

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).



Figure 1 Panicked hydrangea (photo: John Hagstrom)

Accumulated Growing Degree Days (Base 50): 981.5 (as of June 20)
(GDD updated 9/23/24)

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 981.5 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	981.5***	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. ***Data updated 9/23/24

Seasonal precipitation (rain and melted snow) in inches.			
2024 data updated on 9/20/2024	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	18.48 (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.



Copyright © 2024 The Morton Arboretum

[Bartlett Tree Experts, Plant Clinic sponsor.](#)