



SUPPORT INCREASED PLANTING/ MAINTENANCE OF MILKWEED IN WISCONSIN

54-01-16

THE PROBLEM The US Department of the Interior is considering a petition to place the Monarch Butterfly on the Endangered Species List. The WI DNR is actively encouraging efforts to preserve this species. Monarch Butterflies are critical pollinators in our state.

Over the past 20 years, the US Monarch Butterfly population has decreased 90%. Much of this decline is due to the disappearance of MILKWEED. Milkweed is the ONLY KNOWN food that Monarch Butterfly caterpillars eat.

WI Code Chapter 66.0407 in part reads "noxious weeds...means any other weed the governing body of any municipality or the county board of any county by ordinance or resolution declares to be noxious within the respective boundaries".

Several WI city, village and township ordinances eliminate planting of Milkweed by listing the plant as a noxious weed or by enforcing height restrictions for foliage on properties owned, occupied or controlled in the municipality.

Resolution 1: **BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, at its Annual Meeting held in ROCK COUNTY on ^{APRIL 11} ~~March 8~~, 2016, supports efforts to have Milkweed removed from county, city, village or township "Noxious Weed" ordinances.

AND BE IT RESOLVED, that the Wisconsin Conservation Congress support efforts of the WI Department of Natural Resources to encourage the planting/ maintenance of quality Milkweed plots on private, municipal, county and state properties to help restore Monarch Butterfly populations.

Larry A. Laehn
Private Citizen
216 N Janesville Street
Milton, WI 53563
Rock County

Signature: _____