

Plant Health Care Report

Scouting Report of The Morton Arboretum

June 21, 2024

Growing Degree Day/Weather issue

What indicator plant is in bloom at the Arboretum?

Panicked hydrangea (*Hydrangea paniculata*) is in flower (fig. 1).



Accumulated Growing Degree Days (Base 50): 919 (as of June 20)

Figure 1 Panicked hydrangea (photo: John Hagstrom)

Pest updates: Japanese beetles have been reported! Milkweed beetles out. Tar spot of maple in the early stage. Magnolia scale in adult stage.

Degree Days

As of June 20, we have 919 base-50 growing degree days (GDD) at The Morton Arboretum. The historical average (1937-2023) for this date is 725 GDD₅₀.

| Location | GDD as of 6/20/2024 | GDD as of 6/22/2023 | GDD as of 6/20/2019 | GDD as of 6/21/2018 |
|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Carbondale, IL* | 1703 | 1389 | 1332 | 1527 |
| Champaign, IL* | 1321 | 1143 | 1033 | 1337 |
| Chicago Botanic Garden** | 933 | No report | No report | 715 (6/19) |
| Glencoe* | 625 | 417 | 326 | No report |
| Chicago O'Hare* | 1185 | 964 | 701 | 980 |
| Kankakee, IL* | 1157 | 973 | 818 | 1129 |
| Lisle, IL* | 1193 | 985 | 739 | 1016 |
| The Morton Arboretum | 919 | 769 | 617.5 | 956 |
| Quincy, IL* | 1417 | 1214 | 1066 | 1473 |
| Rockford, IL* | 1058 | 904 | 646 | 958 |
| Springfield, IL* | 1414 | 1169 | 1075 | 1440 |
| Waukegan, IL* (60087) | 958 | 771 | 509 | 736 |
| Waukegan, IL* (60085) | 1049 | 844 | 566 | No report |

*We obtain most of our degree day information from the [GDD Tracker](#) from Michigan State University web site. **Thanks to Elizabeth Cullison, Chicago Botanic Garden, for supplying us with this information.

| Seasonal precipitation (rain and melted snow) in inches. | | | |
|--|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|
| | 2024 | 2023 | Historical average (1937-2023) |
| Jan | 3.9 | 2.85 | 1.95 |
| Feb | .56 | 4.88 | 1.81 |
| Mar | 2.64 | 2.29 | 2.53 |
| April | 4.44 | 2.23 | 3.65 |
| May | 3.73 | .79 | 4.17 |
| June | 2.65 (as of 6/20) | 1.23 (whole month) | 4.16 (whole month) |
| July | | | |
| Aug | | | |
| Sept | | | |
| Year to date | 17.92 (thru 6/20) | 14.27 (thru June) | 18.27 (thru June) |

| Examples of insects that may emerge soon in northern Illinois (based on growing degree days) | | | |
|--|-----------------------|--|-------------------|
| GDD (base 50) | insect | Life stage present at this GDD | Type of damage |
| Possibly 1200-1300 | Viburnum leaf beetles | Adults emerging | Chewing on leaves |
| 1200-1800 | Fall webworm | Caterpillars feeding, but webbing not seen yet | Chewing on leaves |
| 1950 | Magnolia scale | Crawlers begin to emerge | Feeding on sap |

Soil temperatures around Illinois (from Illinois State Water Survey)

This information will be provided all season. For data from other reporting stations, go to <https://www.isws.illinois.edu/warm/soil/> (you will need to set up an account to access data.)

| Max. Soil temps For June 20, 2024* | St. Charles reporting station (north) | Champaign reporting station (central) | Carbondale reporting station (south) |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 2-inch, bare soil | 95.8 | 107.6 | 99.2 |
| 4-inch, bare soil | 95.9 | 98 | 91 |
| 4-inch, under sod | 82.1 | 88.2 | 82.8 |
| 8-inch, under sod | 75.7 | 81.7 | 81.3 |

* This is the maximum soil temperature recorded the day prior to publication of PHCR.



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