

Plant Health Care Report

Scouting Report of The Morton Arboretum

April 25, 2025

Growing Degree Day/Weather issue

Happy Arbor Day! Plant a tree.

What indicator plant is in bloom at the Arboretum?

Redbud (*Cercis canadensis*) is in flower.

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



Degree Days

The historical average (1937-2024) for this date at the Arboretum is 21 GDD₅₀.

Figure 1 Redbud

Location	GDD as of 4/24/2025	GDD as of 4/25/2024	GDD as of 4/25/2019	GDD as of 4/24/2014
Carbondale, IL*	419	474	281	No PHCR this week
Champaign, IL*	236	238	153	No PHCR this week
Chicago Botanic Garden**	94.8	120.4	60 (4/24)	No PHCR this week
Glencoe*	27	41	No report	No PHCR this week
Chicago O'Hare*	156	175	116	No PHCR this week
Kankakee, IL*	159	162	120	No PHCR this week
Lisle, IL*	165	179	120	No PHCR this week
The Morton Arboretum	No report	95	65 (4/24)	No PHCR this week
Quincy, IL*	281	295	205	No PHCR this week
Rockford, IL*	117	127	89	No PHCR this week
Springfield, IL*	274	292	181	No PHCR this week
Waukegan, IL* (60087)	84	118	67	No PHCR this week
Waukegan, IL* (60085)	109	143	No report	No PHCR 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://gdtracker.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	2.76 (thru 4/24)	4.44	3.66
Year to date	9.62 (thru 4/24)	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
300-700	Oystershell scale	Crawlers emerging	Feeding on sap
400-600	Bronze birch borer	Larvae hatching out and beginning to enter bark	Tunneling under bark
400-500	Pine needle scale	Crawlers emerging	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://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 24, 2025*	St. Charles reporting station (north)	Champaign reporting station (central)	Carbondale reporting station (south)
2-inch, bare soil	83.2	91.2	81
4-inch, bare soil	73.9	79.5	74.3
4-inch, under sod	63.7	71.7	72
8-inch, under sod	57.6	65.3	66.3

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



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