

Nature Notes

From your friends at Saint John's Arboretum!

Pumpkins



- Weighing 1,810.5 pounds, a pumpkin from Stillwater, MN holds the current record for largest pumpkin!
- Pumpkins are a member of the gourd family, which includes cantaloupe and watermelon!
- The Pilgrims were known to make pumpkin beer!
- *Pepo Cucurbits* is the pumpkin commonly used during Halloween!
- Sources:
<http://www.allaboutpumpkins.com/facts.html>
<http://www.history.com/topics/pumpkin-facts>

Jokes...so bad they're funny!

- Q: What is a pumpkin's favorite sport?
A: Squash!
- Q: What do pumpkin poet's write?
A: Rinds!

Wondering what is Nature Notes? Our weekly Nature Notes email will include natural history topics, upcoming events, and silly jokes! We hope to inspire you to get out and explore the Arboretum!

Upcoming Arboretum Events

Volunteers Needed!

Before/After SJU Football Game

November 5

11 a.m. to game time & after the game until 5:30 p.m.

We need help directing people parking in the overflow lot onto a trail to campus that is shorter, safer, and more scenic than walking on the county road! Contact [Kyle Ostrowski](#) if interested in helping.

Potential Prescribed Burns

November 8, 9, 10 and/or 14

The Arboretum is gearing up for the fall burning season! We have four tentative dates to complete the burns, depending on weather and conditions on the ground. Sign up for volunteer shifts using this [online form](#). Check out a [slide show](#) from one of last fall's burns!

Nature as Spiritual Practice Reading Group

2nd Meeting: Wednesday, November 9

2nd Wed., Oct-Nov & Feb-May, 6:00-7:30p.m.

It's not too late to join the group! Join author Dr. Steven Chase, Amanda Castonguay and Jodie Peschl as they facilitate this unique practice group based on readings from *Nature as Spiritual Practice*, an innovative text that shows in practical ways how delighting in the natural world can enhance spiritual life. [Register and purchase texts on the Arboretum website.](#)

Arboretum Photo Contest

Entries due: Tuesday, November 15

Take your camera with you on your next venture into the Arboretum and then submit your photos to the annual Arboretum photo contest! *Submission details are on the [Arboretum website.](#)*

Women's Expedition Coordinator Position Available

Looking for an on-campus job? Apply to be the IWL's Women's Expeditions Coordinator! Responsibilities include the creation and coordination of several women-only outdoor expeditions during the Academic Year. This is a great opportunity for students pursuing leadership experience in the outdoor world! Contact Liz Beaty at iwl@csbsju.edu for more information.

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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For the week of November 2 to November 8