License to Till:
Duluth Seed Library

Presented by Carla Powers and Jocelyn Baker
POLL
A Brief History of the Duluth Seed Library
Committee Members
At the Seed Library
### General Inspection Checklist

(Include all that apply)

- Yes
- No

1. Firm needs a copy of Minnesota Seed Law.
2. Firm needs seed permit application.
3. Firm receives seed application.
4. Retail bulk seed bins are completely labeled.
5. Retail seed containers are completely labeled.
6. Firm repackages seed for sale under their own label.
7. Firm receives seed.
8. Certification labels are attached to containers or bulk bins.
9. Carry-over seed has been restocked and relabeled.
10. Firm does custom seed conditioning.
12. Physical separation provided between pesticides and seed containers or bulk bins.
13. Seed containers or bins are broken, leaking, exposed to snow or rain, etc.
14. Seed conditioning facility and storage warehouse well lit, clean, safe to inspect.
15. Seed advertisements or brochures reviewed or obtained as part of inspection.
16. Sales invoices contain all required information.
17. Complete labeling/bulk certificate provided at time of delivery or sale of the seed.
18. Firm maintains a complete record of each seed lot labeled and sold under their name.
19. Firm maintains a file sample for each seed lot labeled and sold under their name.
20. Other: (Please specify).
21. Follow-up inspection necessary and will be completed on or before...
22. Copy of completed checklist attached to signed Notice of Inspection and left with firm.

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### Label Requirements: Vegetable and Flower Seeds for Home Gardeners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KIND</th>
<th>AVARY</th>
<th>LOT N.N.</th>
<th>R.P. N.N.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PACKED FOR:</td>
<td>SELL BY</td>
<td>LABELER'S NAME</td>
<td>ADDRESS</td>
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- **Kind and variety name for vegetable seeds and kind and variety or a statement of type and performance characteristics for flower seeds.**
  - The variety name must be listed for vegetable seeds unless special conditions exist.
  - Pure seed percentage if less than 90% and pure variety percentage if greater than 10%.
  - Other character, seed, and nervous weed seed if present.
  - If the seed is a "mixed" or a "mixture" of kinds, it must be identified as such on the label.
  - Lot number or other lot identification.
  - Net weight of contents. If the number of seeds present in the container is less than 200 seeds, the actual number present must be listed in lieu of the net weight.
  - The year the seed was packed for sale if the germination percentage exceeds the standard established by rule. For below standard germinations, the actual germination percentage and the date of test must be listed. A "sell by" date may be listed along with or in lieu of the "packed for sale" date but it may not exceed the test date by more than twelve months excluding the month of test.
  - The name and address of the labeler.

### Records Required

- A copy of the seed label and the certification documents when applicable.
- The test information from which the labeling information was derived.

### Seed Permits

- All initial labels of vegetable, flower, and wildflower seed sold for use by home gardeners in Minnesota must have a yearly permit for a fee based on gross sales.

### Unlawful Acts

- Persons who fail to comply with the requirements of the Minnesota Seed Law are subject to administrative, civil and criminal penalties.

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For more information, contact:

**Stephen Malone**
Email: steph.malone@state.mn.us

For copies of forms, go to: [www.mda.state.mn.us/seed](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/seed)
Press Coverage

Duluth library's seed sharing program hits a hurdle

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture has given a green light to a seed-sharing program that allows members to borrow vegetables and other plants.

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Seed-sharing controversy riles Duluth gardeners

Officials from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture have informed Duluth that a seed exchange program it launched earlier this year is in violation of state law.

The library would need to purchase a $50 seed certificate where all its seeds come from, list what percentage of seed is with weed, and determine what the germination rate is for each seed.

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Seeds of discontent? State agriculture officials say Duluth seed library must follow strict rules

A Duluth seed library's first gardening season could be its last.
State Legislation

Roger Reinert @RogerForDuluth · Mar 4
Seed library bill heard in committee today! @DuluthLib #Progress #MNLeg
revisor mn.gov/bills/text.php...

7:36 AM · 4 Mar 2015 · Details

Reply to @RogerForDuluth

Roger Reinert @RogerForDuluth · May 14
@duluthlib Seed Library bill passed Senate and on its way to @MarkDayton for signature! #seedlibrary

10:35 AM · 14 May 2015 · Details

Reply to @Hobbs_Duluth @RogerForDuluth @MarkDayton

Duluth library's seed-sharing program restocked

Dan Kraker · Duluth · May 22, 2015

Duluth seed library members donate seeds they harvest in the fall, including peppers, tomatoes, and beans, May 22, 2015. Dan Kraker | MPR News

The Duluth Public Library has restocked its seed library with seeds from local gardeners after Gov. Mark Dayton signed a bill exempting the program from state agriculture laws.

Launched last spring, the program lent bean, tomato, pepper and other seeds to gardeners and asked them to return some of the seeds they harvested in the fall.
POLL
FERTILE GROUND
Starting a Seed Library

• The Seed Library Social Network –
  www.SeedLibraries.weebly.com/start-a-library.html

• Richmond Grows Seed Lending Library –
  www.RichmondGrowsSeeds.org/create-a-library.html

• Webinar – How to Start a Seed Library -
  http://www.newdream.org/resources/webinars/seed-library

• Duluth Seed Library Website –
  www.DuluthSeedLibrary.org
BUILDING BRIDGES

With Community Partners
Vegetable Choices
2015 Seed Additions

Dill & Lettuce
Seed Organization
One Vegetable, One Community

ONE VEGETABLE • ONE COMMUNITY

BEANS 2014
DULUTH COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM

http://www.duluthcommunitygarden.org
PLANTING THE SEEDS
Grand Opening Event
GROWING & BLOOMING
Educational Programs

It's Alive!
a discussion on the living nature of soil
Hands-on Workshops
Transplant Giveaway
CROSS POLLINATION
3 Tiered Approach

- Social Media
- Publicity
- Community Outreach
Event Promotions

Welcome to The Spring Fling
Mentorships
Memberships
Garden Circle - Here
Vandana loves seed saving and the Duluth seed library!

31 people like this.
1 share

Sharan Kohli Awesome!
April 8 at 19:30pm

Stacy Maikan so jealous!
April 8 at 11:03pm

Michelle Gottlieb Jamie- what an awesome shweta!!! Can't wait to hear about it. I wrote my college senior project on ecofeminism and she was featured. Joxox0
April 9 at 6:16am

Lena Brook Amazingly lucky to hang with Ms. Shweta. Tell us more!
April 9 at 1:56pm
Publicity

**PRACTICAL Seed Saving**

Presented by University of Minnesota Professor Tom Michaels, and Hannah Swegarden, a Master of Science candidate at the University of Minnesota.

Discover why the plants that are available through the Duluth Seed Library are better choices for beginning seed savers than other crops, such as mustard greens, carrots, spinach and sweet corn.

Hear about seed selection, cleaning, drying, and storage techniques that will maintain seed integrity and viability for many growing seasons. Aspiring plant breeders may also get ideas for how to start developing their own unique cultivars.

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25**
**6:00 PM**
**MAIN LIBRARY GREEN ROOM**

This program is made possible by:

![Northeast Minnesota Partnership](image)

**SAVING & Sharing Seeds**

Presented by Grant Olson, Public Programs Manager of Seed Savers Exchange

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 6**
**5:30 TO 7:30 PM**
**MAIN LIBRARY GOLD ROOM**

In the days before seed catalogs, harvesting seeds was essential. Today, saving and sharing seeds plays a critical role in preserving rare, heirloom varieties.

Join Seed Savers Exchange to discuss the process of saving seeds and find out how to participate in this backyard preservation.

This program is made possible by:

![Northeast Minnesota Partnership](image)
Social Media
Circle Gardens
Signs for Community Gardens

Participating Garden
Plants included in this garden are grown from shared seed from the Duluth Seed Library. Seeds harvested from these plants will be returned to the Seed Library to help ensure the future of an open-pollinated, non-hybrid, locally adapted and shared seed stock.
duluthseedlibrary.org
BEARING FRUIT
Bearing Fruit

• Project has tapped into sustainability/local food movement in the community

• Working together has strengthened the resources of all of the partner organizations; none of us could have done this alone

• Seed library has expanded the public’s perception of what the library can offer

• Seed library is housed at DPL but does not belong to the library; it belongs to the community
Raising Awareness

The tomato and pepper transplants have arrived! Seed library members, pick yours up tomorrow between 4 and 7 PM. pic.twitter.com/6itmTo9iXs

@sarahksawyer: @duluthlib you have a seed library?

Yes, we do! We have plenty of pea seeds left too! duluthseedlibrary.org

I've got a window garden. Peas might just work!
HARVESTING KNOWLEDGE
What We’ve Learned

Making educational information readily available to members is very important.

This can be accomplished with speaker events, web links, timely newsletters, and just being readily accessible to people who may have questions.

Q4: Did you return any seeds to the Duluth Seed Library?

No
If no, why not? I had multiple varieties of plants and couldn't isolate for seeds

Q6: Do you have any suggestions for improving the Duluth Seed Library?

Helping beginner seed savers in gardens with several varieties of the same plant.
If staff time is an issue, try to find reliable, ongoing volunteers!
Seed library members are incredibly supportive and positive people who care about what you’re doing.

Don’t be afraid to call on your members asking them to help you with something, whether it’s volunteering their time or taking a short survey.
Like books, seed is a public resource and shared legacy, both saved and shared throughout history. It is the repository for diversity, knowledge and wisdom, and must be managed in a manner that benefits the public good.

-Jamie Harvie, Institute for a Sustainable Future
QUESTIONS & ANSWERS
www.DuluthSeedLibrary.org

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