

LITTLE SEED LIBRARY POLICY:

PURPOSE

Seed libraries play a vital role in enhancing food security at the local level by empowering citizens to take control of their food sources and helping to ensure that a diversity of seeds remains available for current and future generations. These local collections of seeds are made available to the public with the intent to curate a sustainable seed source independent of large, national seed suppliers.

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that measures are taken to provide the highest possible quality of seeds that have been saved to appropriate standards. It should be understood that, due to the nature of seed libraries, quality cannot be guaranteed. Patrons assume all liability and responsibility arising from access to or use of seeds obtained from the Little Seed Library.

MISSION

The Little Seed Library exists to *educate* people about gardening and seed saving practices, *empower* people to take control of their food sources, and *encourage* people to enjoy the process of growing local foods and cultivating healthy soils.

CIRCULATION

- Anyone with a Conrad Public Library card may obtain seed packets free of charge from the Little Seed Library. Seed packets are to be checked out at the circulation desk.
- Limits on seed packet checkouts may be implemented depending on seasonal seed inventory.
- Saving and donating harvested seeds back to the Little Seed Library is encouraged and appreciated, but *not required*.

DONATIONS

- Those wishing to donate saved seeds must complete our brief Seed Saving Course.
- All seed donations must be accompanied by a completed Seed Donation Form.
- Only open-pollinated seeds will be accepted.
- The Little Seed Library *will not* accept the following:
 - Seeds donated anonymously*
 - Seeds harvested from sources labeled *Hybrid, F-1, GMO, or Patented*.
 - Seeds listed as invasive or noxious in Montana.
 - Seeds that take longer than 90 days to mature.
 - Seeds harvested more than two (2) years previous.
- If the Little Seed Library chooses to include seeds that have possibly been cross-pollinated or exposed to pesticides, those seed packets will be clearly marked.
- The Little Seed Library reserves the right to discard any seeds that are of questionable origin or quality, or are otherwise deemed inappropriate for circulation.

**Any patron identification or personal information is for internal use only and will not be provided publicly on seed packaging or otherwise.*