

Seed Library Policy

Adopted by the Board of Trustees March 20, 2024

Purpose

The Seed Library is a free resource that provides seeds to community members for their home gardens. The Hicksville community has expressed an interest in learning about sustainable gardening practices and food cultivation. We intend for this resource to provide a sense of community amongst gardeners. The Seed Library aligns with the Hicksville Public Library's values of sustainability and promoting self-learning.

Donation of Seeds

Hicksville Public Library will accept seed donations from commercial seed companies and/or community partners. Hicksville Public Library staff reserve the right to refuse donations or dispose of donated seeds at any time.

Organization of Seeds

Donated seeds will be sorted by library staff and/or volunteers. They will be repacked in smaller quantities with labels containing information pertaining to seed type, suggested growing instructions, and donor information. Seed packing guidelines will be created and distributed to library staff/volunteers that are repacking the seeds. An inventory list will be maintained by library staff.

Obtaining Seeds

The Seed Library will be restricted to Hicksville library cardholders only. Seeds are to be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. It will be up to the Library's discretion to place limits on the number of seed packets a patron is allowed to borrow based on available inventory. Patrons will be required to fill out a form selecting the types of seeds that they would like and sign a Liability Waiver. Seeds will be picked up from the Circulation Desk. The Library will not

accept returned seeds. Disposal of any unused or unwanted seeds is the responsibility of the patron.

Disposal of Seeds

Hicksville Public Library staff reserve the right to dispose of any portion of its inventory of seeds at any time due to age, contamination, report of problems, etc.

Liability

The Hicksville Public Library is not responsible for any damages, loss, or expense resulting from use or misuse of seeds received from the Seed Library.

Seed Library Liability Waiver

By obtaining the seeds from the Hicksville Public Library (the "Library"), patrons agree to the following:

I, on behalf of myself and my heirs, executors, administrators, and/or assigns, hereby voluntarily release, discharge, and hold harmless the Hicksville Public Library, together with its parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, predecessors, and successors, past, present, and future, and its and their agents, Board of trustees, employees, officers, attorneys, insurers, and reinsurers, past present, and future, and their heirs, executors, administrators, predecessors, successors and assigns (collectively, the "Releasees") of and from any and all legally waivable claims, causes of actions, suits, lawsuits, debts, and demands whatsoever in law or in equity arising from any loss, damage, or injury to persons or property arising from the Releasees' negligence regarding the seeds or from my or my designees' use of the seeds. In no event shall the library be liable to be for indirect or consequential damages. I agree to indemnify and hold the Releasees harmless from and against any liabilities, claims, actions, proceedings, damages, losses, cost, and expenses, including attorney's fees, for all injuries or death of any person or animal, or damage to any property occurring or connected with directly, or indirectly, my or my designee's possession and use of the seeds.

I am obtaining the seeds as-is. I understand that the Library is not responsible for the growth or non-growth of the seeds. I understand and acknowledge that it is my responsibility to determine whether or not the seeds are safe for myself and my designees. I understand and acknowledge that it is my responsibility to determine if the seeds I borrow from the Library are safe for animals. While there is growing information on the seed packets, I understand and acknowledge that it is my responsibility to research planting instructions myself and determine the best planting practices for my garden. I agree to

refrain from using the seeds in a manner inconsistent with their intended purpose. The Library is not responsible for any mislabeling or misidentification of seeds or for any incorrect or ineffective planting or growing instruction

I state that I have fully read and understand this Liability Waiver and the Library's Seed Library Policy. I further understand that failure to comply with these rules may result in revocation of borrowing privileges.