

GET INVOLVED

HERE ARE TWO WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

1. PROMOTE THE LIBRARY:

Let your friends and community know about upcoming events and join us on Facebook. If you have particular ideas about how to reach out to the community, help us out. We want to make this resource available to all.

Let me know if you want to get on my email list!

kathleen.olsen@haywoodcountync.gov

2. DONATE:

We need seed donations! If you haven't saved and returned seeds, please consider doing so. It is the only way the Seed Lending Library can be self-sustaining.

Hours of Operation

Monday - Friday: 9:00 - 1:00

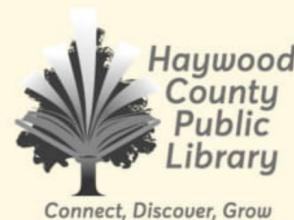


Contact: Kathy Olsen

www.haywoodlibrary.org
(click on Seed Library tab)

Phone: 828-356-2507

Email: kathleen.olsen@haywoodcountync.gov



HOW TO PROPERLY SAVE SEEDS

THE SEED LIBRARY OF WAYNESVILLE:

SOWING SEEDS & PRESERVING HERITAGE

A program of the Haywood County Public Library:

678 S. Haywood St.
Waynesville, NC 28786

SEED CLEANING METHODS CAN BE DIVIDED INTO **WET** PROCESSING AND **DRY** PROCESSING

WET PROCESS

Wet processed seeds are embedded in the damp flesh of fruits or berries, such as tomatoes, cucumbers, and melons. To clean wet processed seeds, begin by cutting open fruits and scraping seeds out. The seeds, pulp, and juice from the fruits may need to go through a fermentation process where microorganisms such as bacteria and yeast destroy many of the seed-borne diseases that can affect the next generation of plants. Next, wash the seeds by placing them in a large bowl or bucket. Add water and stir the mixture vigorously. Viable seeds tend to be denser and will sink to the bottom, while poor quality seeds are more likely to float. Add more water and repeat the process until only clean seeds remain. Pour the seeds into a strainer and wash under running water. Finally, dry the cleaned seeds by spreading as thinly as possible on a flat, dry surface such as a glass or ceramic dish, cookie sheet, window screen, or a piece of plywood. Stir the seeds several times during the day.



DRY PROCESS

To clean dry processed seeds, begin by separating seeds from husk, flower head, or pod. Seeds that are in pods may need to be smashed. Once the seeds have been released from the pods or husks, you can separate them from the pods by using hand-screens. Hand screens are easy to build and should have a wire gauge that allows seeds to pass through. Once the larger pods are removed, lighter chaff can be separated by winnowing.

Keep in mind that damage begins to occur whenever the temperature of seeds rises above 95F. Fans hasten the drying process; ceiling fans are ideal, and placing seeds on window screens is the best of all as they allow for excellent air circulation.



WHAT ARE SEEDS?

A plant produces seeds in order to reproduce. Just like an egg has to be fertilized to become an animal, a seed must be pollinated to produce a plant. Understanding pollination is the key to getting seeds to produce the plants you want. Some plants are **SELF POLLINATING** (the male and female parts are contained within a single flower that fertilizes itself). Other plants, called **CROSS-POLLINATORS**, have separate male and female flowers and their pollen has to get from one flower to another in order for the flowers to be fertilized. The seeds from families of plants that are self-pollinating are labeled **EASY**. Cross pollinators are labeled **ADVANCED** because it takes effort to keep them from crossing with other plants.

TYPES OF SEEDS:

OPEN POLLINATED or **HEIRLOOM** varieties have been grown for so many generations that their physical and genetic qualities are relatively stable. This seed will be "true to type" if saved. In simple terms, you will reap what you sow! If seeds are marked **HYBRID**, **F1** or **VF**, seeds from those plants will not produce plants like the parent plant. They may produce something quite different or nothing at all!