



We would love to see you succeed!

We can assist by sharing information and resources to help you with growing, harvesting and seed saving.



Resources

Websites

portstephens.nsw.gov.au/seedlibrary

abc.net.au/gardening/factsheets/saving-seed/9777654

sgaonline.org.au/growing-herbs-vegetables-flowering-annuals-from-seed-2/

organicgardener.com.au/blogs/how-save-seeds

hunterorganicgrowerssociety.org.au/growing-guide

seedsavers.net/local-seed-networks/

environment.nsw.gov.au/resources/cpp/SeedCollecting.pdf

Books

Introduction to Permaculture / Mollison, Bill

The New Seed-Starters Handbook / Bubel, Nancy.

Yates Garden Guide: 44th Edition

The Seed Savers' Handbook / Fanton, Michel.

Companion Planting in Australia / Brenda Little

Saving Vegetable Seeds: Harvest, Clean, Store, and Plant Seeds from Your Garden / Bradley, Fern Marshall.

Starting Seeds: How to Grow Healthy, Productive Vegetables, Herbs, and Flowers from Seed / Ellis, Barbara W.

The Complete Guide to Saving Seeds / Gough, Robert E.



seed library
PORT STEPHENS

For more information about the Seed Library, visit
portstephens.nsw.gov.au/seedlibrary

or contact:

Raymond Terrace Library

18a Sturgeon Street Raymond Terrace 2324

Phone **02 4988 0111**

Email raymondterracel@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

Tomaree Library & Community Centre

7 Community Close Salamander Bay 2317

Phone **02 4988 0670**

Email tomareel@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

Mobile Library

Phone **02 4988 0111**

Email mobilel@portstephens.nsw.gov.au

The Mobile Library visits locations across Port Stephens.
Refer to portstephens.nsw.gov.au/live/library
for the timetable and locations.

Port Stephens 
LIBRARY
Start here, go anywhere . . .


seed library
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Frequently Asked Questions

Can beginner gardeners borrow from the Seed Library?

Of course! The Seed Library exists to encourage the community to love and enjoy gardening. The only way you can get a green thumb is by getting in and giving it a go. Plus, at the library you are in the right place to investigate something new!

Where can I borrow seeds from?

Raymond Terrace Library, Tomaree Library and Community Centre and the Mobile Library.

Do you have the seeds I want?

The Seed Library collection reflects both seasonality and the diversity of donations. With different seed varieties available at different times. Make sure you visit regularly to see what we have for you to grow!

Is borrowing from the Seed Library free?

Yes! All you need is a membership with Port Stephens Library (Newcastle Library card).

Do I have to return seeds to the Seed Library?

We encourage you to return seeds to the Seed Library. If you aren't able to bring a crop to seed, we accept donations of heirloom seeds. The Seed Library is built upon the foundation of sharing and the generosity of donations, so the reciprocal nature of the collection will allow for it to be self-sustaining.

How do I donate seeds to the library?

Bring your dried seeds in your own bag(s) to the library. A member of staff will take your donated seeds and repackage them for sharing.

Can you guarantee my success as a gardener?

We would love to see you succeed! We can assist by sharing information and resources from our collection to help you with growing, harvesting and seed saving. We also have additional information available to assist you with seed saving and growing.

What is a Seed Library?

A Seed Library is a community resource consisting of seeds that can be borrowed instead of books.

The return on this loan is not the fresh produce, but rather some seeds harvested from the crop. These seeds are then shared with other library members in a reciprocal manner.

How does the community benefit from a Seed Library?

The Port Stephens Seed Library was created with the intent to cultivate a community of self-reliance, sharing, resilience, and knowledge.

The aim is to:

- Encourage community connection and involvement with the library through the sharing of seeds, gardening knowledge and resources
- Create and build upon community partnerships
- Nurture and embrace our unique local gardening environment and support the community to enjoy their gardens
- Support sustainable practices in the community by encouraging people to attempt to grow some of their own produce
- Encourage the sharing and use of local seeds and the maintaining of heirloom seed varieties.

How it works

You borrow from our seed collection just like you would borrow a book.

Select the seed variety you would like to 'borrow' and library staff will 'check it out' to you. There is no due date to return these seeds, rather we ask you to attempt to take some of your crop to seed, harvest and dry these seeds to then return to the Seed Library and share with other borrowers.

