



# Annual Maple Feast and Sugarbush Tours

March 26, 2016 11:00am - 2:00pm

*The Jijak Foundation invites you and your family to join us on Saturday March 26th to celebrate our 11th Sugarbush Season with a pancake luncheon and tours of our sugaring operation.*

For our ancestors thanksgiving feasts were simple and important ceremonies which took place regularly throughout the seasonal year. The traditional practice of giving thanks through a community feast was always done at the end of each harvest season such as rice harvesting time, green corn harvest, spring fish runs, strawberry harvest, huckleberry harvest and of course the harvest of maple sugar. These community gatherings were special celebrations of the gifts which our relatives, the plants and animals, provided each season. It was a way of honoring and giving thanks for the life sustaining foods and medicines provided for the people, and to recognize and maintain balance with the rest of creation.

Today, we seek to continue that beautiful tradition of bringing together family, friends and community to celebrate the change of the seasons through hosting a maple feast for the tribal community.

This will be a wonderful opportunity for families and friends to come together to enjoy a delicious pancake lunch featuring maple products produced by the Gun Lake Tribe. We will also have samples of some new products that we have developed this year for you to taste test, including wild blueberry maple candies and dark coffee infused maple syrup. After the lunch, Junson Bush will be leading tours of the sugaring operation and we will be making both maple sugar and maple candies.

We are also excited to announce that Corey Henderson and family will be bringing a keg of special homemade root beer, which they made using our maple sugar from Jijak.

