

SEED DISPERSAL STRATEGIES

Animals



Eat and Excrete

Birds, drawn to brightly colored fruit, will eat the fleshy part and excrete the seeds far away. Other animals, such as deer, raccoons, and rabbits, will also eat seedpods or larger fruit, and then excrete the seeds in another location.



Carry and Bury

Larger animals, mostly rodent mammals, will hide fruit and seeds for winter eating. Once forgotten, the seeds sprout in new locations.



Stick Tight

Furry mammals and feathery birds will often brush against low growing seeds that will cling to their fur or feathers and be moved far away.

Wind



Wings

Many seeds are light, dry, and aerodynamic to catch the wind on their natural wings.



Parachute

Other seeds are tiny and attached to fluffy structures that float in the air with the slightest breeze.

Water



Float

Some seed packages are hollow inside (containing air pockets) that allow the light-weight structure to float downstream and across bodies of water.

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Search and collect from the ground, examples of the different ways seeds are dispersed. Tape or draw what you find in the boxes below.

 ANIMAL	Eat and Excrete	Carry and Bury	Stick Tight
 WIND	Wings	Parachute	Float
 WATER			

2018 Super Seeds Packages: Plants in Autumn Field Study at the Arnold Arboretum

LINDEN/HORSECHESNUT/LEGUME Side of Road: Super Seed Packages

1



Tulip tree seeds

3



Three flowered Maple

5



Magnolia seeds

7



Silk tree pods

9



Carolina Spicebush

11



Kousa Dogwood

13



Linden seeds

15



Cork berries

17



Dogwood

19



Horsechestnut

21



Common hop tree

23



Golden rain tree

25

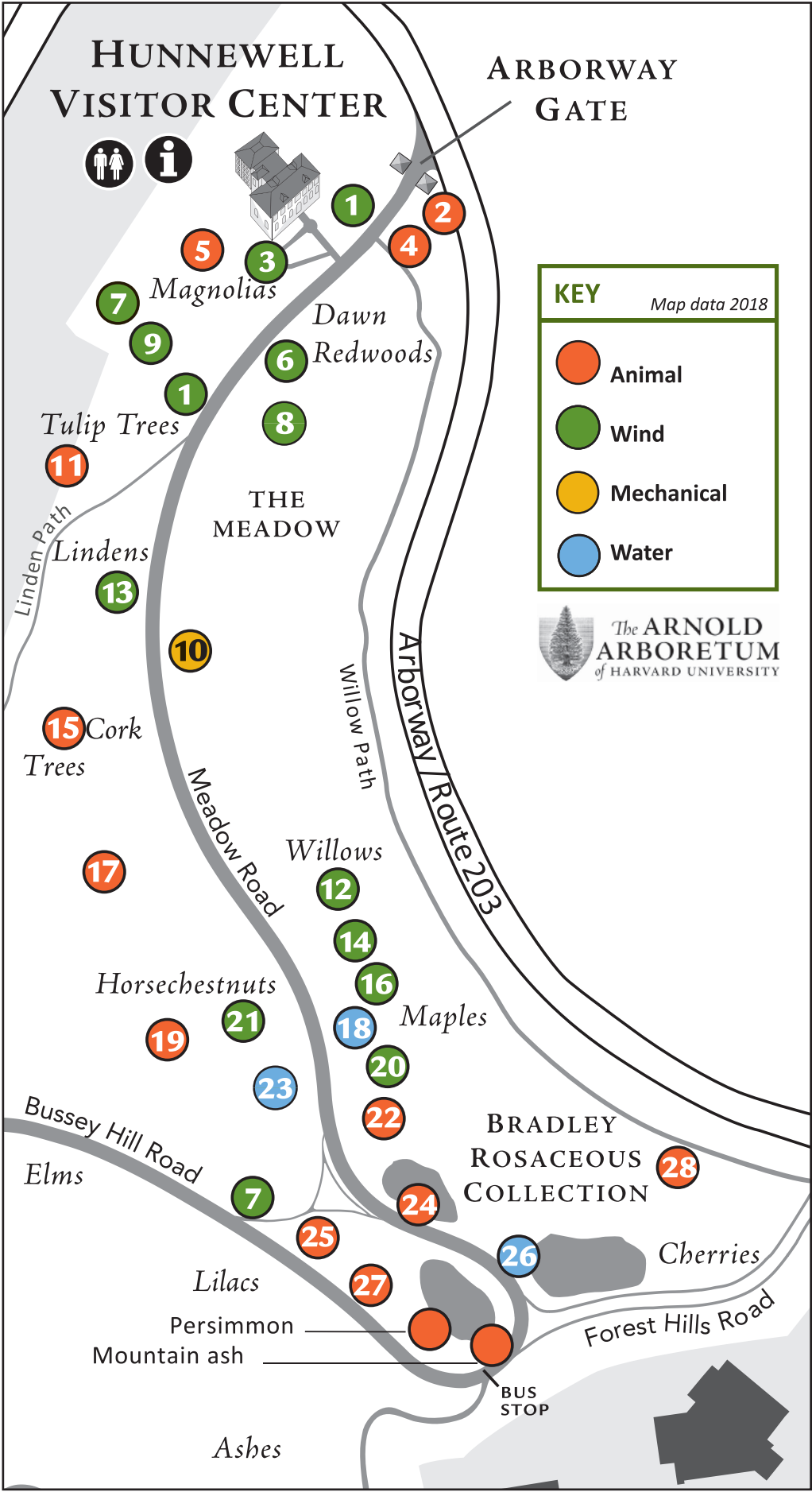


'Bird Heaven'

27



Honey Locust



2



Euonymous berries

4



Burdock

6



Beggars Ticks

8



Cattails

10



Touch Me Not

12



Smoke Tree

14



Tree of Heaven

16



Japanese Maple

18



Bladdernut

20



Three-flowered maple

22



Acorns

24



Red twig dogwood

26



Hibiscus

28



Quince

MEADOW Side of Road: Super Seed Packages