

Nature Notes

For the
week of
March
30 -
April 5

From your friends at Saint John's Arboretum!

Songs of the Black-Capped Chickadee



Photo courtesy of Lindsey Envall

Have you heard the songs of *Poecile atricapillus*?

- The chickadee's song varies from place to place! His whistle in Oregon often sounds very different from his whistle in Minnesota.
- Male chickadees do the most singing!
- The chickadee's song is a simple 2 or 3 note whistle *wee-bee*, which sounds like "hey, sweetie."
- If a chickadee detects a predator, he'll make a high-pitched *see* sound to warn other chickadees in the area.
- When the danger passes, he'll give the "all clear" *chickadee-dee* sound!
- Listen for yourself to the various [songs and sounds of the chickadee](#)
- Want to hear the chickadee's song with your own ears? Come to this weekend's [Maple Syrup Festival](#) and listen to their songs as you collect maple sap and enjoy maple syrup sundaes!

Jokes...so bad they're funny!

- Q: Where does the peacock go when it loses its tail?
A: The re-tail store!
- Q: What kind of books do owls enjoy?
A: Hoot-dunits!

Sources:

- http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-capped_Chickadee/id
- http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black-capped_Chickadee/sounds

Upcoming Arboretum Events

Maple Syrup Season!

There's still time left to get your Daily Dose!

Maple Syrup Cook-off at the McKeown Center

Wednesday, March 30, 6:30-8:30pm

Missed the sign up to cook? Show up at the Mac to taste or help judge!

Maple Syrup Sundaes at Gorecki

Thursday, March 31, 5-8pm

Join the Arboretum for dessert at Gorecki and top off your ice cream with the sweet goodness of Saint John's Maple Syrup!

Maple Syrup 'Shots' @ Brother's Willies Pub

Friday, April 1, 4 pm

Throw back a few sweet 'shots' during happy hour at BWP! (21+)

Maple Syrup Festival

Saturday, April 2, 1:00—4:00 p.m.

Mark your calendars for our annual maple syrup festivals! Sap collecting, syrup cooking, horse-drawn rides, demonstrations, and hot maple syrup make this a fun-filled event!

Maple Syrup Volunteers

Volunteers are an integral part of the syruping process at Saint John's. We need help with everything from tapping trees and sap collection, to cooking syrup and working at the Festivals. [Learn more](#) about how you can get involved and sign up on our [volunteer list](#)!

MN Natural History Lecture

"Experiencing Nature: The Story Behind the Images"

Presented by: *Tony Peroutky, Nature Photographer*

April 18, 2011, 6:30-8:30pm

Join us for part three of this season's lecture series featuring local nature photographers! Tony's presentation features photographs from Minnesota to Montana, with a storyline that it's not always about "capturing the image." He will share his stories behind the photographs—the challenges, surprises and overall enjoyment, as well as provide tips to improve your own nature photography experiences.

Forest Firefighter Training

April 21, 2011

Want to add certified forest firefighter to your resume? Just take a course this spring offered by The Nature Conservancy with assistance from MN DNR, and Saint John's Arboretum! Details for training location and [registration form](#) are online.

If you would like to be on the volunteer e-mail list for the Arboretum, please e-mail your name and graduation year to: arboretum@csbsju.edu.

We'll be in touch...

Your friends at the Arboretum

It's your backyard, so get out and play!

***Nature Notes is a weekly publication designed to keep you informed about exciting events offered by the Arboretum!

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