



LANESBORO PUBLIC LIBRARY

P.O. Box 330 / 202 Parkway Avenue South
Lanesboro, MN 55949 / www.lanesboro.lib.mn.us
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Seed Library Policy Approved: April 19, 2023

The Lanesboro Public Seed Library will encourage the tradition of seed saving and foster a community culture of sharing. The Seed Library will focus on the following two activities:

1. Establishing, growing, and curating a depository of seeds available to all library card holders at no cost.
2. Providing information, instruction, and education about sustainable gardening.

Donation of Seeds

Lanesboro Public Library accepts donations of vegetable, herb, and flower seeds from commercial seed companies, seed banks, individuals, and other local, partner organizations with a shared interest in seed collection. Donated seeds must be from open-pollinated, non-genetically modified, non-hybrid and/or heirloom plants that are not listed as invasive species by the MN Department of Natural Resources. The Lanesboro Public Library reserves the right to refuse or to dispose of donated seeds that do not meet these criteria. Donated seeds must include the following information prior to acceptance by the library: Common name, variety, location of harvest, year of harvest, seed saving technique (dry, wet, fermentation), and any notes pertinent to the seeds. Donations may be made at the library's Circulation Desk.

Organization of Seeds

Donated seeds will be sorted, packaged and labeled by library staff or library partners volunteering to assist with the seed library project. Each seed packet label will include information about type of seed, growing information, level of difficulty to grow and level of difficulty to save seeds. Seeds will be kept at the library in designated storage.

Borrowing Seeds

Library card holders may check out up to five (5) seed packets per year, including no more than one (1) packets of any one variety. This limit may change as the seed library expands.

Returning Seeds

Card holders are encouraged to return seeds from plants they originally borrowed. Seeds should be saved according to best practices. The library can recommend seed saving books or literature. Seeds should not be returned to the library unless the grower knows how to properly save them. Returned seeds should be dry and labeled clearly with information specified above in the Donation of Seeds section.

Disposal of Seeds

Seed packets may be disposed of as necessary due to age, exposure, contamination, report of problems, etc. Lanesboro Public Library reserves the right to cease borrowing of any variety of seed at any time. Lanesboro Public Library reserves the right to cease existence of the Seed Library at any time due to the needs of the library.

