

# Plant Health Care Report

## Scouting Report of The Morton Arboretum

**April 10, 2026**

**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): 89 (as of April 9)**



### Degree Days

The historical average (1937-2025) for this date at the Arboretum is 0 GDD<sub>50</sub>.

Figure 1 Redbud

Location	GDD as of 4/9/2026	GDD as of 4/10/2025	GDD as of 4/9/2020	GDD as of 4/9/2015
Carbondale, IL*	413	250	182	159
Champaign, IL*	205	121	78	94
Chicago Botanic Garden**	13	44.5	No report	8
Glencoe*	13	9	7	No report
Chicago O'Hare*	90	70	47	43
Kankakee, IL*	132	74	59	51
Lisle, IL*	96	75	52	No report
The Morton Arboretum	89	45	33.5 (4/8)	14
Quincy, IL*	269	135	97	119
Rockford, IL*	70	48	31	26
Springfield, IL*	260	137	95	116
Waukegan, IL* (60087)	45	30	23	19
Waukegan, IL* (60085)	58	41	29	No report

\*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://gddtracker.msu.edu/>. \*\*Thank you to Elizabeth Cullison, Chicago Botanic Garden, for supplying us with this information.

Seasonal precipitation (rain and melted snow) in inches.			
	2026	2025	Historical average (1937-2025)
Jan	2.33	.97	1.95
Feb	.14	1.3	1.79
Mar	5.22	4.59	2.57
April	2.38 (through 4/9)	3.32 (full month)	3.66 (full month)
Year to date	10.07 (thru 4/9)	10.18 (thru April)	9.97 (thru April)

GDD (base 50)	insect	Life stage present at this GDD	Type of damage
100 (possibly less)	<a href="#">Viburnum leaf beetle</a>	Larvae (may be feeding when leaves are half expanded)	Chewing leaves
100-200	<a href="#">Eastern tent caterpillar</a>	Caterpillars	Chewing leaves
100-200	<a href="#">Elm flea weevil</a>	Overwintering adults and larvae	Chewing leaves
145-200	<a href="#">spongy moth</a>	Caterpillars emerging	Chewing leaves
100-200	<a href="#">Zimmerman pine moth</a>	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.) Root growth on trees/shrubs occurs when soil temps are above 45 degrees (use deeper depth).

Max. Soil temps For April 9, 2026*	St. Charles reporting station (north)	Champaign reporting station (central)	Carbondale reporting station (south)
2-inch, bare soil	81.8	78.1	73.7
4-inch, bare soil	67.9	73.1	67.7
4-inch, under sod	54.7	66.2	63.7
8-inch, under sod	52.1	59.7	62.2

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



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