

Vermont Monitoring Cooperative
PROCEDURE FOR MONITORING FALL COLOR AND LEAF DROP

OBJECTIVE: To determine the timing and progression of fall coloration and leaf drop at a specific location.

METHODS:

Select at least 5 trees and 5 saplings of each species at each site to monitor. Tag them so that the same trees can be revisited. Since crown ratings are taken, it is ideal to have two people rating each tree. If only one person is going to take measurements, it is helpful to mark the viewing spot so the same location can be used

eac

h time.

Crown color data collection is made by estimating the percent of each tree with color other than green, using 5% classes (0, 1-5 = 5, 6-10 = 10, etc). Leaf drop is best monitored using the crown density measurement as in the National Forest Health

