

# Tree and Shrub Green-Down Protocol

## Field Guide

### Task

Observe and record green-down in trees or shrubs.

### What You Need

#### First visit only

- [Tree, Shrub, and Grass Green-Down Data Sheet](#)
- Pencil or pen
- Camera
- Compass
- Fine-Tip Permanent Marker
- GLOBE Plant Color Guide

#### Every visit

- GLOBE Plant Color Guide
- Pencil or pen
- [Tree, Shrub, and Grass Green-Down Data Sheet](#)

### In the Field

#### First visit only/getting started

1. Complete the upper portion of your *Data Sheet*.
2. Determine whether there are more than one green down cycles; if yes, during which cycle are you currently collecting data (1, 2, or 3)?
3. Locate the leaf at the end of the branch. Label this leaf by marking one dot on the branch next to the leaf stem or petiole. Locate the three other leaves on this branch closest to this terminal leaf.
4. Label these leaves by marking two, three, or four dots next to their stems on the branch.
5. Take a photograph looking in the north, south, east, and west directions.

#### Every visit

1. Examine each of your four leaves. For each leaf, use the GLOBE Plant Color Guide to estimate the dominant color of each leaf. For example, if leaf 1 appears colored at 60 percent 5G 7/12 and 40 percent 2.5 Y8/10, record the leaf color as 5G 7/12 for that observation date.
2. Record your observations on the *Tree, Shrub, and Grass Green-Down Data Sheet*.
  - If leaf is snow covered, report “snow covered”,
  - If leaf has fallen, report “fallen” and stop reporting after that,
  - Otherwise, continue to report the color until the color stops changing.