

## South Whidbey Tilth Seed Library

Our mission at South Whidbey Tilth is to cultivate living soil and community action to build an environmentally sound and socially equitable food system.

By saving seeds, you participate in an age-old practice that builds a more genetically diverse and more resilient seed stock that is adapted to our local climate and soil. You also help pass on the culture of seed saving, as well as providing seeds to others in the community.



The seed library is located on the South Whidbey Tilth campus at 2812 Thompson Road (just off State Route 525 between Bayview and Freeland).

Shortly after turning into the driveway, you will see the pump house on your left with the seed library on the outside wall.

### How the Library Works

1. Please sanitize your hands before opening seed containers.
2. Pull the knob on the bottom of the seed library. This brings out a shelf to place the seed containers on while you are looking through them.
3. Take a maximum of 5 seed packets.
4. Sign out seeds on the clipboard with your contact information.
5. Please save as many seeds as you can for next year's library.
6. Take the time to look at the links to growing and seed saving information below.

## Seed Saving Basics

First of all, know your seeds. Besides growing a plant you like, you need to know how your plant pollinates, it's growth timing, and its soil, space and water requirements. This website is a good place to start your planning:

[www.seedsavers.org/saving-seeds-for-beginners](http://www.seedsavers.org/saving-seeds-for-beginners)

Easy seeds to start with are peas, beans, lettuce and tomatoes. This seed-saving chart is useful for planning which seeds to save:

[www.seedsavers.org/seed-saving-chart](http://www.seedsavers.org/seed-saving-chart)

Here are two brochures on seed saving that you can download for free:

[seedalliance.org/publications/seed-saving-guide-gardeners-farmers](http://seedalliance.org/publications/seed-saving-guide-gardeners-farmers)

[www.seedambassadors.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/seedzine4handout.pdf](http://www.seedambassadors.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/seedzine4handout.pdf)

Because the seeds from our library have not necessarily undergone germination rate testing, you should plan to plant extra. Also, if the year that the seed was collected is a few years past, expect a lower germination rate.

## Growing Instructions by Plant

Seed Type	Link to Growing and Harvesting Instructions
Arugula	<a href="http://www.almanac.com/plant/arugula">www.almanac.com/plant/arugula</a>
Beans, Bush	<a href="http://mynorthwestgarden.com/home/beans">mynorthwestgarden.com/home/beans</a>
Beans, Runner	<a href="http://trimazing.com/scarlet-runner-beans/">trimazing.com/scarlet-runner-beans/</a>
Beans, Wax	<a href="http://northwest-gardening.com/growing-beans/">northwest-gardening.com/growing-beans/</a>
Calendula	<a href="http://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-calendula">www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-calendula</a>
Cilantro	<a href="http://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-cilantro">www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-cilantro</a>
Columbine	<a href="http://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-columbine">www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-columbine</a>
Corn	<a href="http://mynorthwestgarden.com/home/corn">mynorthwestgarden.com/home/corn</a>
Dianthus	<a href="http://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-dianthus">www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-dianthus</a>

Dill	<a href="http://harvesttotable.com/how_to_grow_dill">harvesttotable.com/how_to_grow_dill</a>
Kale, Russian	<a href="http://www.almanac.com/plant/kale">www.almanac.com/plant/kale</a>
Lettuce	<a href="http://mynorthwestgarden.com/home/lettuce">mynorthwestgarden.com/home/lettuce</a>
Melon (Farthest North Galia)	<a href="http://www.adaptiveseeds.com/product/highlighted-varieties/adaptive-seeds-originals/melon-farthest-north-galia-organic">www.adaptiveseeds.com/product/highlighted-varieties/adaptive-seeds-originals/melon-farthest-north-galia-organic</a>
Nasturtium	<a href="http://www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-nasturtiums">www.westcoastseeds.com/blogs/how-to-grow/grow-nasturtiums</a>
Parsley	<a href="http://gardenerspath.com/plants/herbs/grow-parsley">gardenerspath.com/plants/herbs/grow-parsley</a>
Pea, Snap	<a href="http://www.swansonsnursery.com/blog/how-to-grow-peas">www.swansonsnursery.com/blog/how-to-grow-peas</a>
Poppy	<a href="http://www.burpee.com/gardenadvicecenter/annuals/poppies/how-to-grow-poppies/article10780.html">www.burpee.com/gardenadvicecenter/annuals/poppies/how-to-grow-poppies/article10780.html</a>
Radish	<a href="http://mynorthwestgarden.com/home/radishes-2">mynorthwestgarden.com/home/radishes-2</a>
Rhubarb	<a href="http://www.southernexposure.com/blog/2015/02/growing-rhubarb-from-seed">www.southernexposure.com/blog/2015/02/growing-rhubarb-from-seed</a>
Spinach, Flamingo	<a href="http://www.johnnyseeds.com/vegetables/spinach/arrowhead-spinach-asian-leaf/flamingo-f1-spinach-seed-3914.html">www.johnnyseeds.com/vegetables/spinach/arrowhead-spinach-asian-leaf/flamingo-f1-spinach-seed-3914.html</a>
Swiss Chard	<a href="http://northwest-gardening.com/growing-swiss-chard">northwest-gardening.com/growing-swiss-chard</a>
Tomato	<a href="http://blog.seattlepi.com/seedtotable/2009/08/28/growing-tomatoes-in-the-pacific-northwest/">blog.seattlepi.com/seedtotable/2009/08/28/growing-tomatoes-in-the-pacific-northwest/</a>
Zucchini	<a href="http://www.almanac.com/plant/squash-and-zucchini#">www.almanac.com/plant/squash-and-zucchini#</a>

## Education

South Whidbey Tilth offers growing and seed saving classes. To stay informed of our upcoming classes, contact [education@southwhidbeytilth.org](mailto:education@southwhidbeytilth.org).