

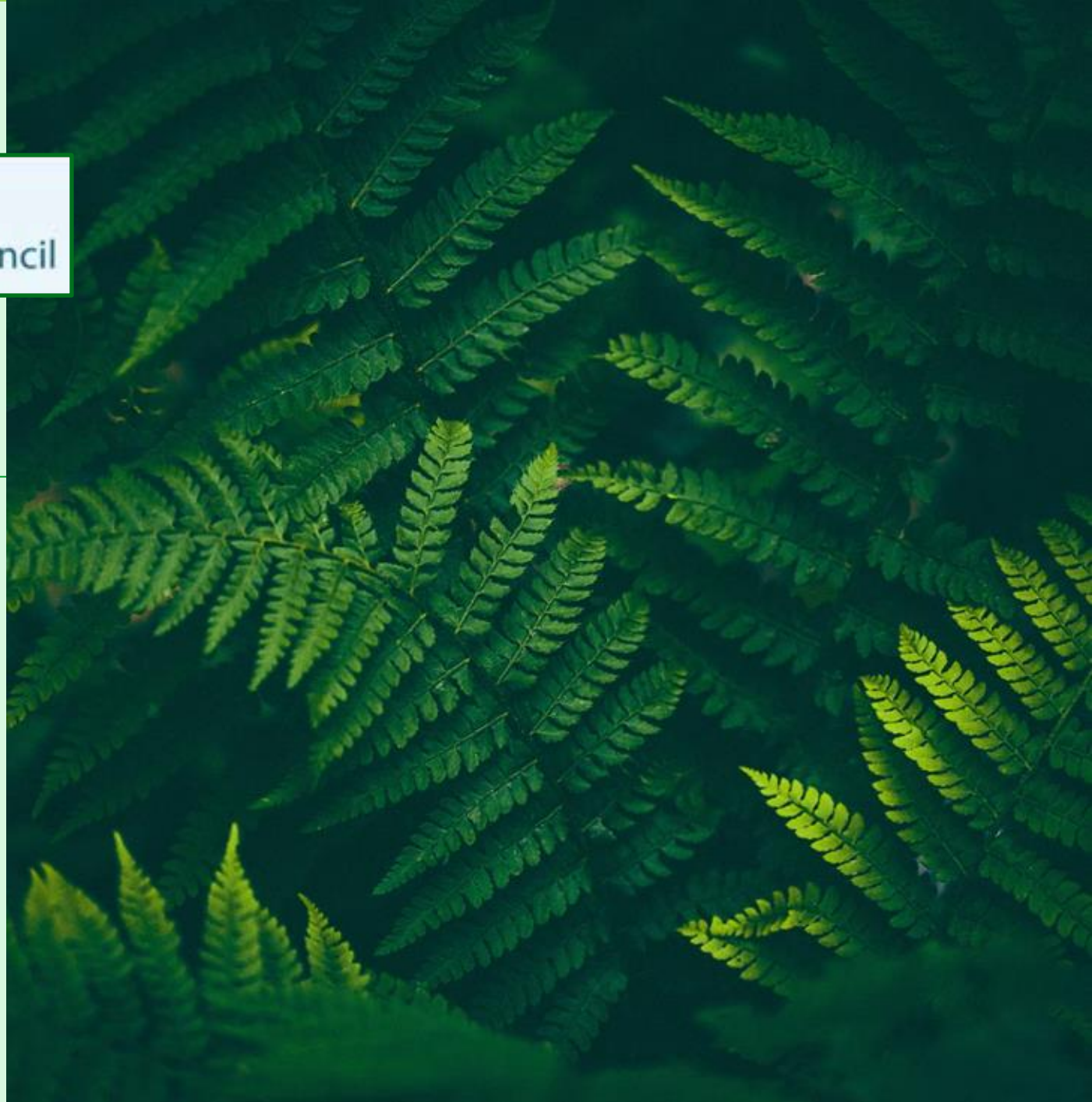


Western New York
Library Resources Council

2025

Continuing Education Webinar

How to Start a Seed Library



What Is a Seed Library?

- A seed library is a community-based collection of seeds that are shared and distributed among members, similar to a traditional library
- Community members can “borrow” seeds, grow plants, save seeds, and if they choose, return some seeds to replenish the library’s stock
- Seed libraries promote seed diversity, community networking, food sovereignty, and localized gardening knowledge – they are a free educational resource for all communities



Seed Library Facts

- The first contemporary seed library was created in 1999 at the Berkeley Ecology Center - the Bay Area Seed Interchange Library (BASIL)
- The first seed library to be established in a public library was at the Gardiner Public Library in Gardiner, New York and was developed by Ken Greene in 2004
- Over 450 seed libraries in the U.S., with many more seed exchanges
- Often located in public libraries and other community centers
- The Seed Library Network Census has counted over 2,000 seed-lending libraries/exchanges internationally



Why Are Seed Libraries Important?

- Food sovereignty/security
- Creating community
- Local resilience
- Food justice
- Educational gardening resource
- Preserving genetic diversity
- Overcomes lack of access of seeds
- Allows communities to experiment
- Encourages gardening
- Saves money
- Ties into other survival skills; e.g. canning, preserving
- Provides alternatives to GMOs
- Preserves culturally important seeds, family/community seeds
- Allows localized knowledge/networks to grow



Where to Begin?

*Donations
&
Purchases*



Donations or Purchases?

The Free

- Sow Right Seeds, Hudson Valley Seed Company
- Free seeds available via donation forms

The Cheap

- Gardeners Basics, High Mowing Organic Seeds, Home Grown Garden
- Affordable kits for large amounts of seeds
- May need help from Friends org



SOW RIGHT SEEDS 

Portland, OR

 **HUDSON VALLEY SEED CO**

Accord, NY

GARDENERS BASICS® 

Spanish Fork, VT






Wolcott, VT



HOME  GROWN

Ramsey, NJ

Donations: What to Expect

 **SOW RIGHT SEEDS** 

Search... 

 ACCOUNT  CART

Seed Donation Program

Our goal is to support charitable organizations who help members of their communities in need of supplemental food.

Gardening is a way of life for us at Sow Right Seeds, but it has the potential to be much more than a hobby or even a way to feed our own family. It is a way to provide healthy food to individuals and families who may not have the means to put fresh, healthy food on the table.

Join us in helping feed our neighbors in need – enter your own organizations' information or nominate an organization in your community to receive free garden seeds.



Donation Form: Sow Right Seeds

Submit a Seed Donation Organization

(all fields unless noted are REQUIRED)

1

Name of Organization

Contact First Name

Contact Last Name

Contact Email Address

 Contact Phone Number

Submit a Seed Donation Organization

(all fields unless noted are REQUIRED)

Name of Organization

Contact First Name

Contact Last Name

Contact Email Address

 Contact Phone Number

Is the Org Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Registered?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Tax ID Number (enter NONE if not a 501(c)(3))

Organization Website Address

Street Address

Street Address 2 (optional)

City

State

Zip Code

• This is a chance for you to tell us about your organization's mission, current projects and initiatives. We'd love to hear in detail about the good you're doing in the world.

Tell us about your organization

• In this field, please provide specifics about how your organization would be using a seed donation to fight hunger. (Please provide a detailed answer)

How would you use a seed donation to fight hunger?

May we share your story on our website/social media accounts

☐ Yes

☐ No

Submit this Organization



Donation Form: Sow Right Seeds

Is the Org Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Registered?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

2

Tax ID Number (enter NONE if not a 501(c)(3))

Organization Website Address

Street Address

Street Address 2 (optional)

City

State

Zip Code

Submit a Seed Donation Organization
(all fields unless noted are REQUIRED)

Name of Organization

Contact First Name

Contact Last Name

Contact Email Address

 Contact Phone Number

Is the Org Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Registered?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Tax ID Number (enter NONE if not a 501(c)(3))

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- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Submit this Organization



Donation Form: Sow Right Seeds

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3

Tell us about your organization

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How would you use a seed donation to fight hunger

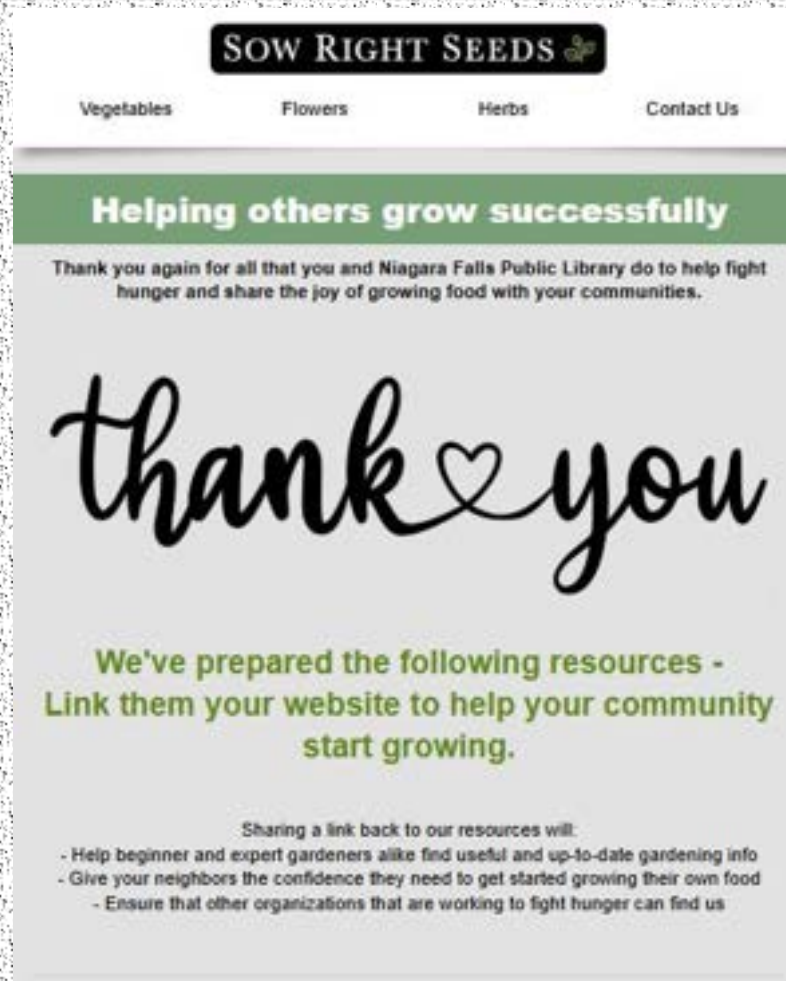
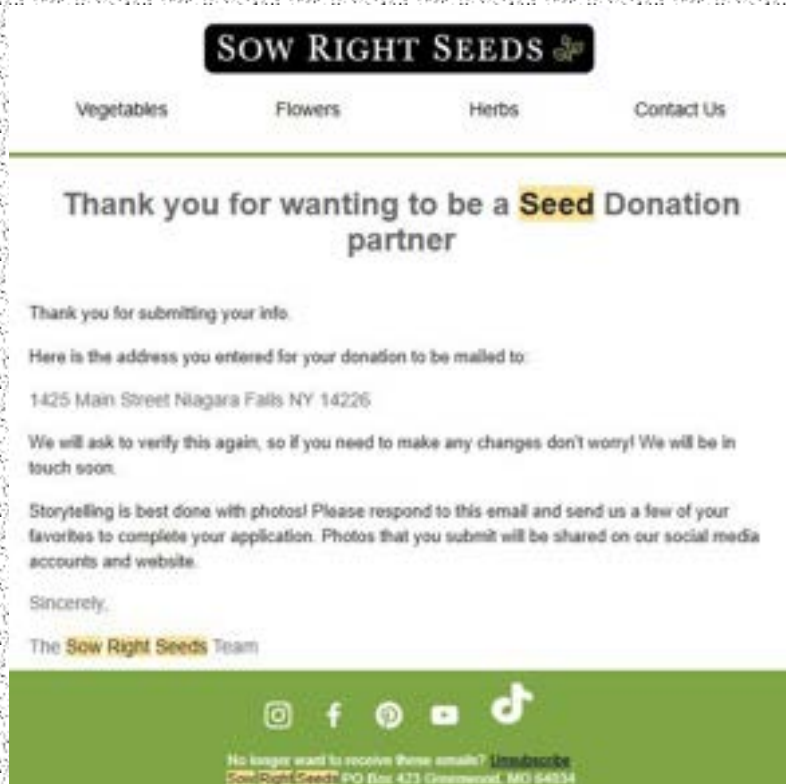
May we share your story on our website/social media accounts

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Submit this Organization



Confirmation Email: Sow Right Seeds



Take Heed of Stipulations

Qualifying Organizations

Our goal is to support charitable organizations who grow produce to help members of their community who are in need of food assistance.

These may include but are not limited to:

- Community kitchens
- Food assistance programs
- Food banks
- Soup kitchens
- Food pantries
- Non-profits
- Hunger relief programs

What will be donated

We will donate a collection of seed packets with growing instructions to help your organization grow healthy, nutrient-dense produce for the individuals and families you serve.

Collections will include 25-100 seed packets depending on your organization's ability and space to grow (please describe in form).

The varieties will vary based on seed availability but we will include varieties that are highly productive relative to the space they require.



Request Forms for Hudson Valley & High Mowing Seeds

How to register:

Use this [Registration Form](#) to nominate a group to receive free seeds. This can be your own group or a group you'd like to see receive free seeds. Please check contact info carefully. If the email address is incorrect we won't be able to get in touch!

How to qualify:

Donation seeds must be used for planting. Please do not use them for fundraising or resale.

Groups must be a food or gardening focused not-for-profit organization and be able to say where the seeds will be planted. This could be a school or community garden organization that will be distributing seeds to gardeners in need.

After reviewing applications, we will email qualified applicants with instructions on how to receive the donation package.



Hudson Valley Seed Co. Donation Request Form

Here at the Hudson Valley Seed Co. we love gardening, and we believe it should be a part of everyone's lives. To help make gardening as accessible as possible, we donate packs of seeds to those in need. Over the years we've donated thousands of seeds to school gardens, community garden groups, Seed Libraries and other non-profit organizations - last year alone, we sent out over 5,000 packs of seed.

info@hvsco.org [Switch account](#)

Not shared

* Indicates required question

Applicant Name (First, Last) *

Your answer

Organization Name *

Your answer

Email Address *

Your answer

Website (if applicable)

Your answer

Is this Organization (check all that apply): *

☐ School

☐ Library

☐ Community Garden

☐ Non-profit

☐ Other: _____

How will this seed donation help this organization? How does your group intend to use this donation, if received? (Limit 250 words)

Your answer



DONATION ORDER FORM

At High Mowing Organic Seeds we strongly believe that seeds are an excellent resource to empower and teach about food security. Through our donation program we support organizations providing farm and nutrition education with programs such as community gardens, school gardens, summer camps, seed libraries and disaster relief groups. If your project falls within our mission, please complete form and return to address below. Thank you!

Organization Name & Tax ID #: _____

Contact Person: _____

Shipping Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

How did you hear about us? _____

☐ Check if you give us permission to feature your project in our newsletter or website!

Please write a short description of your project:

Enter the number of bundles (containing 25 packets each) you are requesting, then multiply by \$3 per bundle, add the shipping cost and enter the total.

\$ _____ multiply # of bundles X \$3.00 each (minimum 2 bundles and maximum limit 15 bundles)
+ \$4.95 Shipping & handling per order (non-contiguous \$5.50)
= _____ Total

When your request has been processed, we will send you an email confirmation of the order, and you can call (866) 735 4454 toll free or (802) 472 6174 to provide payment details.

If **mailing**, please send this form and check to:

High Mowing Organic Seeds

c/o Donations Program

76 Quarry Road Wolcott, VT 05680

Please allow 2-3 weeks from receiving your order for your seeds to ship.

The Source for Certified Organic Seeds Since 1996

76 Quarry Road Wolcott, VT 05680

Phone: 802-472-6174 Fax: 802-472-3201

www.highmowingseeds.com



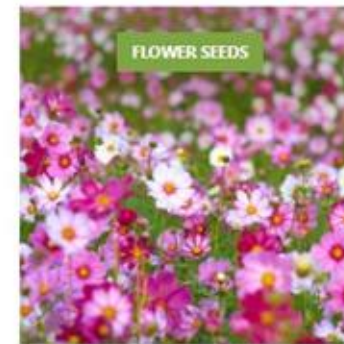
For Your Consideration

- Consider your audience!
- Urban libraries – prioritize container plants/gardening!
- Rural libraries- prioritize non-container/in-ground plants!
- Obtain input from community members about their ‘Seed Needs’ – polling never hurts!
- The goal is to obtain as many free resources as possible – while minimizing labor and costs



GARDEN SEEDS FOR PLANTING

We are proud to offer more than 450 varieties of non-GMO, heirloom, and open-pollinated garden seeds.



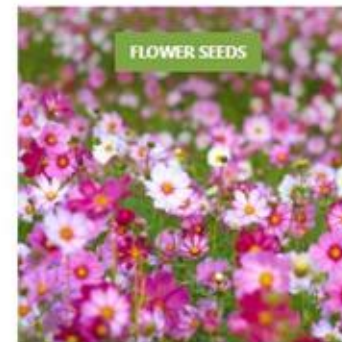
But Have You Also Considered?

- Supplement with introductory garden books/collection development
- Integration with Tool Library, if you have one
- Community health and healthy eating initiatives
- Partnering with Community Organizations – especially for volunteers and people-power
- Community orgs might provide speakers and community resources that can help with programming



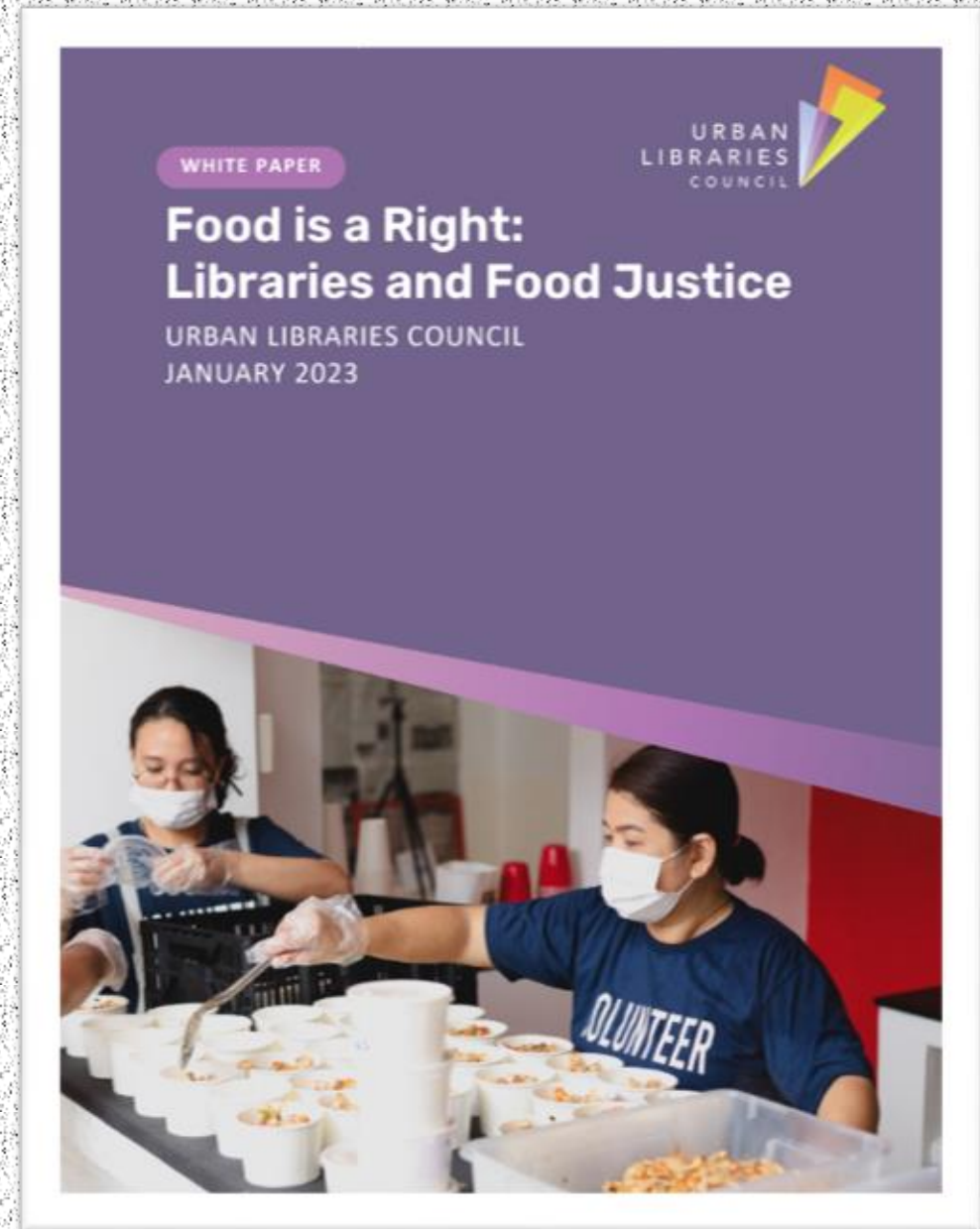
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Libraries and Food Justice

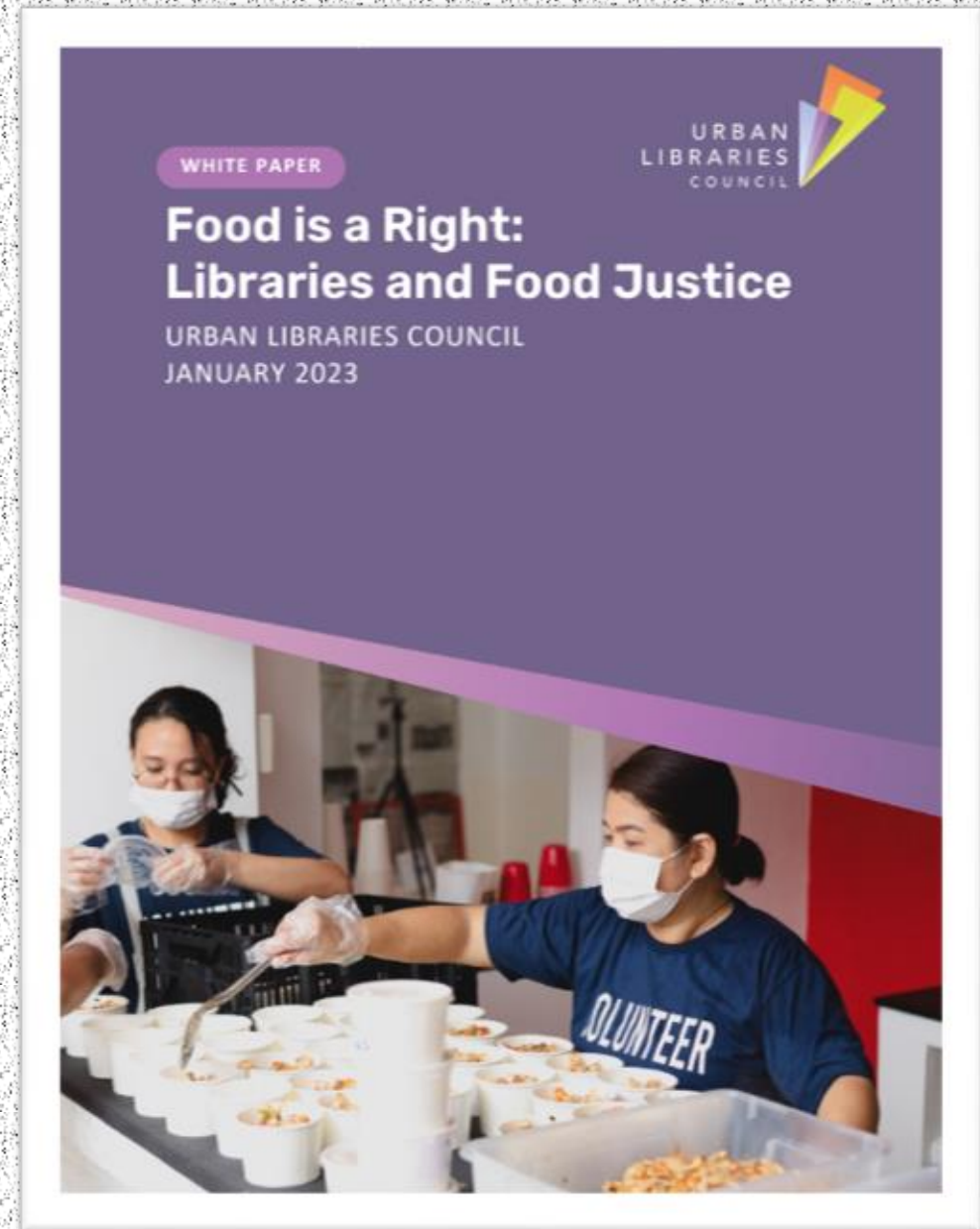
- Everybody deserves to eat - food is a human right
- “For a community to be secure, food must be accessible (physically and economically), affordable, and nutritious.”
- Enduring racial wealth divide in the U.S. economy shaped by systemic racism – profoundly impacts food security for communities of color
- Lack of quality food access due to economic and geographic limitations – resulting from discriminatory policies and practices



https://www.urbanlibraries.org/files/ULC-White-Paper_Food-is-a-Right_2023.pdf

Libraries and Food Justice

- Individuals who face food insecurity demonstrate “adverse social, physical, and psychological outcomes”
- Outcomes range from diabetes and hypertension to behavioral challenges and developmental delays
- Library presence in underserved areas is significant – large overlap between areas without nourishing options and areas with public libraries - therefore, libraries can have the biggest impact
- Seed libraries can work hand in hand with food distribution for youth and adults



https://www.urbanlibraries.org/files/ULC-White-Paper_Food-is-a-Right_2023.pdf

Home Grown Gardens: Grow Guides



- Each of these Grow Guides is a free, downloadable PDF packet



STARTER KITS GROW GUIDES



FLOWER PACKS GROW GUIDE



Gardeners Basics: Vault Kits & Grow Kits

Survival Seed Kits: Your Ultimate Source for Heirloom, Non-GMO, Open Pollinated, and Non-Hybrid Seeds



Vegetable Seed Vault Kit | 35 Variety Pack

★★★★★ 211 Reviews

\$29⁹⁵ \$49⁰⁰

Pay over time for orders over \$35.00 with [shop Pay](#) [Learn more](#)



Buy with [shop Pay](#)

[More payment options](#)

Ultimate Survival Seed Vault: 16,000+ Non-GMO Heirloom Vegetable Seeds for Emergency Preparedness

Introducing the Seed Vault Kit, your all-in-one solution for emergency preparedness and sustainable gardening. This premium seed kit contains over 16,000 non-GMO, Heirloom, Non-Hybrid, and Open Pollinated seeds, carefully curated from 35 different vegetable seed varieties to provide a reliable source of fresh, nutritious produce. Whether you're prepping for survival, building your emergency bugout gear, or simply seeking a healthier, self-sufficient lifestyle, this kit has you covered. Ideal for long-term storage, these seeds are perfect for planting in any climate, ensuring your garden thrives season after season.

This vegetable seeds kit includes the following seed varieties:

Basil - Genovese - 300mg - 200 seeds

Bean - Lima Henderson - 9g - 20 seeds

Bean - Bush - 8g - 20 seeds

Beet - Detroit Dark Red - 2g - 160 seeds

Broccoli - Waltham 29 x 1 - 1g - 370 seeds



Sow Right Seeds: Planter's Library

VEGETABLES

FLOWERS

HERBS

COVER CROPS

MICROGREENS

PLANTER'S LIBRARY

SEED DONATIONS

Browse the Library

Seed Starting Planner

Soil Temperature Chart

Beginner Gardening

Gardening Tools

Heirloom Seeds

Watering 101

Transplanting Tips

Herb Growing Tips

Grow Your Own Herbal Tea

How to Grow Lemongrass

How to Grow Catnip

Grow Chives from Seed

Pollinator Gardening

Butterfly Garden 101

10 Flowers for Attracting

Hummingbirds

Improving Soil

Types of Soil

Plants That Improve Soil

Soil for Containers & Raised Beds

Easy Ways to Build Rich Soil

Vegetables

Start Tomatoes from Seed

Picking the Best Onion Variety

How to Grow Broccoli

Starting Seeds

Starting Seeds Indoors

Seed Scarification

Cold Stratification

Equipment

Gardening Techniques

Companion Planting

Permaculture

Succession Planting



Sow Right Seeds: Planter's Library

SOW RIGHT SEEDS

Search...

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VEGETABLES

FLOWERS

HERBS

COVER CROPS

MICROGREENS

PLANTER'S LIBRARY


SEED DONATIONS

Home / Planter's Library /


10 Must-Have Gardening Tools Every Beginner Needs to Grow Like a Pro

[Beginner gardening](#)


The right gardening tools make all the difference. It doesn't matter if you're a beginner or a pro. But if you're a beginner, you may not realize that there are some essential tools that will make gardening so much easier. In this guide, we'll explore the 10 must-have gardening tools that every beginner should own to make gardening simple, efficient, and fun.



Popular Posts



Fresh Homemade Tomato Sauce Recipe for Canning



Plant These 8 Easy Flowers from Seed for Beautiful Summer Blooms



Jackpot!



Basic Hardware

Here's what you'll need in the way of physical items and costs



Excel Spreadsheets for Inventory

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	Seed Library Initial Seed Inventory Spring 2025							
2								
3	Date	Brand	Categ...	Type	Variety	Number Commercial	Number to Distribute	Notes
4	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Arugula	Eruca Sativa	2	4	
5	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Eggplant	Black Beauty	2	4	
6	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Kale	Red Russian	2	4	
7	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Lettuce	Buttercrunch	2	4	
8	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Bush Bean	Contender	2	4	
9	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Asparagus	Mary Washington	2	4	
10	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Cucumber	Beit Alpha	2	4	
11	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Flower	Marigold	Cracker Jack	2	4	
12	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Radish	Cherry Belle	2	4	
13	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Flower	Zinnia	California Giants	2	4	
14	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Fruit	Melon	Hale's Best	2	4	
15	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Sweet Corn	Bantam	2	4	
16	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Pepper	California Wonder	2	4	
17	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Garden Pea	Sugar Snap	2	4	
18	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Flower	Sunflower	Peredovik	2	4	
19	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Flower	Nasturtium	Alaska Mix	2	4	
20	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Herb	Oregano	Origanum Vulgare	2	4	
21	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Herb	Parsley	Flat Leaf	2	4	
22	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Swiss Chard	Rainbow	2	4	
23	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Tomato	Beefsteak	2	4	
24	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Tomato	Large Red Cherry	2	4	
25	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Tomato	Roma	2	4	
26	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Turnip	Purple Top	2	4	
27	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Herb	Dill	Anethum Graveolens	2	4	
28	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Winter Squash	Waltham Butternut	2	4	
29	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Flower	Echinacea	Purple Coneflower	2	4	
30	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Summer Squash	Golden Crookneck	2	4	
31	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Pepper	Jalapeno	2	4	
32	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Veget...	Spinach	Bloomsdale	2	4	
33	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Herb	Basil	Genovese	2	4	
34	02/26/2025	Sow Right Seeds	Herb	Chives	Common	2	4	



Plymouth District Library (Michigan)

Housing & Storage

- Get creative with repurposing!
- Doesn't have to be a Card Catalog!
- Consider the size of your space
- Consider your budget
- Consider climactic conditions
- Language/accessibility needs





Housing & Storage





Housing & Storage



- Rodents are attracted to seeds – whether town mouse or country mouse
- Rodent-proof storage containers – don't leave seeds out in the open

- Keep storage climate dry, cool, and dark
- Avoid high humidity, warmth, and moisture





University of Utah Seed Library





San Diego County Library





Madison Seed Library, Madison, FL



Central Library, Indianapolis, IN





Portland District Seed Library, Portland, MI



Bedford Seed Library, Bedford, NH





The Walpole Seed Library, Walpole, MA



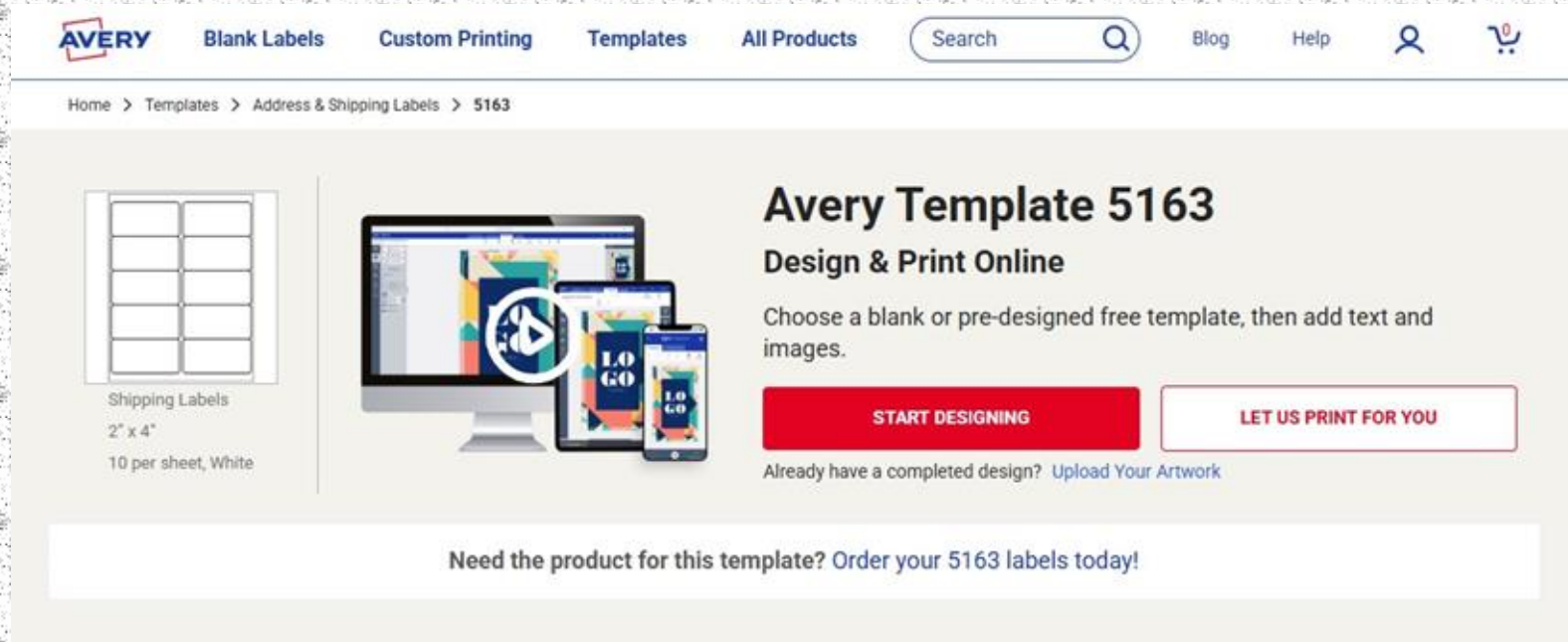
Envelopes

- 2½" x 4¼" of No. 3 Coin Envelopes
- Typically sold in quantity of 500
- Ordering online is cheaper, but stick to your values



Labels

- Avery 5163 Labels, 2"x4" (OR)
- Uline Laser Labels, 2"x4"
- Download Template from Avery Website and open with Microsoft Word
- Design to your color preferences and send types



The screenshot shows the Avery website's product page for Avery Template 5163. The navigation bar at the top includes links for Blank Labels, Custom Printing, Templates, All Products, a search bar, Blog, Help, and a shopping cart icon. The breadcrumb trail reads: Home > Templates > Address & Shipping Labels > 5163. The main content area features a grid icon labeled 'Shipping Labels 2" x 4" 10 per sheet, White'. To the right is a graphic of a computer monitor, tablet, and smartphone displaying the 'LO GO' design. The heading 'Avery Template 5163' is followed by 'Design & Print Online'. Below this is the instruction: 'Choose a blank or pre-designed free template, then add text and images.' Two buttons are present: a red 'START DESIGNING' button and a white 'LET US PRINT FOR YOU' button. A link 'Already have a completed design? Upload Your Artwork' is located below the buttons. At the bottom, a banner states: 'Need the product for this template? Order your 5163 labels today!'.




















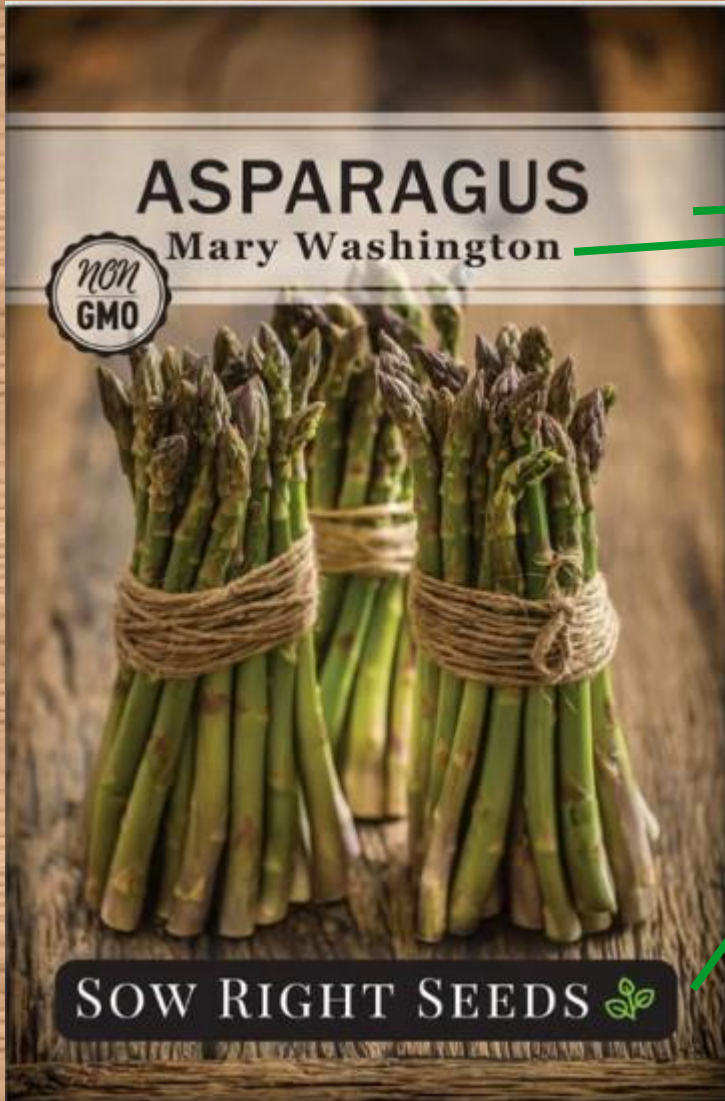
FLOWER

HERB

FRUIT

VEGETABLE

 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station	
 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station	
 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station	
 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station	
 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station		 Vegetation station	



Vegetation station	Vegetable
	Arugula <i>Aruca sativa</i>
	Sow Right Seeds
	Vegetable
	Asparagus <i>Mary Washington</i>
	Sow Right Seeds
	Vegetable
	Beets <i>Bull's Blood</i>
	Sow Right Seeds
	Vegetable
	Broccoli <i>Waltham 29</i>
	Home Grown Garden
	Vegetable
	Brussels Sprouts <i>Long Island</i>
	Home Grown Garden

Vegetation station	Vegetable
	Arugula <i>Aruca sativa</i>
	Sow Right Seeds
	Vegetable
	Asparagus <i>Mary Washington</i>
	Sow Right Seeds
	Vegetable
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	Sow Right Seeds
	Vegetable
	Broccoli <i>Waltham 29</i>
	Home Grown Garden
	Vegetable
	Brussels Sprouts <i>Long Island</i>
	Home Grown Garden



Vegetable

Arugula
Aruca sativa

Sow Right Seeds



Vegetable

Asparagus
Mary Washington


Sow Right Seeds



Vegetable

Beets
Bull's Blood

Sow Right Seeds



Vegetable

Broccoli
Waltham 29


Home Grown Garden



Vegetable

Brussels Sprouts
Long Island

Home Grown Garden



Vegetable

Arugula
Aruca sativa

Sow Right Seeds



Vegetable

Asparagus
Mary Washington

Sow Right Seeds



Vegetable

Beets
Bull's Blood

Sow Right Seeds



Vegetable

Broccoli
Waltham 29


Home Grown Garden



Vegetable

Brussels Sprouts
Long Island

Home Grown Garden



Flower

Poppy
Red Corn

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Rocket Larkspur
Imperial Mix

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Shasta Daisy
Alaska

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Sunflower
Chocolate Cherry

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Sunflower
Giant Grey Striped

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Poppy
Red Corn

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Rocket Larkspur
Imperial Mix

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Shasta Daisy
Alaska

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Sunflower
Chocolate Cherry

Gardener's Basics



Flower

Sunflower
Giant Grey Striped

Gardener's Basics



Herb

Basil
Genovese

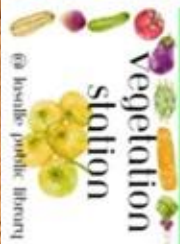
Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Chives
Common

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Cilantro
Coriandrum sativum

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Dill
Anethum Graveolens

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Oregano
Oreganum vulgare

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Basil
Genovese

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Chives
Common

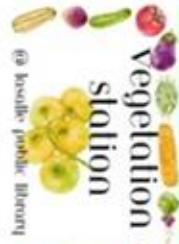
Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Cilantro
Coriandrum sativum

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Dill
Anethum Graveolens

Sow Right Seeds



Herb

Oregano
Oreganum vulgare

Sow Right Seeds



Fruit

Melon
Hale's Best

Sow Right Seeds



Fruit

Watermelon
Crimson Sweet

Sow Right Seeds



Fruit

Melon
Hale's Best

Sow Right Seeds



Fruit

Watermelon
Crimson Sweet

Sow Right Seeds







Publicity & Promotion

Here's what the patron-facing side
of the Seed Library will look like



Signage: What to Include

- Borrowing/Check-Out procedures
- How many packets allowed?
- Speak to library staff – or honor system?
- How to save seeds
- Seed viability chart
- Seed planting times/chart
- Upcoming events
- Community partnerships/organizations/plugs
- Hardiness zone maps



Richmond Free Library (Richmond, VT)

Patron Sign-Out Sheet

Vegetation Station

Seed Check-out List

Only three packets taken out per person, per day. Thank you!

[illegible]

Crafting a Handy Brochure - *Front*



VEGETATION STATION would like to thank the Friends of the Library, as well as High Mowing Seed Company, Sow Right Seeds, and Home Grown Seeds for their gracious donation of seeds and materials. We could not have done this without their support and assistance.


GRASSROOTS GARDENS WNY

VEGETATION STATION works in cooperation with Grassroots Garden WNY. To find out more about their community gardening activism and see how you can become involved, please check out their website at: <https://www.grassrootsgardens.org/>




OPEN
MONDAY + TUESDAY
10am-8pm
WEDS., THURS., FRI.
10am-5pm
SATURDAY + SUNDAY
Closed

 **Location**
8728 Buffalo Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY, 14304

 **Contact Us**
716-283-8309



vegetation station
@ nfpl lasalle branch

A NEW COMMUNITY SEED LIBRARY FOR URBAN GARDENERS


NIAGARA FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY
Explore the possibilities!
NIOGA LIBRARY SYSTEM



Crafting a Handy Brochure - *Back*



VEGETATION STATION
was created to help
nurture and support
Urban Gardeners here in
Niagara Falls, NY.

OUR GOAL is to build a
collection of seeds to share
that reflect our culturally
diverse city, showcase our
beautiful native species, and
feed our communities with
homegrown produce. By
offering a wide variety of herb,
flower, fruit, and vegetable
seeds, we hope to foster a
community of gardeners at all
levels to create a more vibrant,
living city. With this mission,
we strive to help spread the
joy of growing your own plants
from scratch, one green
thumb at a time!

SEED PACKETS AVAILABLE:

HERBS

FLOWERS

FRUITS

VEGGIES



HOW TO BORROW

You may borrow up to three
packets per person, per day.

Herb, flower, fruit, and veggie seed
packets are located in the drawers of
Ye Olde Card Catalog according to
the following color-coded scheme:



**ALL SEED PACKETS CAN BE CHECKED OUT IN-
PERSON IN THE SIGN-OUT BINDER AT VEGETATION
STATION @ THE LASALLE LIBRARY.**

Please feel free to take a
flyer on **Seed Donations**
as well!

Seed Donations Box & Flyer




SEED DONATIONS

ALREADY A GARDENING PRO? HAVE A SURPLUS OF SEEDS? VEGETATION STATION IS ACCEPTING SEED DONATIONS FROM ALL!

PLEASE MAKE SURE THE DONATED SEEDS ARE CLEAN, PACKAGED, AND CLEARLY LABELLED. THEY CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE CIRCULATION DESK AT THE LASALLE BRANCH PUBLIC LIBRARY OR IN THE DONATION BOX AT THE VEGETATION STATION YE OLDE CARD CATALOG. ALL DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!



Working with Sponsors & Community Orgs



Niagara Falls Public Library's **Vegetation Station** is thrilled to be working in cooperation with **Grassroots Gardens of WNY**. Grassroots have graciously donated seeds, resources, time, and energy in helping to get our seed library launched. We could not have done this without them.

Grassroots Gardens is a dedicated group of community gardeners and activists whose mission is to share knowledge, power, and resources to grow healthy food, heal systemic harm, and strengthen neighborhood connections through community gardens.

There are currently over 70 gardens in Buffalo and Niagara Falls associated with **Grassroots Gardens**. All are open to the public, and welcoming of all ages, backgrounds, skills, and abilities! Grassroots may not charge fees for access to a garden or its affiliated spaces.

To locate a garden near you, visit the [Where We Grow](https://grassrootsgardens.org/our-gardens-process) page at <https://grassrootsgardens.org/our-gardens-process>, or call (716) 783-9653.



Grassroots Gardens WNY
389 Broadway | Buffalo, NY 14204
(716) 783-9653
grgbuffalo@gmail.com



#ggwny #grassrootsgardenswny
#wegardencommunities



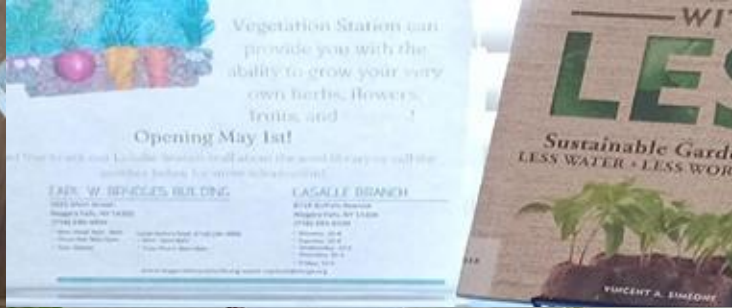
Working with Sponsors & Community Orgs

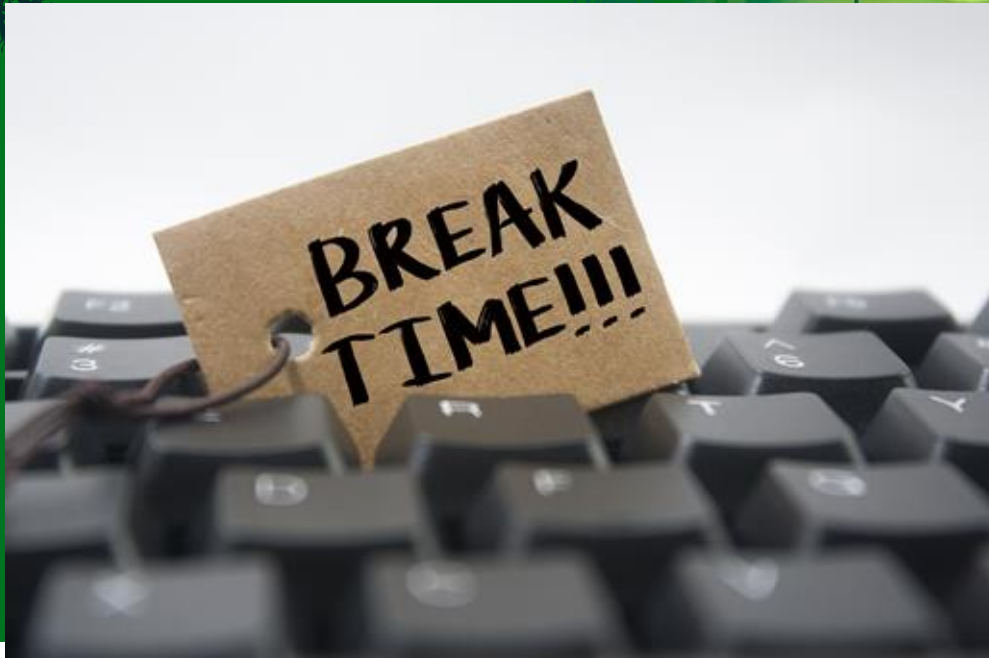
- Local sustainability groups
- Community gardening clubs
- Local seed savers groups
- Cooperative Extensions
- Library and community space holders
- University/Community College Horticulture Departments
- Library/Community Volunteers
- Teachers/Gardeners/Volunteers willing to help with programs/maintenance of seed library
- Seed Bomb programs and Plant Exchanges are particularly popular
- Invite speakers from these orgs to promote them
- Use social media to tap into local groups that already exist and share your goals



The Finished Product







We will now break to take a peek at the Niagara Falls Public Library website!





Seed Catalog



Questions



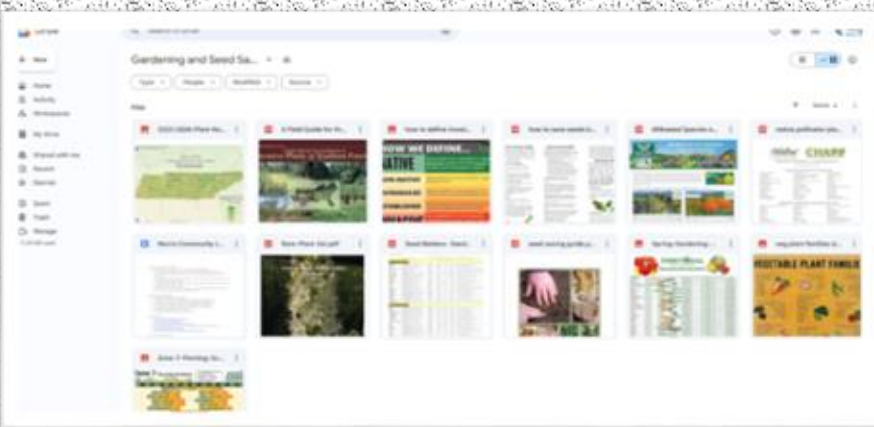
More Seed Resources



Norris Library Seed Catalog - Available Seed Varieties

	Variety	Current # of envelopes	more	Source	Date Added	Date Seed Saved	Original quantity
Peas (Peas)							
Seed 01	Carlson	5	-	Library Purchased	04/16/2024	2023 seeds	4 envelopes each ~25
Seed 02	Omni's Pink	3	-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 2 envelopes	
Seed 03	Fantastic P1		-	Donation: From Campus	12/30/2024	2024 4 envelopes	
Seed 04	Black Kite		-	Donation: Saved Seed	03/01/2025	2024 1 envelope	
Peas (Peas)							
Seed 05	Libertian Purple (aka Purple Haze)	1	-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 1 envelope	
Peas (Peas)							
Seed 06	Gold Nugget	1	-	Library Purchased	01/16/2024	2023 seeds	4 envelopes each ~25
Seed 07	White Cherry	2	-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 1 envelope	
Seed 08	Gold Nugget		-	Donation: From Campus	04/06/2024	2024 1 envelope	
Seed 09	White Cherry		-	Donation: From Campus	05/09/2024	2024 1 envelope	
Seed 10	Black Cherry		-	Donation: Bought Seed	05/01/2025	2024 1 envelope	
Peas (Peas)							
Seed 11	Bull Nose Ball	1	-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 1 envelope	
Seed 12	Burnt	1	-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 2 envelopes	
Seed 13	Miniature Chocolate Ball	1	-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 1 envelope	
Seed 14	Father O'Connell Paprika		-	Donation: From Campus	04/22/2024	2023 1 envelope	
Seed 15	Gourmet		-	Donation: From Campus	12/30/2024	2024 1 envelope	

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Norris Seed Library (Norris, TN)

Donating Seeds

We DO NOT ACCEPT:

- Chemically treated seeds
- Patented seeds
- GMO seeds
- Unprocessed plant parts containing seeds
 - Ex. whole dried corn cobs, unhusked beans, seed pods, etc.
- Live plants (roots, cuttings, corms, etc)
 - except at seed swap events

We DO accept:

- Saved seeds
- Hybrid/F1 seeds
- Commercially sold seeds (as long as they are not chemically treated, GMO, or patent protected)

Seed donations can be brought to the front desk or put in a waterproof container/bag in the book drop with relevant information attached including

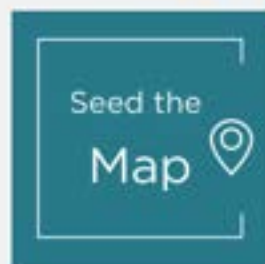
- Seed source
- Seed type/variety
- Date seed saved
- OPTIONAL: suggested planting date/instructions, frost hardiness, seed origin location, any other notes



Norris Seed Library (Norris, TN)



Seed Library Map



Get on the Seed Library Map!

Is your seed library open? Take 5 minutes to get on the Global Seed Library Map.



Explore the Map

Search the map to find other folks in similar regions or at the same type of location.



Seed Library Networks

Check out other seed library networks and learn about how you can create your own.

Seed Library Network

hello@seedlibrarynetwork.org



Global Seed Library Census

Welcome to the Seed Library Network's first census! The Seed Library Network was established in 2011 to support communities to create local seed projects. We provide free, online resources on how to start and maintain a seed library as well as feature special projects that some seed libraries offer. We also host a summit to bring together the seed library community to share inspiration and best practices. Stay connected with us by joining us on our UpBeet! Seed Library Forum. (Sign up from our home page at <http://SeedLibraries.net>) and on social media @SeedLibraries. By filling in this census, you become part of this growing community!

This census has 2 parts. Filling in Part 1 gets your seed library on the map. The other section will help us identify the needs of and resources in the seed library community. **If your library is closed or you were planning and decided not to, do not complete this form.** Please only fill this in if you have opened.

How much time will this take? 10-15 minutes.

Map questions = 10 minutes. Seed questions = 5 minutes (optional). You can edit your responses later if you want to go back. **Please share this survey with your other branches to ensure that they are included on the map.**

Photo (Optional): Be prepared to upload a photo showing your seed library. NOTE: Only Gmail based accounts can upload. So sorry, it would be more interesting to have a picture of the seed library and not the building it is housed in. These will be public and linked on your entry.

Languages: We apologize for only being able to offer this census in a few languages and acknowledge that these languages often are part of a history of oppression and colonization. Please feel free to fill in the form in a language that best meets the needs of your community.

Since starting the Sister Seed Library List, we've had more than 2,600 entries! We want to update the list and the information will be used to:

- populate a Seed Library Network Map (coming soon)
- help others near you or in similar bioregions connect
- assess needs of seed libraries to help with the SLN programming and resource offerings
- identify trends in the seed library community and local seed saving efforts, such as an



Location

Our seed library is located in a:

(The location you pick will be used to identify the icon for the pin on the map. The codes in front help us to organize across languages. If you are located in another type of place, let us know in the "other" section.)

- ☐ G1 Public library
- ☐ G2 University / post-secondary education
- ☐ G3 School (K-12)
- ☐ G4 Community center
- ☐ G5 Farm
- ☐ G6 Horticultural / botanical center
- ☐ G7 Mobile
- ☐ G8 Non-profit
- ☐ G9 Outdoor education / Nature center
- ☐ G10 Private home
- ☐ G11 Indigenous Community
- ☐ G12 Museum or historic center
- ☐ G13 Agricultural center
- ☐ G14 Store
- ☐ G15 Seed Library Network
- ☐ Other: _____

Special Collections & School Seed Libraries



School
Seed Libraries

School Seed Libraries



Native
Seed Libraries

Native Seed Libraries



Academic
Libraries

Academic Libraries



Dye &
Fibers

Dyes & Fibers



Herbal Seed
Collections

Herbal Seed Collections

School Seed Libraries

Questions to consider 🤔

- Who will organize and run the seed library?
- Will the seed library be connected to a class, such as science or social studies?
- Where will you source your seeds?
- If you have a school garden, can you do a climate adaption project where students grow diverse mixes and select?
- Will parents or the community be able to access? Or will access be limited to parents on special days when parents are on campus?
- Where is the best location for your seed library? Should it be in the front office or in the library or some other location?



Seed libraries in schools can be organized by:

- school librarians
- Parent Teacher Organizations
- school garden coordinator
- motivated teachers or staff members
- student-led
- Master Gardeners in coordination with a staff member

School seed libraries tend to be closed to the general public. Depending on the age of the students and available staffing, they may have limited hours in order to properly check out seeds. With older students, self-check out systems can be an option. Having an orientation video or process is helpful. Here is a [short orientation video](#) created by a student seed librarian at Hall Middle School, Larkspur, California, USA. (Here is the [older version](#) of the orientation.)

The [One Seed, One Community](#) Program is a program where everyone grows the same plant from seed to seed and are provided educational information along the way. It is a great way to engage your community in the seed library at your school and learn how to save a seed together while building community. Here is a [video](#) that can be sent to parents about the One Seed, One Community (made by a 7th grade seed librarian).

Refer to the [Seed Library Map](#) to find other schools that have seed libraries.



Thank You!



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