

### Step 3: Saving Seeds

Seeds are a genetic goldmine. When we save seeds, we're passing on the genetic qualities of the plant that provided them. Please read the Black Mountain Blooms brochure, How to Save Seeds and other seed saving information (see Learn More).

Even when you are planning to save "easy" seeds (beans, lettuce, peas, tomatoes, etc.), we recommend planting one variety of each plant to help prevent accidental cross-pollination plus read seed saving methods for that plant and information on the seed package.



"Advanced" seeds (carrots, corn, squash, etc.) require special planning. Learn how by checking out books and read online at [seedsavers.org/learn](http://seedsavers.org/learn).

### Step 4: Sharing Seeds

Collect seeds from your healthiest, disease-free, productive plants. Keep them for next year's growing season. If you wish, donate some to our library. Place some in our provided envelopes and bring them into the library staff.

### Sowing Circle Series

During the growing season, we offer a free monthly gardening programs for the community. Topics range from gardening for butterflies, growing root vegetables, growing from seeds, and others. Our classes are in partnership

with Buncombe County Extension Master Gardener Volunteers. Classes are taught by Master Gardener Volunteers, Sow True Seed employees, and other passionate gardeners.

### Learn More

- Come to our Sowing Circle series
- Volunteer at our seed garden at Dr. John Wilson Community Garden
- Check-out library gardening books
- Read online at [seedsavers.org/learn](http://seedsavers.org/learn)
- Questions about gardening? Contact Buncombe County Master Gardener Volunteers helpline at 828-255-5522
- Contact us [blackmountainblooms@gmail.com](mailto:blackmountainblooms@gmail.com)



### Support Black Mountain Blooms

Our mission is to enable more people to grow their own food, learn about saving seeds, and to educate the community about gardening. Our motto is Grow, Learn, & Save!

To keep the seed library growing, please donate funds to the Friends of the Black Mountain Library (not-for-profit) and note it's for the Seed Library.

## About Our Program



### Black Mountain Blooms Seed Lending Library

located in the  
Black Mountain Public Library  
105 N. Dougherty Street,  
Black Mountain, NC 28711  
828-250-4756  
[buncombecounty.org](http://buncombecounty.org)

Tuesday: 10 AM - 8 PM  
Wednesday - Friday: 10 AM - 6 PM  
Saturday: 10 AM - 5 PM  
Closed Sunday & Monday

**Grow, Learn, & Save!**

## Experience the joys of gardening! Our Seed Library is about. . .

- Encouraging our community to dig in and garden
- Reconnecting our community to the traditions of growing tasty, healthy food
- Educating our community about growing, harvesting and saving seeds
- Creating a community sustained seed collection at our library
- Nurturing a culture of sharing

### Why Start Seeds?

Growing from seeds offers:

- Greater supply of plant varieties
- Control of when to start plants
- Better control of the health of plants
- Growing and saving seeds should help with saving money
- Most seeds are viable for several years
- Connecting with others or your family's food heritage

### Why Save Seeds?

The practice of saving seeds has been around for more than 12,000 years. Today, seed saving helps us to develop stronger seeds that are better adapted to our climate. It also saves us money.

Because seed saving is part of our heritage and traditions, it's one way we can come together



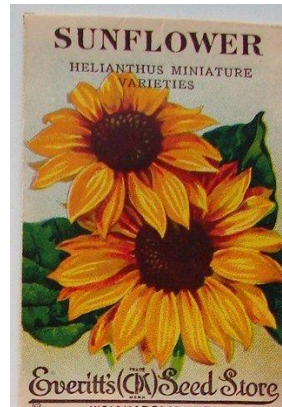
as a community. When we grow food, our community grows. That's why Black Mountain Blooms started the free Seed Lending Library in March 2018.

### Step 1: Choosing Seeds

Our seed collection depends on donations, growing success, and seasonal changes. We'll have different seeds available at different times, so please check back with us frequently to see what's new.

If you're a beginner gardener, don't worry about saving seeds right now. Instead, select the seeds that you're interested in growing.

Focus first on having fun and learning how to garden. The seed part will come later!



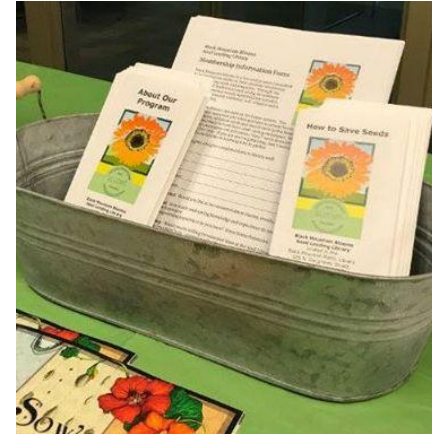
### Seed Library Organization

The seed collection is organized by flowers, herbs and vegetables and packages are alphabetized behind each group. Looking for particular seed? We have an A-Z listing of our seed collection by plant name on the potting bench and in the binder.

### Step 2: Borrowing Seeds

1. Have a NC library card,
2. Complete a Membership Form and give it to the library staff,

3. Borrow 2-3 seeds per plant to grow and place in coin envelope,
4. Borrow up to 20 plant varieties a growing season and
5. Record seeds in Member's Seed Record and file it in binder.



### Example Seed Stamp

#### Black Mountain Blooms Seed Lending Library

Common name:	Tomato
Scientific name:	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>
Variety:	Brandywine
Seed Source:	Sow True Seed
Location of harvest:	Asheville
Year:	2019
Note:	Original seed

Difficulty of saving seed:

☒ Easy   ☐ Advanced

**Grow, Learn, & Save!**