



## How to Borrow Seeds

1. Visit the Connection Desk.
2. Choose up to 5 seed packets.
3. Check out with library card!

### New to Seed Saving?

Start with seeds that are labeled "Easy." These will be easy to grow and harvest the resulting seeds.

#### Easy to save:

- beans
- lettuce
- peppers
- eggplant
- peas
- tomatoes

The seeds that are labeled with a red heart require special planning to preserve varietal purity.

If certain precautions are not taken with them, then the next grower will not get the same plant.

We want to ensure that the seeds that you return to the library are indeed what they claim to be.

When borrowing seeds from the red heart collection please learn about isolating plants at <https://www.seedsavers.org/isolation-methods-to-prevent-cross-pollination>.



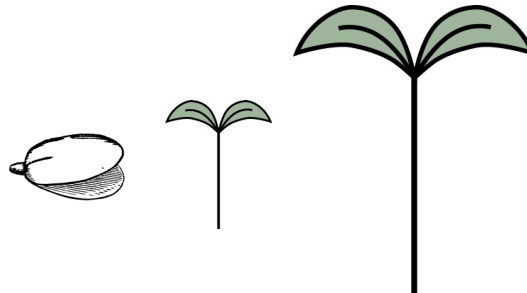
## Library Organization

### The LLD Seed Library is shelved at the Connection Desk

The collection is divided into 4 categories: "Easy," "Red Heart Collection," "Local Harvest Collection," and "Pollinators Collection." Family names are labeled with common members of the family.

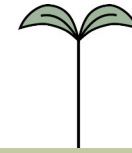
For example:

**Gourd family:** cucumber, gourds, melon, pumpkin.



### Learn More

- Check our calendar for upcoming gardening programs.
- Talk to an Illinois Master Gardener at 630-955-1123
- Read about seed saving under call numbers **631.5 & 635**.
- Join the [seedsavers.org](https://www.seedsavers.org) online forum or watch the webinars offered



## How to Return and Donate Seeds

1. Read the LLD Seed Library brochure.
2. Plant and harvest your vegetables.
3. Save seeds from healthy plants.
4. Return the packet back to the Connection Desk, even if you did not have success collecting seeds.

#### Local Harvest Collection:

1. If you'd like to share *heirloom* seeds from your home garden, return saved seeds in an envelope.
2. Provide plant information on *Local Harvest Collection Form*.
3. Email photograph of plant (if possible) to [connect@lislelibrary.org](mailto:connect@lislelibrary.org) for seed packet identification purposes.

*The LLD Seed Library does not knowingly accept genetically modified or patented seeds.*

Sources consulted/info for this brochure :

- Richmond Grows Seed Lending Library: [RichmondGrowsSeeds.org](https://RichmondGrowsSeeds.org)
- Bakers Creek Heirloom Seed Company: [RareSeeds.com](https://RareSeeds.com)
- [Seedsavers.org](https://Seedsavers.org)



## Seeds and Pollination

A plant produces seeds in order to reproduce itself. Just like an egg has to be fertilized to become a new animal, a seed must be pollinated to produce a new plant. Understanding pollination is key to getting seeds to produce the plants you want. Some plants are **self-pollinating** -- the male and female parts are contained within a single flower that fertilizes itself. Other plants, called **cross-pollinators**, have separate male and female flowers and their pollen has to get from one flower to another in order for the flowers to be fertilized.

### LLD SEED LIBRARY SEEDS

The seeds from families of plants that are self-pollinating are labeled "Easy" to save. Cross-pollinators are labeled with a red heart because it takes effort to keep them from crossing with other plants. Consult [seedsavers.org/isolation-methods](http://seedsavers.org/isolation-methods) for details on how to isolate your crops.



### Types of seeds in the collection

**Open-pollinated** or **heirloom** varieties have been grown for many generations, keeping their physical and genetic qualities relatively stable. This seed will be "true to type" if saved. In simple terms, *you will reap what you sow*.

**Hybrid seeds** are seeds that may unknowingly be in our "Local Harvest Collection" and may not produce plants exactly like the parent plant. They may produce something somewhat or very different.

## What is the "Pollinators" Collection?

As mentioned previously, pollination is an essential step to help our fruits, vegetables, and vital plants come to fruition. Sometimes these plants require additional assistance from some very helpful insects and creatures called **Pollinators**. Our **Pollinators Collection** features flowers and herbs that provide much needed sustenance to support and encourage the propagation of these wonderful helpers. This collection features seeds that are easy to plant, creating an aromatic and aesthetically pleasing garden with a purpose!

**Please support the  
LLD Seed Library  
by returning seeds to share.  
If you did not have any luck  
this growing  
season, simply  
return the empty seed  
packets to the library.**

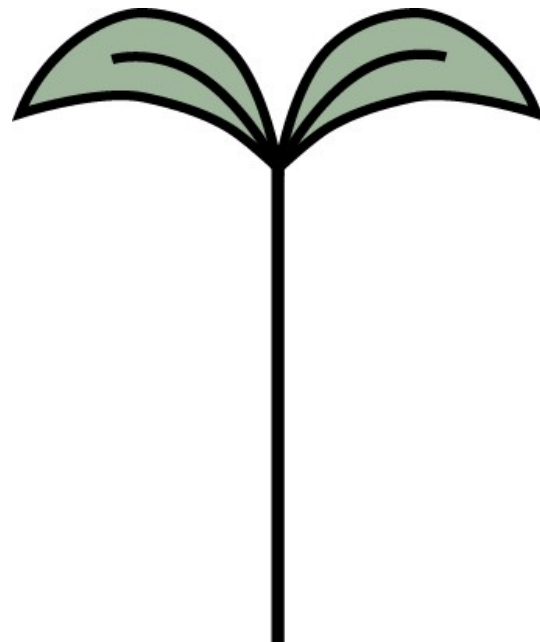
777 Front Street  
Lisle, IL 60532

(630) 971-1675

[lislelibrary.org](http://lislelibrary.org)



## THE LLD SEED LIBRARY



## SEED SAVING

### OUR GOAL

The LLD Seed Library preserves genetic diversity, develops local resilience, increases food education, and encourages direct action.

