

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.

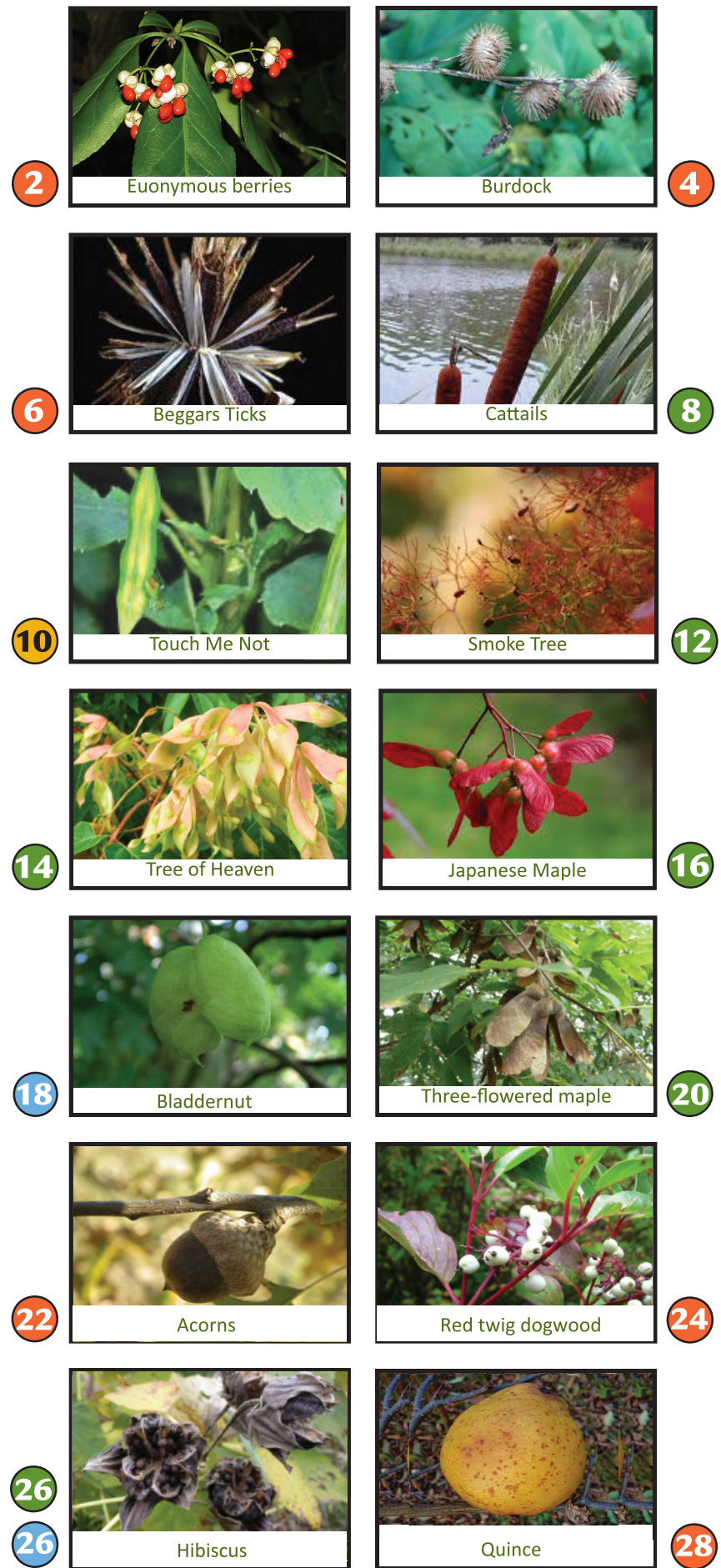
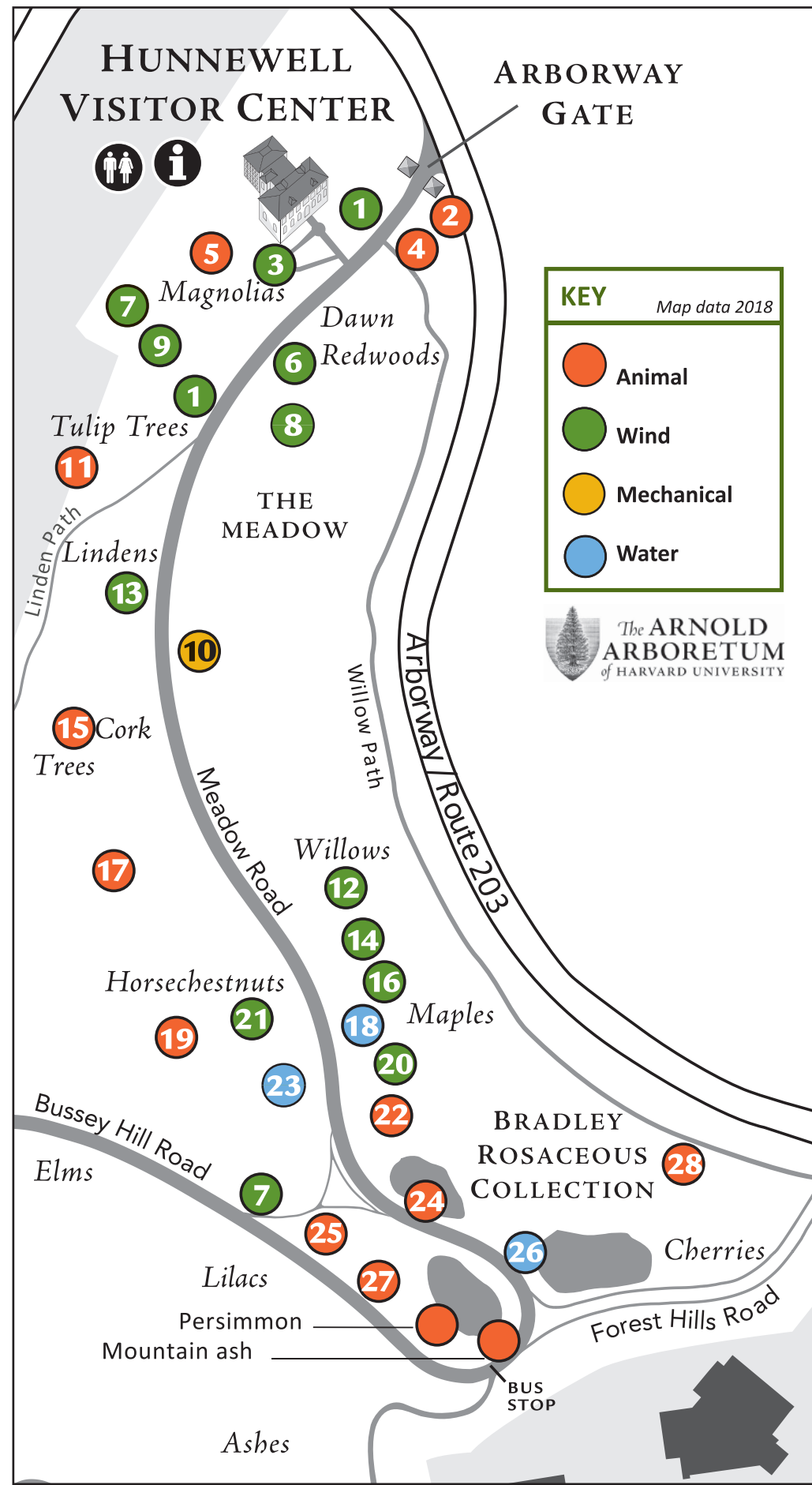
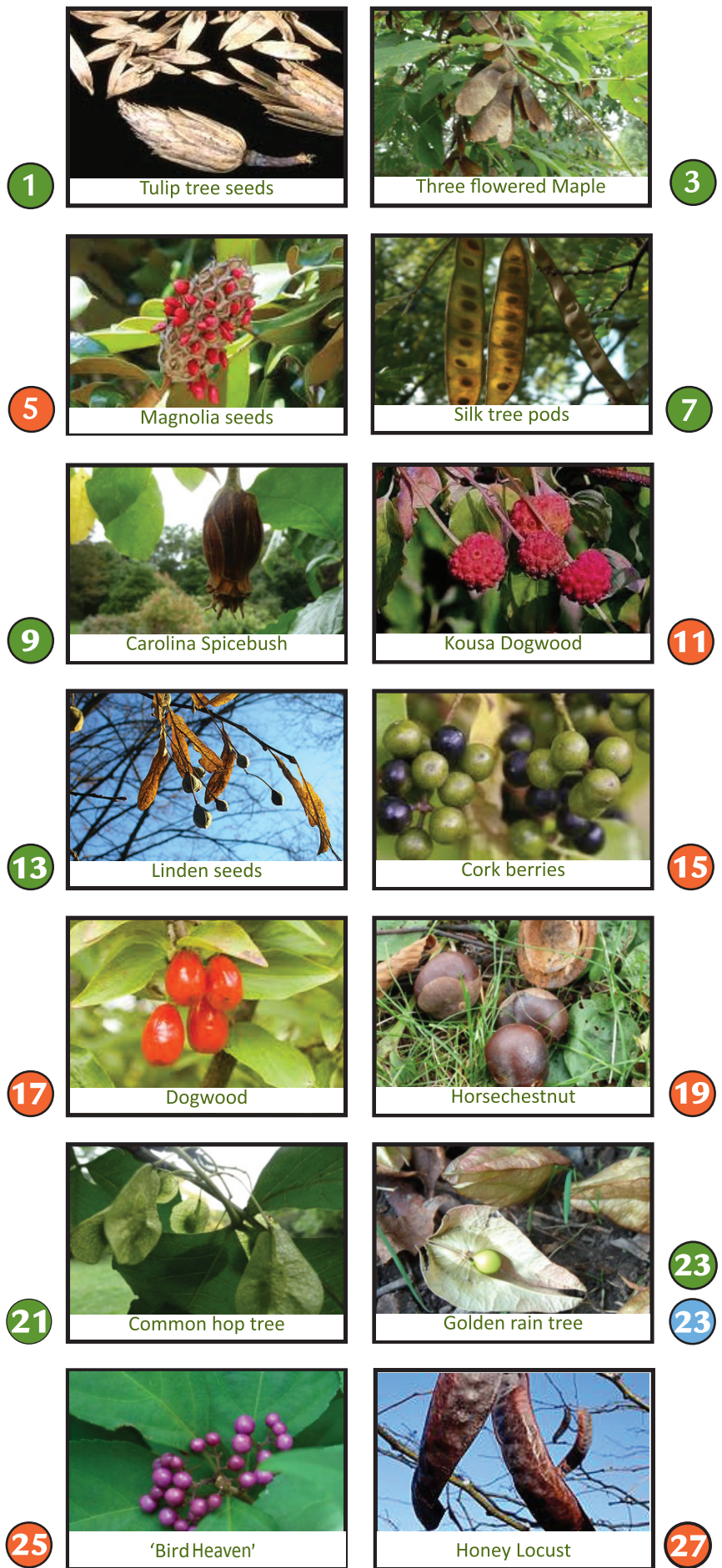
SEED DISPERSAL STRATEGIES

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

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|---|---|---|---|---|
|  ANIMAL | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Eat and Excrete</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Carry and Bury</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Stick Tight</div> | |
|  WIND | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Wings</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Parachute</div> | <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Float</div> |  WATER |

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

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



MEADOW Side of Road: Super Seed Packages