

Southborough LibGuide: Saving Seeds **It all begins with a seed!!**

Did you plant a flower or vegetable garden this year? If so, consider saving seeds to donate to our Library Seed Exchange.

In order to make our Library Seed Exchange self-sustaining, we gratefully accept your seed donations of herbs, vegetables, and flowers. *Note that we cannot accept plants, only seeds.*

At the end of the growing season, take the following steps to save your seeds:

- Cut the flower head with a scissor or knife.
- Collect ripe seeds from flower head and place on waxed paper.
- Allow seeds to dry for about one week.
- Clean the seeds by removing husks or pods.
- Place seeds in an envelope or paper bag and label with the name of plant, color (if applicable), and any other pertinent information.
- Bring your seeds to the Southborough library and put them in our Seed Donation Box, which can be found near the repurposed card catalogue in the Judy Williams Reading Room.

Thanks for helping us grow our Library Seed Exchange and increasing our impact to the gardeners in the community!

Southborough has an assortment of books to help you learn how to save seeds. You also have [access to books](#) from all CWMARs libraries by going into your account, browsing, and putting books on hold. [Libby](#) and [Hoopla](#) offer e-books that can be accessed using your library card.

Book Resources:

[Seed Sowing and Saving: Step-by-Step Techniques for Collecting and Growing More than 100 Vegetables, Flowers, and Herbs](#)

Carole B. Turner
635.0472 TURNER

[Seed Saving Handbook: How to Preserve Store and Start Heirloom and Organic Seeds](#)

Urban Hillbilly
631.521 HILLBILLY

[Saving Our Seeds: The Practice & Philosophy](#)

By: Bevin Cohen
631.521 COHEN

[The Seed Underground: A Growing Revolution to Save Food](#)

Janisse Ray
631.521 RAY

[Survival Seeds: the Heirloom Seed Saving Handbook](#)

Bronson
635.521 BRONSON

The internet also has many resources you can take advantage of including:

- <https://rootsandrefuge.com/a-complete-guide-to-seed-saving>
- <https://seedsavers.org/learn/seed-saving/>
- <https://extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/saving-vegetable-seeds>