

# Plant Health Care Report

## Scouting Report of The Morton Arboretum

Aug 16, 2024

Growing Degree Day/Weather issue

### What indicator plant is in bloom at the Arboretum?

Rose of Sharon (*Hibiscus syriacus*) is in flower (fig 1)



Accumulated Growing Degree Days (Base 50): 2248.5 (as of Aug 15)  
(GDD updated 9/23/24)

Figure 1 Rose of Sharon (photo: John Hagstrom)

### Degree Days

As of Aug 15, we have 2248.5 base-50 growing degree days (GDD) at The Morton Arboretum. The historical average (1937-2023) for this date is 2058 GDD<sub>50</sub>.

Location	GDD as of 8/15/2024	GDD as of 8/17/2023	GDD as of 8/14/2019	GDD as of 8/16/2018
Carbondale, IL*	3241	2951	2883	3091
Champaign, IL*	2655	2482	2462	2709
Chicago Botanic Garden**	No report	No report	No report	2061.5
Glencoe*	1840	1571	1509	No report
Chicago O'Hare*	2540	2294	2137	2383
Kankakee, IL*	2410	2205	2204	2475
Lisle, IL*	2562	2316	2185	2420
The Morton Arboretum	2248.5***	1903.5	1970	2297.5
Quincy, IL*	2842	2670	2559	2960
Rockford, IL*	2270	2112	1991	2218
Springfield, IL*	2784	2533	2533	2858
Waukegan, IL* (60087)	2175	2031	1797	2009
Waukegan, IL* (60085)	2313	2130	1899	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	5.26	1.23	4.16
July	4.79	8.92	3.95
Aug	1.08 (thru 8/15)	2.54 (whole month)	3.75 (whole month)
Sept			
Year to date	26.99 (thru 8/15)	25.73 (thru Aug)	25.97 (thru Aug)

### 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 Aug 15, 2024	St. Charles reporting station (north)	Champaign reporting station (central)	Carbondale reporting station (south)
2-inch, bare soil	71.5	82.5	94.1
4-inch, bare soil	70.9	80.6	89.4
4-inch, under sod	76.4	80.2	80.3
8-inch, under sod	72.1	77.4	77.8

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



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