

## ABOUT SEED LIBRARIES

### What is a seed library?

A seed library is an institution that lends or shares seeds. Seed libraries are designed to promote gardening and develop seeds that can become acclimated to our local climate.

### Why have a seed library?

A seed library provides free fruit and vegetable seeds to the community, encourages gardening, educates people about gardening, and creates community.

### Why have a garden?

- Learn new skills
- Enjoy a highly nutritious diet
- Save money on produce
- Grow your own food
- Know where your food is coming from
- Explore a new source of exercise and relaxation
- Build soil and give life to the lawn

## CHECKING OUT SEEDS

Seeds can be checked out at all Leon County Public Library locations and are yours to keep.

Check out up to five seed packets per month using your library card, or three packets per month without a library card, while supplies last.

Library cards are free to all Leon County residents, students, and property owners.

Scan the QR code to sign up for a library card or visit [LeonCountyLibrary.org/LibraryCard](http://LeonCountyLibrary.org/LibraryCard)



# Library Locations

### Leon County Main Library

200 West Park Ave.  
(850) 606-2665

### Bruce J. Host Northeast Branch Library

5513 Thomasville Rd.  
(850) 606-2800

### Dr. B.L. Perry, Jr. Branch Library

2817 South Adams St.  
(850) 606-2950

### Eastside Branch Library

1583 Pedrick Rd.  
(850) 606-2750

### Jane G. Sauls Ft. Braden Branch Library

16327 Blountstown Hwy.  
(850) 606-2900

### Lake Jackson Branch Library

3840 North Monroe St. #300  
(850) 606-2850

### Woodville Branch Library

8000 Old Woodville Rd.  
(850) 606-2925



LEROY COLLINS  
**LEON COUNTY**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Learn more at:

[LeonCountyLibrary.org/SeedLibrary](http://LeonCountyLibrary.org/SeedLibrary)



LEROY COLLINS  
**LEON COUNTY**  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY**



Check out seeds from any  
**Leon County Public Library**



## GROWING INSTRUCTIONS

See “Spring Planting Dates” for additional information.

### Seeding Into Small Containers

Supplies: Seeds, starting pots (plastic cells, newspaper pots, yogurt cups with drainage holes, etc.), starting mix (may include peat, vermiculite, and fine worm castings), drain tray, and spray bottle/pump sprayer.

Process: Fill starting pots/cells with pre-moistened starting mix. In each, make a shallow indentation into the starting mix with your finger and place 1-2 seeds into each hole. The seeds should be covered to a depth of 2-3 times the diameter of the seed. Label. Mist with water. Keep moist but not water-logged. Protect your plantings from cold weather (for spring varieties, germination is best between 75-90°F). Once the seedlings germinate, they need full sun (at least six hours of direct sunlight).

### Up-Potting Into Larger Containers

Supplies: 2”-4” wide pots and potting mix (may include peat, perlite, compost, pine bark, worm castings, fertilizer, and other nutrient amendments).

Process: Once seedlings develop “true” leaves, they can be moved into larger pots. Fill the pots halfway with well-moistened potting mix. Thoroughly water the seedlings and carefully remove each from the starting pot (a butter knife helps) and place them in a larger pot. Add additional potting mix until the seedling is secure, standing straight, and all roots are covered.

### Transplanting Into the Garden

Supplies: Small spade and a garden with nutrient-rich soil.

Process: Once the plant has established strong roots and is about the height of its pot, it can be transplanted into the garden. Allow the plant to “harden-off” by placing it outdoors a week before transplanting to adjust to wind, sunlight, and varying temperatures. Prepare the garden with compost and other soil amendments. Water the plant thoroughly. Dig a small hole and place the plant with potting mix into the hole, following plant spacing requirements. Cover up the roots and keep the soil moistened but not water-logged.

## Direct Seeding Into the Garden

Supplies: Seeds, rake, and a garden with nutrient-rich soil.

Process: Prepare the garden for seeding by raking the soil or remove large soil debris by hand. Make a shallow trench or lightly press the seed into soil, following seed spacing requirements. Cover the seed with soil to a depth of 2-3 times the diameter of the seed. Gently water and keep soil moist.

## SPRING 2025 VARIETIES

- California Blackeye Pea
- Carbon Tomato
- Cocozelle Zucchini
- Country Gentleman Sweet Corn
- Lemon Cucumber
- Moon and Stars Watermelon
- Provider Bush Bean
- Red Malabar Spinach
- San Marzano Tomato
- Thai Basil
- Yolo Wonder L Sweet Pepper

## Growing Questions?

Contact the Leon County Extension Office at (850) 606-5200 or scan the QR code to view the North Florida Vegetable Gardening Guide.



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UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA



Facebook.com/LeonCountyExtension

## SPRING PLANTING DATES

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul
Basil		S	DT	DT	DT		
Beans			D	D	D		
Corn			D	D			D
Cucumbers		S	SDT	DT			
Peas (Field)						D	D
Peppers	S	S	T	T	T	T	
Spinach-Like Greens		S	DT	T			
Tomatoes	S	SDT	T				
Watermelon		S	DT	DT			
Zucchini			SDT	SDT	DT	DT	

## CALENDAR KEY

### Planting Method

- S** - Seed into containers
- D** - Direct seed into garden
- T** - Transplant into garden

### Color Code

- Overall good planting time
- Needs frost protection
- Risky planting time

Planting dates were developed from the Red Hills Small Farm Alliance (RHSFA) and Full Earth Farm planting calendar.

Access a more detailed planting calendar and learn about the RHSFA at [RedHillsFarmAlliance.com](http://RedHillsFarmAlliance.com)