

# Seed Library Newsletter



## What is a Seed Library?

The Central Islip Public Library Seed Library offers free seed packets for home gardening. Our mission is to encourage gardening, sustainability, and community seed sharing. The collection includes a seasonal mix of vegetable, herb, and flower seeds, most of which are organic and GMO-free unless otherwise noted.



## How to Get Seeds?

Each adult patron with a valid Central Islip Public Library card can select 2 seed packets per visit, with a maximum of 6 packets per month. Just stop by the library, show your card, and start growing!



## Introducing the Seed Library!

2025 marks the very first growing season of our brand-new Seed Library a free community resource created to support local gardeners of all levels. Whether you're a seasoned grower or just starting out, we invite you to explore our collection of free, non-GMO seeds available at the library. This initiative was launched to help Central Islip residents grow their own vegetables, herbs, and flowers, all while fostering sustainability and a love for gardening. Stop by the library to browse our selection and start planting today!





# A free gardening resource for our community

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## Benefits of Seed Saving

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### This Season's Featured Seeds:

**Herbs:** Thyme, Dill, Cilantro, Chives, Basil

**Vegetables:** Scallions, Broccoli, Asparagus, Beefsteak Tomato

**Flowers:** Wildflowers, Mixed Perennials, Variety Flowers, Lavender

1. Enhance self-sufficiency
2. Connect with nature and the environment
3. Promote biodiversity
4. Reduce gardening costs
5. Share knowledge with others
6. Preserve agricultural heritage
7. Maintain control over food sources
8. Explore the history of plant varieties
9. Showcase gardening skills
10. Be part of a community-driven initiative

## How It Works

### Step 1: Borrow Seeds

- 2 packets per visit, up to 6 per month
- Must present a valid Adult Central Islip Public Library card
- Visit the Adult Reference Desk and ask for the Seed Library Binder
- Only take seeds you can realistically plant and care for

### Step 2: Plant & Learn

- Each packet includes basic instructions
- Discover more at sites like Seed Savers Exchange and Hudson Valley Seed Company

### Step 3: Return & Share

- Save seeds from your healthiest plants
- Clearly label returned seeds with the plant type and harvest date
- Return seeds to the Adult Reference Desk to support future gardeners



# GARDENING FOR EVERYONE

## BY JULIA WATKINS

(Call Number: 635 WAT)

Looking to bring more green into your life—literally? Whether you're a seasoned gardener or just starting out, *Gardening for Everyone: Growing Vegetables, Herbs, and More at Home* by Julia Watkins is the perfect companion for your journey into growing your own food.

Watkins, known for her passion for sustainable living, brings a beautifully illustrated and approachable guide that demystifies home gardening. With clear instructions and eco-conscious tips, *Gardening for Everyone* shows you how to create a thriving garden space, no matter the size of your yard—or if you only have a balcony or windowsill to work with!



### Inside, you'll find:

- Step-by-step instructions for planting and harvesting vegetables, fruits, and herbs
- Practical advice on composting, soil health, and garden planning
- Gorgeous photos and layouts to inspire every kind of grower
- A focus on seasonal, low-waste gardening methods for a more sustainable lifestyle

Watkins makes gardening accessible, enjoyable, and meaningful. It's more than just growing food—it's about creating a mindful connection with the earth and embracing a slower, more intentional way of living.

