

Nature Notes

For the
week of
Oct. 14-20

From your friends at Saint John's Arboretum!

Learn about Alternative Energy in Minnesota!



Photo courtesy of Brandon Dale.

Jokes...so bad
they're funny!

Q: What is black and
white and red all over?

A: A zebra with a
sunburn!

Q: What do you call a
silly old man?

A: A fossil fool!

Q: What should happen
to gas guzzlers?

A: Lock them up in a
fuel cell!

What are different types of renewable energy sources?

- Solar: Photovoltaic (PV) technologies convert light energy from the sun to electricity. The light energy absorbed by the PV cell is transferred to electrons that become part of the electrical flow of the system.
 - http://www1.eere.energy.gov/solar/photoelectric_effect.html
- Wind: Wind is actually the result of solar energy. Winds result from the uneven heating of the atmosphere by the sun, the irregularities of the earth's surface, and the rotation of the earth. Wind turbines capture the kinetic energy (energy of motion) and convert it to mechanical power that can be used to generate electricity.
 - http://www1.eere.energy.gov/windandhydro/wind_how.html
- Geothermal: Geothermal heat pumps use the nearly constant temperatures of the upper 10 feet of the Earth's surface to heat and cool buildings. In winter, heat from the ground warms your house. In summer, heat from your house is pulled to the ground.
 - http://www1.eere.energy.gov/geothermal/geothermal_basics.html

Upcoming Arboretum Events

Minnesota Natural History Lecture Series

Third Tuesday of the Month

October—May , 6:30—8 p.m.

Free—Arboretum members and students of all ages

\$5—Non-members/non-students

Alternative Energy in Minnesota Tuesday, October 20

Dr. Derek Larson, CSB/SJU professor of environmental studies

Meet at the pendulum of the New Science Center of Saint John's University.

Check the Arboretum Web site for updates to this year's lectures.

http://www.csbsju.edu/arboretum/arb_highlights/Minnesota%20Natural%20History%20Lecture%20Series.htm

Buckthorn Pull and Trail Maintenance Saturday, Oct 24, 9am-12pm

Gather your friends or club members to volunteer at Oak Hill Community School in St Cloud! The school needs help with two projects in the Big Woods behind their school. There are several trails winding through the woods that are in need of widening and cleaning up. They will also be working on removing European Buckthorn, an invasive species, from the woods. Email arboretum@csbsju.edu for more information!

Controlled Deer Hunt Saturday-Sunday, Nov. 7-8

The goal of the hunt is to assure a deer population level that will allow both adequate regeneration of the forest and a healthy deer herd. Non-hunters should not enter the woods this weekend without wearing blaze-orange clothing.

2009 Arboretum Photo Contest Entries Due Nov. 17

Submit up to 5 photos per category per person. A panel of judges will choose the "Best in Category" for each age group. See the Arboretum website for categories and more information!

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