

Upcoming Programs

Spring 2023

 April 11 4:00-5:00pm	Pruning Flowering Shrubs <i>Centereach</i>
 April 18 7:00-8:00pm	ReWild for Wildlife <i>Centereach</i>
 April 20 2:00-3:00pm	Grow & Taste Garden <i>Centereach</i>
 May 23 7:00-8:15pm	Pollinator Pathways <i>Centereach</i>
 May 24 7:00-8:30pm	Green Thumbs: Plant Exchange <i>Selden</i>
 June 8 6:30-7:30pm	Local Eats: Melons <i>Centereach</i>
 June 21 7:00-8:15pm	Small Space Gardening <i>Selden</i>
 June 28 6:30-7:30pm	Grow a Pumpkin Patch <i>Selden</i>


















MCPL SEED LIBRARY

SEASONAL LEAFLET

SPRING PLANTING GUIDE

Direct Sowing Outside ❄️ Based on Frost Dates

FEBRUARY 18TH	MARCH 4TH	MARCH 11TH	MARCH 19TH	APRIL 2ND	APRIL 16TH	APRIL 23RD
 Radishes	 Peas	 Carrots	 Chives	 Arugula	 Cilantro	 Painted Pony Bean
 Spinach		 Parsley	 Beets	 Red Romaine Lettuce	 Dill	 Ideal Market Bean
	 Onions	 Aunt Mae's Bibb Lettuce				

Visit our Seed Library webpage for more information.

<https://www.mcplibrary.org/adults/seed-library>

Spring 2023



#MCPLSeedLibrary



Issue 2

Hello GARDENERS



About the Seed Library

The MCPL Seed Library started in 2018. Since its inception the Seed Library has grown in popularity and size; we now offer over 50 varieties of vegetables, herbs and flowers. We are always exploring new seeds to add to our collection. This year, we will be adding Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) and other native flowers like Columbine, Tiger Paw Aster, and Northeast Native Wildflower Seed Mix. These seeds along with many others will be available by March just in time for the Spring!

Spring is Here!

The most exciting time for the Seed Library and gardeners is here: **Spring!** We are all waiting in anticipation for our perennial flowers to start popping up and for our favorite birds to return from the south. Spring is also the time to start sowing your favorite seeds. Our Seed Library has many early spring varieties that can be directly sowed into the ground now. Some of our favorites are:

Sugar Daddy Snap Peas (NEW this year!), Detroit Red Beets, China Rose Radishes, Scarlet Nantes Carrots, and Red Romaine Lettuce. You should also start your tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants indoors now. Take a look at our chart below for some more ideas!

Native Seeds!

This year we have added many Long Island Native Seeds to our collection. After the New York Times article "Monarch Butterfly Joins Endangered List" was published in July 2022, a lot of effort has been made on Long Island to increase native plants to ensure our important pollinators have the nectar and resources they need to survive. Last week, the Middle Country Public Library hosted the Suffolk County Alliance for the Pollinators meeting where gardening groups, nonprofits and Cornell Cooperative Extension came together to discuss ways we can help pollinators. This was an inspiring meeting, and we believe with a collaborative effort we can make a difference! You can help by adding Swamp Milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*), Purple Coneflowers (*Echinacea purpurea*), Black Eyed Susan, (*Rudbeckia hirta*), Sunflowers (*Helianthus annuus*), and our Northeast Wildflower Mix to your garden. All these seeds are available in the Seed library. By having native flowers available throughout our community, we can help create a pollinator pathway. To learn more about this, you can attend our ReWild for Wildlife Program or Pollinator Pathways: What They Are and How to Create One programs.



HOUSEPLANT OF THE SEASON

Snake Plant

Snake Plant (*Dracaena trifasciata*)

The Snake Plant is a succulent plant characterized by its upright sword-like leaves with vibrant yellow edges. It is known for its incredibly easy-going nature and air purifying capabilities.



Care:

Light: Provide moderate to bright light in front of an east or west facing window. They can also handle low light, but won't grow as fast and will need much less water.

Water: Water once the soil has mostly dried from your last watering. They tolerate drought very well.

Soil: Mix all-purpose indoor potting mix with coco coir, pumice or perlite to improve drainage and airflow around the roots. Also use a pot with multiple drainage holes.

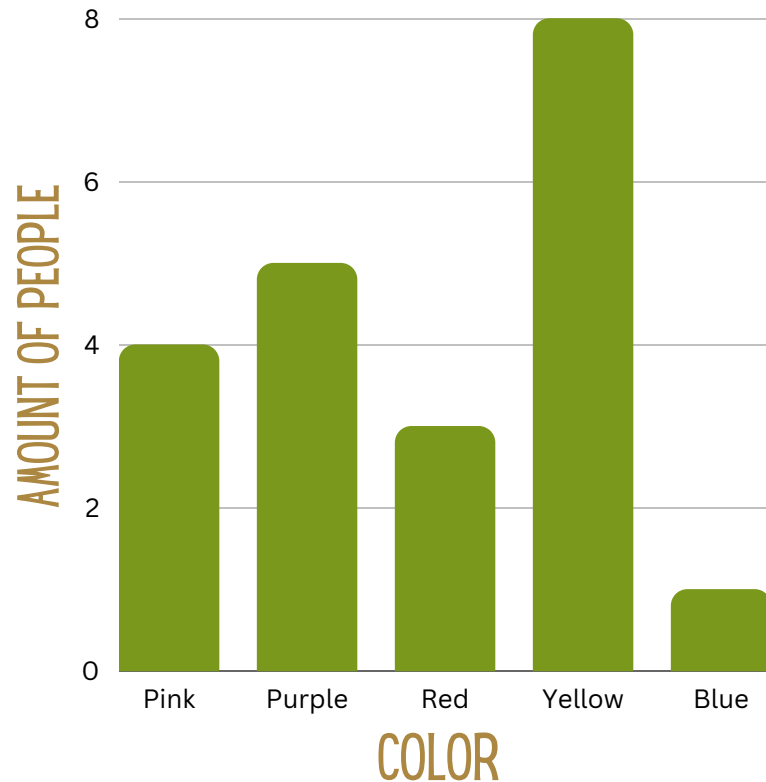
Temperature: Snake plants can handle temperatures of 45 degrees to 90 degrees.

Fertilizer: Not crucial, but once a year during spring or summer.

Toxicity: One note of caution, Snake plants can be toxic to dogs and cats if chewed or ingested.

Poll Results From Issue 1

**What is your favorite color to
incorporate into your garden?**



Patron Comments

**The color purple attracts butterflies. Oh how we love to see
beautiful butterflies pass by**
-Carol

I like to mix red, purple and white flowers in my garden
-Noor Nasim

Pink is my guilty pleasure color
-Joan Galante

**I've been focusing on adding deep reds and pale yellows. They
seem to go well with my brick Tudor-style home.**
-Margaret-Ann Farmer



**We would also love to hear from you! Our community has
many avid gardeners and we invite you to share
gardening tips and tricks as well as pictures from your
garden. To participate, email Amber Gagliardi at
gagliardiamber@mcplibrary.org. Submissions for our
Summer Leaflet are due June 1st.**

Featured Seeds!



Igleheart Yellow Cherry Tomato

Yellow cherry tomatoes with a sweet, rich flavor and moderate acidity. Sow seeds indoors ¼" deep. Tomatoes are sensitive to freezing temperatures, so wait to transplant outdoors until the soil is warm. Plant in full sun.

Source: www.seedsavers.org

Brandywine Tomato

Named after Brandywine Creek in Chester County, Pennsylvania. Large vines produce deep red 8-12 ounce fruits. Excellent flavor and very productive. Sow seeds indoors ¼" deep. Tomatoes are sensitive to freezing temperatures, so wait to transplant outdoors until the soil is warm. Plant in full sun.

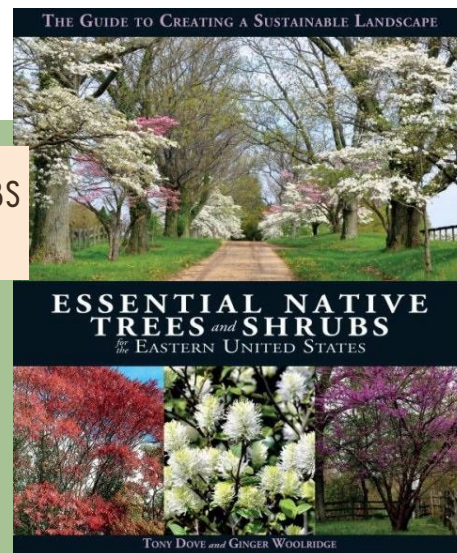
Source: www.seedsavers.org



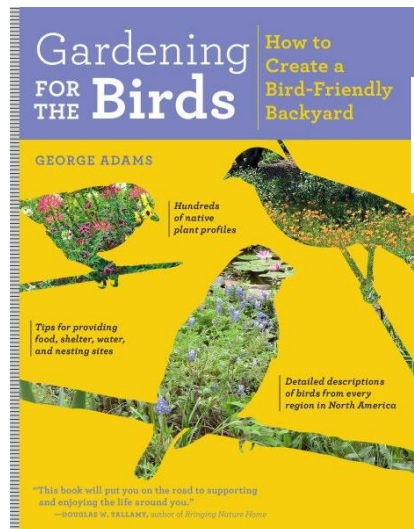
Check out these great reads!

ESSENTIAL NATIVE TREES AND SHRUBS
BY TONY DOVE

Check out this book for inspiration and information about native trees and shrubs, helping you to find what will work best in your own yard.



Nonfiction
582.160974 DOVE



Nonfiction
598.156 ADAMS

GARDENING FOR THE BIRDS
BY GEORGE ADAMS

You will find simple ways to attract many different species of birds to your own backyard. If you are looking to add native plants and flowers to your garden, this book is for you, with a specific section on the Northeast.