

# Osborne and Henderson SEED LIBRARIES

Seed Libraries are a free Winnipeg Public Library program to encourage gardening and local food production. We offer seeds and education through gardening programs. By saving seeds you are preserving heirloom varieties and protecting biodiversity in food crops. Growing your own food is also a step to community resilience and self-reliance. Borrowing seeds also allows you to experiment with new varieties of plants.

## Returning Seeds:

Each November the Seed Libraries are open for you to drop off your saved seeds. We welcome seeds that you have harvested and/or leftover purchased seed. Seeds are to be:

- Dry and no more than two years old.
- Heirloom/heritage or organic (no hybrids please).
- From fruits, vegetables, flowers, and herbs.

If you have never harvested your own seeds, these websites can help you get started:

Seed Savers Exchange [www.seedsavers.org/Education/Seed-Saving-Resources](http://www.seedsavers.org/Education/Seed-Saving-Resources)

Seed Alliance [www.seedalliance.org](http://www.seedalliance.org) and How to Save Seeds [howtosaveseeds.com](http://howtosaveseeds.com)

Pick up envelopes from **Osborne Library** (625 Osborne St.) or **Henderson Library** (1050 Henderson Hwy) - or use your own. Put your seeds in the envelope:

- Large seeds: a pinch of seeds in each envelope
- Small seeds: two pinches of seeds in each envelope

Fill out and place a label on each envelope. Share as much information as you can. Seal the envelope. Bring your labeled seeds to the Library so they can be entered into the Seed Library.

(If you are unable to pick up labeled envelopes from the library in advance and don't have your own, please bring the details to the right. You can transfer your seeds into labelled envelopes at the library.)

## Borrowing Seeds:

Each February, the Seed Library will be open for borrowing.

- The Seed Library operates on the honour system. Select up to 6 packages from the seed collection (one pack/plant variety limit)
- Plant and Harvest and save more seeds for yourself and the library!

Common name:

Scientific name:  
(if known)

Variety:

Year harvested:

Growing instructions:  
(spacing, sun exposure, soil type)

Please check all that apply:

Annual       Perennial

Biennial

Flower

Food

Herb

Medicine

Please let staff know if you would like information about free library gardening programs. Programs are offered throughout the year, especially spring and fall. Sign up for our News and Events email at [winnipeg.ca/library](http://winnipeg.ca/library), as well.



*The Osborne Seed Library operates in partnership with The People Garden of Sustainable South Osborne.*