



Zinnia

## Our Seed Library is about...

- \* Encouraging our community to experience the joys of gardening
- \* Educating our community about growing, harvesting, and saving seeds
- \* Reconnecting our community to the traditions of growing healthy, delicious food
- \* Nurturing a culture of sharing and abundance
- \* Building a local collection of desert-adapted seeds for our community



Devil's Claw Seeds

## Our Vision & Mission:

Our vision is a community that grows vibrantly healthy together.

The **Seed Library's** mission is to provide equitable access to seeds, knowledge, and opportunities for our community to learn, engage, and connect.

The practice of saving seeds has been around for more than 12,000 years. Today, seed saving helps us to develop stronger seeds that are better adapted to our unique desert climate **and terroir**. It also saves us money! Because seed saving is part of our heritage and traditions, it is one way we can come together as a community. When we grow food **together** our community grows. That's why Pima County Public Library started the Seed Library in January, 2012.

### Questions?

Contact us at [Seed.Library@pima.gov](mailto:Seed.Library@pima.gov)

### Find us at:

 [library.pima.gov/seedlibrary](http://library.pima.gov/seedlibrary)

 @PimaSeedLibrary



Sweet Basil

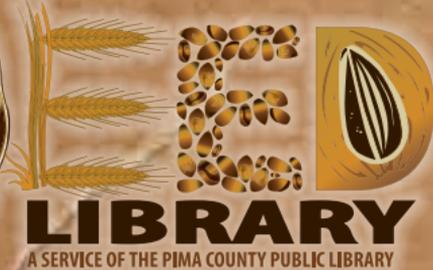


Sunflower

# Borrow Seeds

from the

**PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**



**LIBRARY**

A SERVICE OF THE PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Step 1: Select Seeds

### Browse seeds in person

- \* Visit any of our Seed Library locations in person to browse for seeds.

### Online

- \* Search for seeds using the online catalog
- \* Search our online catalog and place seeds on reserve for pick-up at your local library branch.
- \* To view an alphabetical list of available seeds: **Type "Seed Library" in the subject field and sort by "title."**
- \* To search for a specific seed: **Type "Seed Library" and the type of seed in the keyword search field** (example: Seed Library tomato).
- \* To search for seeds by planting month: **Type "Seed Library" and the month into the keyword search field** (example: **Seed Library January**).

### A note on "Easy" or "Advanced" Seeds

- \* **Easy Seeds** are less likely to cross-pollinate with other plants in the same family and are best suited for those who are just learning to save seeds.
- \* **Advanced Seeds** are very likely to cross-pollinate with other plant varieties, resulting in "mystery" plants. These seeds are best suited for more advanced seed savers.
- \* Please feel free to try growing any seed that interests you. We all learn by trying new things. When growing to save seed, please try to match the seed saving difficulty with your gardening expertise.

## Step 2: Check Out Seeds

All you need is a current PCPL library card. Seeds can be checked out just as you would check out any other library materials. Please scan the barcode on the seed package to check out seeds. You may check out up to 10 packets each month. Seeds will be removed from your library account long before the due date, so you'll never accrue overdue fines.

## Step 3: Saving Seeds

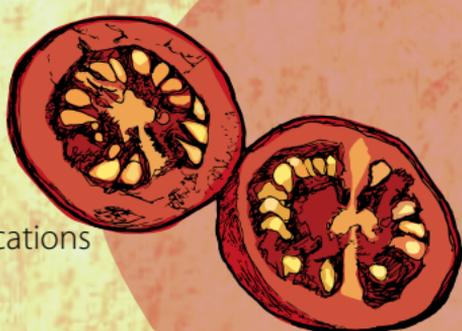
The seeds you borrow from the PCPL Seed Library are free, and yet they are priceless. We hope you learn a lot as you experience the joys of gardening and seed saving. When we save seeds, we are passing on the genetic qualities of the plant that provided the seeds. That's why it's important that we save seeds from plants that grew healthy and strong.

Once you're ready to try your hand at saving seeds, we recommend you check out these helpful seed saving resources to guide you in your learning:

## Step 4: Sharing Seeds

By saving seeds as a community, we help create local seed stocks that are better acclimated to our desert climate. We're happy to accept donations of your open-pollinated, heirloom, and/or locally saved seeds in any quantity. Just follow these easy steps:

- \* Collect and clean seeds from your healthiest and most successful crops, setting aside some for yourself and some for the library (need seed cleaning screens? You can check them out from the Seed Library, too!).
- \* Place each seed variety in a clearly labeled envelope or container, include a **Donation Slip** (available at any Seed Library location, or on the library website) and tell us something about the crop—how it grew, how it tasted, how you used it. The more information you provide, the better we can track the success of our local seed stories.
- \* Bring your labeled seeds to any PCPL branch and we'll add them to the collection for other community members to check out.
- \* *Seeds saved from grocery store produce are not suitable for the Seed Library. Please put them in your compost bin instead.*



Cherry Tomatoes



Chives



Desert Marigold