

Nature Notes

From your friends at Saint John's Arboretum!

Nature and Spirituality

Photo courtesy of Jennifer Tong



- In 1856, the Arboretum was founded by Bavarian monks as a place for both spiritual renewal and human use!
- Since then, the Benedictine monks have continued this tradition of linking spirituality with the land.
- Stability (having a place and community to connect to) is a core principle of Benedictine environmental stewardship!
- Interested in connecting nature and spirituality in your own life? Then join our [“Nature as Spiritual Practice” Reading Group](#)! See details in the event section below.

Sources:

- <http://www.csbsju.edu/SJU-Sustainability/Benedictine-Stewardship.htm>

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!

Jokes...so bad they're funny!

- Q: How did the big mountain know that the little mountain was fibbing?
A: Because it was only a bluff!
- Q: What happens to grapes that worry too much?
A: They get wrinkled and turn into raisins!

Upcoming Arboretum Events

Fall Colors Guided Hike—TOMORROW!

Thursday, October 6th

5:15p.m.- 6:45p.m.

Have you seen the trees? Come hike with an Arboretum guide to learn about what's behind those color changes! Meet at the pendulum in New Science, SJU.

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](#).

Nature as Spiritual Practice Reading Group

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

First meeting: Wed., Oct. 12th, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

This reading group will venture with Dr. Steven Chase into his book, *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.](#)

PRP Itasca State Park Camping Trip

Thursday-Sunday, October 13-16

Looking for something exciting to do over Long Weekend? Join PRP for a fall camping adventure at the headwaters of the Mississippi River—Itasca State Park. [Registration and payment details are on the Arboretum website.](#) Questions? Email prp@csbsju.edu.

MN Natural History Lecture: “Invasive Earthworms”

Monday, October 17, 6:30-8:00p.m.

New Science Center, SJU

Did you know that there are NO native earthworms in the glaciated regions of North America? Learn more about the effects of these invaders on Minnesota forests and ecosystems at this lecture!

Save the Date!

Halloween Celebration at the Melancon Greenhouse

Monday, October 31

6:00pm-8:00pm

Peter Engel Science Center, SJU

Come in costume and enjoy a stroll through the greenhouse! We will have treats and cake available for everyone as well as a special treat for our pumpkin coloring contest winner!

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!

Saint John's Arboretum
104 New Science Building
Collegeville, MN 56321-2000
320.363.3163
www.csbsju.edu/arboretum

For the week of October 5 to October 11