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The Arctic looks pretty inactive during the winter, but more may be happening than meets the eye. According to a recent study, some carbon dioxide and methane are released during the early spring thaw, suggesting that critical processes are taking place during the Arctic winter.

These greenhouse gas releases, which were remotely detected near Barrow, Alaska, could have easily been dismissed as a measurement error. But a research team did some digging - literally, removing cores of frozen soil from the study site. When they allowed the cores to thaw, they discovered pockets of methane and carbon dioxide that had built up during the late fall months. In the April issue of EARTH Magazine, read how the research team discovered these intermittent greenhouse gas emissions, and learn about the implications for both the Arctic carbon cycle and global climate. Read the full story at EARTH online: <https://www.earthmagazine.org/article/early-spring-thaw-triggers-arctic-greenhouse-gas-release>.

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