



# SEED LIBRARY



## Seed Library FAQs

### What's the Seed Library?

The Poudre River Public Library District's Seed Library, located at Old Town Library, is an ever-changing collection of open-pollinated and heirloom seeds available for community members – from beginner to expert gardener – to check out, take home, and plant.

The Seed Library is built on fruit, vegetable, and herb seed donations from the community. However, you don't need to donate seeds to take seeds home.

### Where do the seeds come from?

Our seeds are donated by our community. Some seeds are donations from outside groups or seed companies; others were harvested and saved from plants grown by neighborhood gardeners.

### Is there a list of what's in the seed library?

Due to the changing nature of our collection, the best way to find out what's available is to stop in!

### How many seeds are in each packet?

The number of seeds in a packet varies from plant to plant and packet to packet. For some plants, just a couple seeds can go a long way.

### How do I get instruction on how to grow\* the seeds?

There is information in the resource binder on the top of the seed cabinet, including links to our partners' websites for additional help. We also have a selection of gardening books on the second floor of Old Town Library (nonfiction, call number 635) and the Library sometimes offers workshops on gardening topics.

*\*We aim to provide clean, heirloom fruit, vegetable, and herb seeds of the highest quality. However, as we rely on donations, we cannot guarantee a germination percentage of the seeds we lend out.*

### How do I donate seeds?

The Seed Library only accepts fruit, vegetable, and herb seeds. We prefer seeds that are open-pollinated or heirloom because seeds from these plants will be more viable the following year. If you do not know whether your seeds are open-pollinated or heirloom, please note that on the information label when you donate your seeds.

1. Bring seeds that are dry and free of chaff to the Seed Library located on the first floor of Old Town Library.
2. Fill out the information required on the seed donation form.
3. Place the seeds and the form in an envelope provided. Each variety of seed must be placed in a separate envelope.
4. Drop the envelope in the donation box located by the Seed Library.

Seed Library volunteers sort through, clean, and repackage all donated seeds to ensure accuracy of labels and to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and plants. Seeds are then added to the Seed Library for others to check out.

*NOTE: When donating seeds, be sure that your seed package does not contain noxious weeds, copyrighted seeds, or marijuana seeds.*

### When should I bring back the seeds I've saved?

At your convenience. You can bring them back as soon as you've got them harvested, or you can wait and bring multiple packets at once.

### How do I learn how to save seeds?

The Library sometimes offers workshops on seed saving and other gardening topics. Sign up for our weekly program email update to be notified of upcoming programs, and/or take a look at our resource list to find materials and people to help you.

In addition to books available at the libraries, online resources are available to learn about harvesting and saving seeds.

CSU Larimer County Extension: [larimer.extension.colostate.edu](http://larimer.extension.colostate.edu)

The Gardens on Spring Creek: [www.fcgov.com/gardens](http://www.fcgov.com/gardens)

The Growing Project: [www.thegrowingproject.org](http://www.thegrowingproject.org)

Rocky Mountain Seed Alliance: [www.rockymountainseeds.org](http://www.rockymountainseeds.org)

Seed Savers Exchange: [www.seedsavers.org](http://www.seedsavers.org)

### How can I help the Seed Library grow?

1. **Donate seeds.**
2. **Donate time.** Our volunteers sort, clean, repackage, label, and catalog our seeds. Contact Ian Holmes, Adult Services Librarian, at 970-221-6740 if you're interested.
3. **Donate expertise.** If you're an expert gardener or seed saver, and you're interested in teaching a workshop or being a gardening mentor, contact Ian Holmes at 970-221-6740.

### Thank You!

We appreciate the help of our community partners in creating and maintaining the Seed Library!

