

Come back to visit your tree.

Bring more paper, or a journal to record your observations.

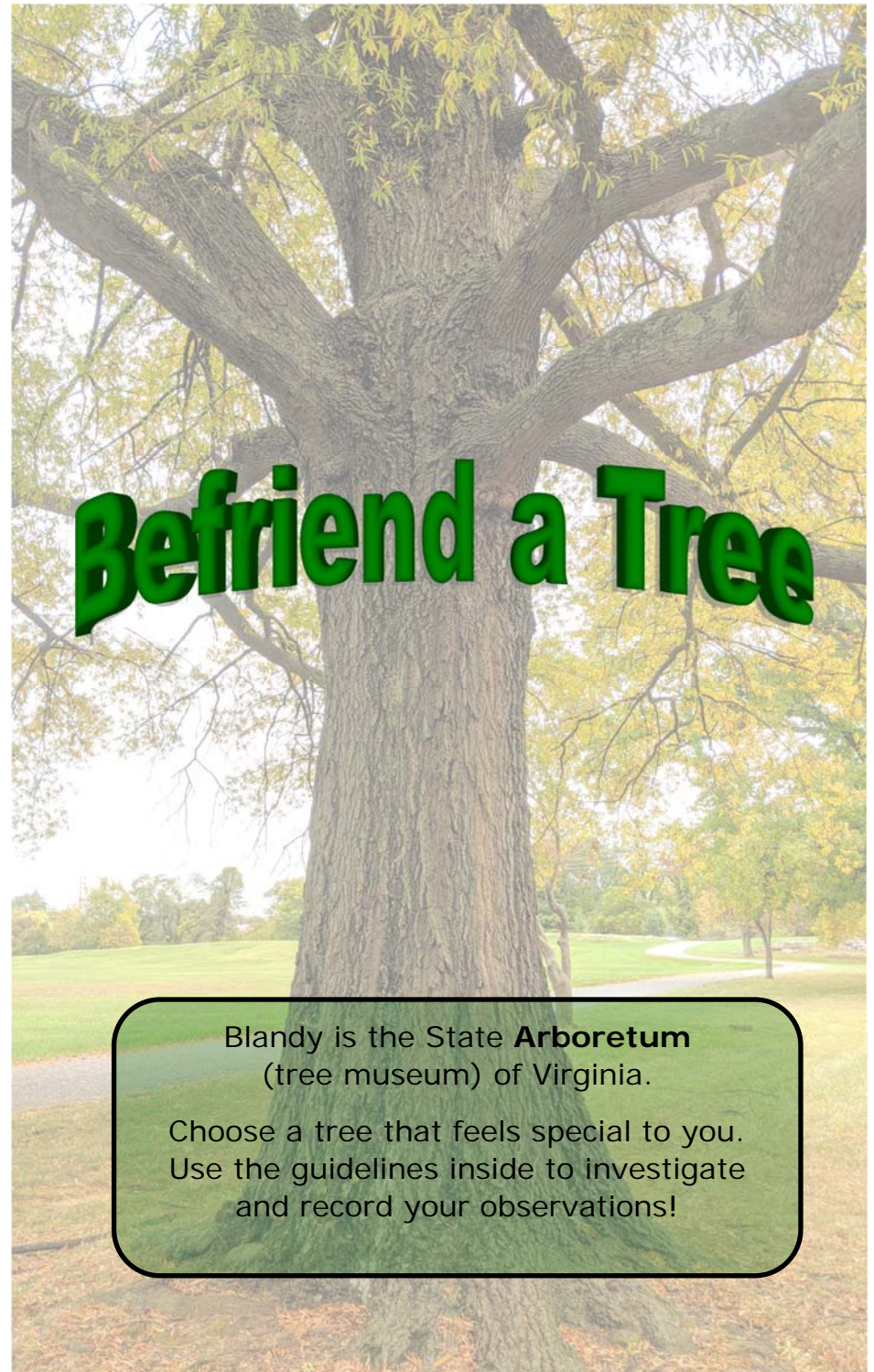
Each time you visit your tree, **describe any changes** you notice since the last visit.

Keep track of seasonal changes in your tree. When do the leaves start to fall? When do the leaf buds form on the branches? When do the fruits or seedpods ripen? (you can submit your observations budburst.org or thenaturalistsnotebook.com)

Draw it from **different angles**.

Make a **rubbing** of your tree's bark using the edge of a crayon or a soft-leaded pencil.

Take photographs of your tree every visit. Look at several of the different photographs at once. In what ways has your tree changed over time and in what ways has it stayed the same?



Befriend a Tree

Blandy is the State **Arboretum**
(tree museum) of Virginia.

Choose a tree that feels special to you.
Use the guidelines inside to investigate
and record your observations!

Are any **animals** on or near your tree? Are there any **signs** that animals have used your tree in the past? Don't forget to look for insects and other little animals. Draw or describe what you see.

Where is your tree? Put it in the **map** on the back.

Draw your tree. Include the trunk, limbs, leaves, and any fruits, flowers, seeds or nuts.

What kind of tree is it? If it has a metal tag use that to look it up at tinyurl.com/BlandyTrees. You can also choose the location and zoom in on your tree (hit "MAP IT" when you have narrowed down your options).

Measure the **circumference** (how big around) of your tree. Visit mytree.itreetools.org to figure out how much your tree **helps the environment!**

Take a **treeie** (a selfie with a tree)!

Investigate the health of your tree. Is it alive? How can you tell? Is it healthy?

Write 10 words to describe your tree (remember to use all your senses), and then use these words in a paragraph or poem about your tree.