

# Nature Notes

For the  
week of  
Oct. 28 -  
Nov. 3

From your friends at Saint John's Arboretum!

## Enter your nature photos in the Arboretum Photo Contest!



Photo courtesy of Arboretum Staff.

### What is Jack-in-the-Pulpit?

Jokes...so bad  
they're funny!

Q: Why do demons and  
ghouls hang out  
together?

A: Because demons are  
a ghouls best friend!

Q: What do you call a  
witch who lives at the  
beach?

A: A sand-witch!

Q: What do you call a  
goblin who gets too  
close to a bonfire?

A: A toasty ghosty!

- Jack-in-the-Pulpit is a plant which is able to change sex, beginning first as male but eventually becoming female. Male flowers have one leaf, while females have two leaves.
- Jack-in-the-Pulpit contains calcium oxalate crystals. Raw consumption of the plant causes violent burning sensation because the crystals are like microscopic needles that cut and poison tissue. The crystals can cause blisters in the throat and mouth, causing choking or suffocation.
- Many Native American tribes required young men to eat the raw Jack-in-the-Pulpit to enter into manhood.
- Some Native Americans consumed the root of Jack-in-the-Pulpit by roasting, drying, or making it into bread.

<http://www.stolaf.edu/academics/naturallands/woodlands/ephemerals/jack-in-the-pulpit.html>

## Upcoming Arboretum Events

### 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. We are in need of volunteers to help monitor several entrances to the woods all day, both days to ensure only registered hunters enter the woods. Volunteer shifts for both days are: 5—8:30 a.m.; 8:30 a.m.—noon; Noon—3 p.m.; and 3—6:30 p.m. Training for volunteers will be offered on Mon and Tues, Nov. 2 & 3 from 4:30—5:30 p.m. (you only need to attend one training!). Email [jkutter@csbsju.edu](mailto:jkutter@csbsju.edu) by noon on Monday, Nov. 2 if you're interested in volunteering. Please indicate the shift(s) you're available AND which training session you're able to attend.

### 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!

### 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

*Emerald Ash Borer Tuesday, November 17*

Val Cervenka, DNR Central Office in St. Paul

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

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