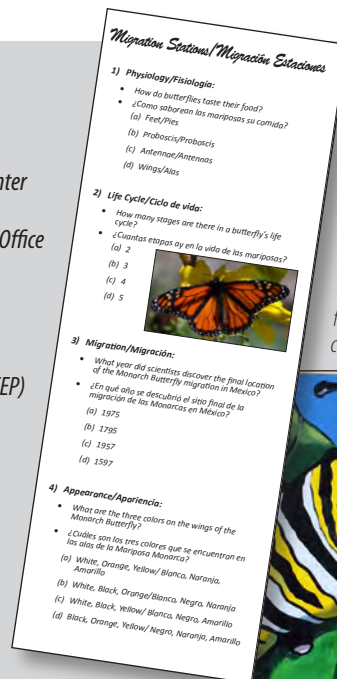
Fun Fair Dad and daughter - 2016



Photo booths were built for the Monarch Family Fun Fair for this year thanks to the Volo Bog State Park Veteran's Volunteer Conservation Corps, who built and cut the forms, and Creative Arts Inc, nature-based Summer Art Camp kids (ages 8-12) painted the forms.

FOHNWR 2016 MONARCH COMMITTEE

- Friends of Hackmatack National Wildlife Refuge
- Sierra Club, Illinois & Wisconsin Chapters
- Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources & Volo Bog State Park Nature Center
- McHenry County Conservation District— Education & NRM Depts.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service— Refuge Division and Chicago Field Office
- Environmental Defenders of McHenry County
- Openlands
- Crystal Lake Park District
- Creative Arts, INC
- McHenry County Science & Environmental Education Program (MCSEEP)
- Loyola University Retreat & Ecology Center, Woodstock
- Ancient Oaks Foundation, Lake Zurich
- Wildflower Preservation and Propagation Committee
- Citizens Climate Lobby,
- Conservation @ Home, Land Conservancy of McHenry County
- McHenry County Fair Board
- Sustainability Center, McHenry County College
- Bethany Lutheran Church, Crystal Lake
- Small Waters Education
- Resurrection Church Environmental Stewards, Woodstock



A Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus student provided a 9-question Spanish/English Monarch Quiz for the Fair. Culver's of Crystal Lake provided Free Ice Cream Tokens for all fair-goers who completed the quiz!

