



## County of San Luis Obispo Public Libraries Seed Library Use Policy

In keeping with our Mission: Connecting the community to knowledge, culture and creativity through exceptional service, County of SLO Public Libraries provides seed libraries in many of their communities.

### Mission of Seed Library

The mission of the seed library is to encourage community members:

- To develop plant varieties that are chosen for our local growing conditions.
- To increase agricultural biodiversity
- To ensure the resilience of our food supply
- To become more self-sufficient as individuals and a community

A Seed Library is a depository of seeds held in trust for the community at large. Seeds are free to the community and there is no requirement to return seeds. We hope you learn a lot as you experience the joys of gardening and seed saving. We offer [books](#) and other resources to borrow, as well as workshops on various gardening topics.

### Benefits of a Seed Library

- Participants can save money by growing their own food and saving their own seed.
- Our seed library is focused on organic varieties ideal for home gardeners (full flavor and variety in a small garden) rather than commercial varieties, which often sacrifice flavor and personality for the sake of uniformity and durability for shipping.
- We get to hang out with other like-minded gardeners!
- Gardening nourishes the soul as well as the body and is a great source of relief from the chaos of urban life.
- As caretakers of seeds, we cooperate with nature in carrying priceless genetic material for future generations. Seeds are a sacred trust passed down to us by our ancestors. The seed library helps us to best honor that gift.
- By growing a plant from seed, eating its fruit and returning it back to seed, we become fully engaged in the rhythm of nature, grow more attuned to the world around us, and gain a deeper understanding of our own place in the web of life. Source: Seed Library of Los Angeles