

Plant Health Care Report

Scouting Report of The Morton Arboretum

June 5, 2026

Growing Degree Day/Weather issue

What indicator plant is in bloom at the Arboretum?

Catalpa (*Catalpa* species) is in flower (fig. 1)



Accumulated Growing Degree Days (Base 50): 625 (as of June 4)

Figure 1 Catalpa (photo: John Hagstrom)

Degree Days

The historical average (1937-2025) for this date at the Arboretum is 433 GDD₅₀.

Location	GDD as of 6/4/2026	GDD as of 6/5/2025	GDD as of 6/5/2020	GDD as of 6/5/2015
Carbondale, IL*	1343	1126	812	947
Champaign, IL*	944	813	586	781
Chicago Botanic Garden**	No report	638	432	388
Glencoe*	274	171	238	No report
Chicago O'Hare*	680	537	484	573
Kankakee, IL*	768	580	512	625
Lisle, IL*	707	566	504	No report
The Morton Arboretum	625	410.5	496	458
Quincy, IL*	1076	870	647	837
Rockford, IL*	667	522	444	464
Springfield, IL*	1062	855	632	838
Waukegan, IL* (60087)	513	356	374	411
Waukegan, IL* (60085)	573	418	405	No report

*Information from the GDD Tracker from Michigan State University website <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	5.32	3.32	3.66
May	1.78	1.86	4.14
June	.02 (thru 6/4)	4.77 (full month)	4.19 (full month)
Year to date	14.81 (thru 6/4)	16.81 (thru June)	18.29 (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
500-700	Euonymus scale	Crawlers emerging	Feeding on sap
700-800	Bagworm	Caterpillars emerging	Chewing foliage
900-1200	Japanese beetles	Adults	Chewing foliage; mating and laying eggs

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.)

Max. Soil temps For June 4, 2026*	St. Charles reporting station (north)	Champaign reporting station (central)	Carbondale reporting station (south)
2-inch, bare soil	91.4	97.1	88.1
4-inch, bare soil	81.5	89.7	82.8
4-inch, under sod	73.5	81.6	77.1
8-inch, under sod	68	74.9	76.3

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



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