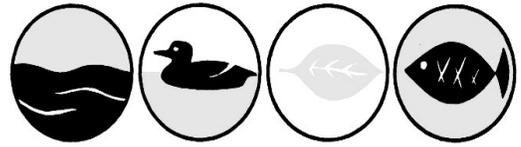


N.I.C.C.



October 2022 Newsletter

For the September Nature Night we had no attendance. Vincent Mosca of Hey and Associates, Inc. shared the following information on Pollinators and Open Spaces. We hope to have Vince back again next year.

The Great Lakes region encompasses eastern Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio, northern Pennsylvania, and most of western and central New York. Within this area lies vast tallgrass prairies, sprawling wetlands, and mixed broadleaf forests. These communities are home to an impressive



diversity of butterflies, including the northern migratory population of the monarch butterfly, which depends on the floral resources available within these habitats for its survival.

Each spring, monarchs leave overwintering sites in coastal California and the mountains of central Mexico and fan out across North America to breed and lay eggs on milkweed, the monarch's host plant. Several generations are produced over the course of the spring and summer. In late summer and early fall, adults migrate back to the overwintering sites, where they generally remain in reproductive diapause until the spring, when the cycle begins again.

Monarchs at overwintering sites in Mexico and California have declined dramatically since monitoring began in the late 1990s. Across their range in North America, monarchs are threatened by a variety of factors. Loss of milkweed from extensive herbicide use has been a major contributing factor and habitat loss and degradation from other causes, natural disease and predation, climate change, and widespread insecticide use are probably also contributing to monarch declines. Because of the monarch's migratory life cycle, it is important to protect and restore habitat across their entire range. Adult monarchs depend on diverse nectar sources for food during all stages of the year, from spring and summer breeding to fall migration and overwintering. Caterpillars, on the other hand, are completely dependent on their milkweed host plants. Inadequate milkweed and nectar plant food source at any point may impact the number of monarchs that successfully arrive at overwintering sites in the fall.

How we can help is to provide milkweeds and other nectar-rich flowers that bloom where and when monarchs need them is one of the most significant actions you can take to support monarch butterfly populations. Vincent provided a list of Great Lakes native plants that have documented monarch visitation, bloom during times of year when monarchs are present, are commercially available, and are known to be hardy. The species are well suited for wildflower gardens, urban greenspaces, and farm field borders. Beyond supporting monarchs, many of these plants attract other nectar pollen seeking butterflies, bees, moths, and hummingbirds, and some are host plants for other butterfly and moth caterpillars. For a list of native plants that host butterflies and moths specific to your zip code see www.nwf.org/nativeplantfinder.

Vince left several copies of the Great Lakes monarch nectar plants guide and packets of Wild Flower seeds at the club house for those of you interested in helping restore healthy habitat in Illinois



**HALLOWEEN PARTY OCTOBER 15 – 5pm
MEMBERS ONLY**

We are planning a Halloween party on October 15.
There will be a kids and adult pumpkin carving contest.
Kids costume contest.
Even an outdoor movie (weather permitting)
There will be a craft area.
There could even be a chili cook off.
Hot dogs and s'mores around the fire

Bring a friend

Volunteers needed to help setup and help with various areas.
Contact Jessie at 847-909-2494



Trap Shoot

Oct. 16 10 am – 2 pm



Sandy Grishaber

**Don't forget our next Nature Night on October 19 at 6:30
All about Honey Products**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Oct 10	General/Board Meeting	7:00 pm
Oct 15	Halloween Party	5:00 pm
Oct 16	Trap Shoot	10am – 2 pm
Oct 19	Nature Night - Honey Products	6:30 pm
Nov 7	General/Board Meeting	7:00 pm
Nov 13	Trap Shoot	10 am – 2 pm
Dec 5	General/Board Meeting	7:00 pm

OFFICERS

President - Leonard Dane
Vice President – Mark Fini
Secretary - Laura Golonka
Treasurer - Ken Golonka

DIRECTORS

Jim Waldow
John Mathats
Jessie Szmergalski
Steve Morgan
Jordan Marcelain
Patty Bellack



NICC MEMBERS



 **HALLOWEEN MOVIE** 
NIGHT!



on **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH** at
5PM
(OR COME WHEN YOU CAN!)



BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIR, BLANKET & A FRIEND
FOR AN OUTDOOR MOVIE & CAMPFIRE
w/ HOTDOGS & S'MORES.



 A PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST 
WILL START THE NIGHT OFF,

THEN



A KIDS' MOVIE WILL SHOW FIRST AT DARK FALL,
FOLLOWED BY A
SCARY MOVIE FOR THOSE WHO DARE TO STAY.



WALK THE SPOOKY TRAIL DURING INTERMISSION



PLEASE RESPOND WITH QUICK RSVP TO THIS EMAIL IF YOU PLAN
ON ATTENDING ☺



IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING CALL/TEXT JESSIE @ 847-909-2494

