

# Bring your boots back from break for Maple Syruping!



Photo courtesy of Gabe Hymer.

**Did you Know?...** Black-capped chickadees are year round residents of Minnesota. They are five inches long and weigh about 1/3 of an ounce! These tiny birds are able to survive by shivering and puffing up their feathers to keep warm. They have a heartbeat of 650 times per minute, and must eat 150-250 seeds every day in winter! In the evening, the chickadee's body temperature drops 10-20°F to conserve energy.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/Org/caer/ce/eeek/critter/bird/chickadee.htm>

**Q:** What days do birds like best?

**A:** Flydays.

**Q:** What do you call a bird that got run over by a lawn mower?

**A:** Shredded Tweet.

**Q:** What did the little bird say to the big bird?

**A:** Peck on someone your own size!

### **Maple Syrup Tapping- Saturday March 14**

Join the Arboretum in the sugar bush for the first day of tapping! There will be a few prayers, a song, and of course lots of tapping! Come to the [Sugar Shack](#) anytime between **9:30am and noon**.

### **Data Mining in Mud: Exploring the Vegetation History of the Collegeville Region- Tuesday March 17**

Join CSB/SJU professor of biology, Gordon Brown, to learn about the general vegetation history of central Minnesota since the end of our last glaciations. Discuss what the muddy sediments of Lake Hilary reveal about vegetation change in the locale of the Saint John's Arboretum. Meet at the New Science Pendulum at **6:30pm**.

### **Maple Syrup Festivals- Saturday March 28 & April 4**

Since the early 1940's the Saint John's community has participated in this annual rite of spring. Join the Arboretum for sap collecting, syrup cooking, horse-drawn rides, demonstrations, and hot maple syrup sundaes! It's sure to be a **sweet** time! Come to the [Sugar Shack](#) between **1-4pm**.

### **The Voices of Minnesota Frogs- Tuesday April 21**

Join Frank Ziegler (SJU '03), member of the Minnesota Herpetological Society, to learn about frogs in our area. From the earliest spring peepers to the last sounds of summer, Frank will walk us through the frog calling season and help us to identify which species are calling and why. Meet at the New Science Pendulum at **6:30pm**.

## **Spring Plant Sale- May 9**

Come stock up on plants and garden tools at the Spring Plant Sale. The sale takes place at the New Science Pendulum from **8:30am- noon**, or whenever we are sold out!

**If you would like to be on the volunteer e-mail list for the Arboretum, please e-mail the Arboretum at [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!

**Saint John's Arboretum**

104 New Science Building

Collegeville, MN 56321-3000

320.363.3136

[www.csbsju.edu/arboretum](http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum)