

Plant Health Care Report

Scouting Report of The Morton Arboretum

April 11, 2025

Growing Degree Day/Weather issue

What indicator plant is in bloom at the Arboretum?

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) is in bud and expected to flower soon.

Accumulated Growing Degree Days (Base 50): (unavailable at this time)



Degree Days

The historical average (1937-2024) for this date at the Arboretum is 0

GDD₅₀. Note that many sites have the same GDD as last week. It's a cold spring!

Figure 1 Redbud

Location	GDD as of 4/10/2025	GDD as of 4/11/2024	GDD as of 4/11/2019	GDD as of 4/10/2014
Carbondale, IL*	250	308	161	No PCHR this week
Champaign, IL*	121	140	74	No PCHR this week
Chicago Botanic Garden**	44.5	60.8	17.5	No PCHR this week
Glencoe*	9	18	No report	No PCHR this week
Chicago O'Hare*	70	92	37	No PCHR this week
Kankakee, IL*	74	83	48	No PCHR this week
Lisle, IL*	75	94	40	No PCHR this week
The Morton Arboretum	No report	41	17.5	No PCHR this week
Quincy, IL*	135	176	94	No PCHR this week
Rockford, IL*	48	54	27	No PCHR this week
Springfield, IL*	137	177	90	No PCHR this week
Waukegan, IL* (60087)	30	55	17	No PCHR this week
Waukegan, IL* (60085)	41	72	No report	No PCHR this week

*We obtain most of our degree day information from the GDD Tracker from Michigan State University web site. For additional locations and daily degree days, go to <https://gdctracker.msu.edu/>. **Thank you to Elizabeth Cullison, Chicago Botanic Garden, for supplying us with this information.

Seasonal precipitation (rain and melted snow) in inches.			
	2025	2024	Historical average (1937-2024)
Jan	.97	3.42	1.96
Feb	1.3	.56	1.8
Mar	4.59	3.68	2.55
April	1.40 (thru 4/10)	4.44	3.66
Year to date	8.26 (thru 4/10)	12.1 (thru April)	9.97 (thru April)

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
100 (possibly less)	Viburnum leaf beetle	Larvae (may be feeding when leaves are half expanded)	Chewing leaves
100-200	Eastern tent caterpillar	Caterpillars	Chewing leaves
100-200	Elm flea weevil	Overwintering adults and larvae	Chewing leaves
145-200	spongy moth (formerly gypsy moth)	Caterpillars emerging	Chewing leaves
100-200	Zimmerman pine moth	Larvae emerging from overwintering sites on trunk	Tunneling into bark

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://warm.isws.illinois.edu/warm/> (you will need to set up an account to access data.) Crabgrass does not germinate until soil temps are above 55 degrees for 5 to 7 days (use more shallow depth for this). Root growth on trees/shrubs occurs when soil temps are above 45 degrees (use deeper depth).

Max. Soil temps For April 10, 2025*	St. Charles reporting station (north)	Champaign reporting station (central)	Carbondale reporting station (south)
2-inch, bare soil	65.7	72	67.2
4-inch, bare soil	57.3	62.8	62.4
4-inch, under sod	48.8	58	57.3
8-inch, under sod	46.7	53.1	55.3

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



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