

# Nature Notes

From your friends at Saint John's Arboretum!

## Vernal Pools



- Ever stumble into water in the woods? You've probably found a vernal pool!
- They are often called 'ephemeral pools,' forming in spring and disappearing by summer.
- But this year, heavy rainfall and highly saturated soils are extending pool lifespans!
- Take a hike on the Pine Knob trail to find the pool in the picture. Or find your own!

### Jokes...so bad they're funny!

- Q: What did one canned mushroom say to the other canned mushroom?  
A: There's not mushroom in here!
- Q: What did the coffee say to the police?  
A: I've been mugged!

Sources:

- [www.conservationminnesota.org/news/?id=4751](http://www.conservationminnesota.org/news/?id=4751)

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

### MN Natural History Lecture: "The Botany of Harry Potter"

**September 19, 6:30pm-8pm**

**New Science Center, SJU**

In this lecture, Dr. Steve Saupe, CSB/SJU Biology Professor, examines botanical facts and fiction about the plants used to make wands, potions and poisons in the world of Harry Potter!

### Explore the Arboretum!

Check out the Arboretum trails and plan your journey with the updated [Arboretum Trail Map!](#)

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](mailto: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 Sept 7 to Sept 13