



THE  
CHAMPION  
of TREES

4100 Illinois Route 53, Lisle, IL 60532 • 630-968-0074 • [mortonarb.org](http://mortonarb.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Media Contacts: Tari Marshall, Head of Public Relations and Social Media**

708-557-6824 (cell), [tmarshall@mortonarb.org](mailto:tmarshall@mortonarb.org)

**Kara Silva, Public Relations Specialist**

630-464-7070 (cell), [ksilva@mortonarb.org](mailto:ksilva@mortonarb.org)

**The Morton Arboretum grounds remain open**

*—Buildings, Children’s and Maze Gardens  
closed as a coronavirus precautionary measure—*

LISLE, Ill. (March 15) – In response to the evolving coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, The Morton Arboretum will further adjust its operations through Sunday, March 29, to allow for heightened safety precautions and sanitation of facilities. While its grounds will remain open to visitors, all Arboretum buildings, including the Visitor Center, will be closed. The Children’s Garden and Maze Garden will also be closed.

Limited restroom facilities will be available to visitors. All private events scheduled at the Arboretum through March 29 are being rescheduled or canceled. These closures and postponements are in addition to previously announced cancellations of educational programs (through April 12), special events (until April 10), and closures of The Sterling Morton Library and Plant Clinic (which is available for tree and plant care questions via email at [plantclinic@mortonarb.org](mailto:plantclinic@mortonarb.org)).

Arboretum President and CEO Gerard T. Donnelly, PhD, said the Arboretum is closely monitoring and following the guidance of the DuPage County Health Department, Illinois Department of Public Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and World Health Organization.

“With 1,700 acres of trees and outdoor space, The Morton Arboretum is in a position to provide members and visitors with a place to get out of their homes while still following social distancing recommendations,” Donnelly said. “Being among trees and nature also offers people physical and psychological benefits that are especially valuable at this time.”

The Arboretum is assessing the situation daily, with the health and safety of visitors in mind. More information and updates are available on the Arboretum’s website at [mortonarb.org](http://mortonarb.org).

###

### **About The Morton Arboretum**

The Morton Arboretum is an internationally recognized outdoor tree museum and tree research center located in Lisle, Illinois. As the champion of trees, the Arboretum is committed to scientifically informed action, both locally and globally, and encouraging the planting and conservation of trees for a greener, healthier, more beautiful world. On 1,700 acres are 222,000 plant specimens representing 4,500 different kinds of plants, along with specialty gardens, educational exhibits, the award-winning Children's Garden, 16 miles of hiking trails and the Visitor Center, featuring The Arboretum Store and the Ginkgo Restaurant and Café. The Morton Arboretum is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, welcoming more than 1.2 million visitors annually. Learn more at [mortonarb.org](http://mortonarb.org).