

## WELCOME TO THE MV COMMUNITY SEED LIBRARY

This is a space for the community to celebrate seed diversity, reclaim the ancient practice of seed saving and sharing, and give back to the island by creating a unique collection of seeds suited to our local environment.

If you are interested in checking out or donating seeds, please begin by filling out a membership form in the "Reference/Young Librarians Office." Then follow the steps below:

- 1. Look through the seed cabinet and choose the seeds you'd like to grow.
- 2. Take a small portion of the seeds from their envelope in the cabinet and place them into a blank envelope. These can be found on the top of the seed cabinet.
- 3. Copy the plant names and growing information onto the new envelope.
- 4. Take the seeds home and plant them in your garden. Please pay special attention to pollination methods and isolation distances when planting your seeds; for more on this, please refer to the book "Seed to Seed" by Suzanne Ashworth, available at our local libraries.
- 5. Tend your plants through the season and allow some of your crop to reach full maturity. Harvest seeds from a selection of your healthiest plants. For more on growing for and harvesting healthy seeds, see A Seed Saving Guide for Gardeners and Farmers from the Seed Alliance: http://seedalliance.org/publications#publication\_category\_title\_12
- 6. Please bring seeds from healthy plants back to our seed cabinet, so that we can maintain our collection.
- 7. Place the seeds you collected into a blank envelope available at the seed library cabinet, and fill out all the information on the envelope that you can. If you have any stories about the plant (including how you like to use it, or what you like about it), please record that on the envelope, too.
- 8. Place the envelope into the proper drawer in the seed cabinet.
- 9. Join us throughout the year as we host seed saving workshops, and watch your community seed library grow!

## ONLY SEEDS FROM NON-GMO, OPEN POLLINATED, OR HEIRLOOM PLANTS WILL BE ACCEPTED

Please note that seeds in our library are donated by the community and shared freely with interested growers. While we do our best to maintain the integrity of seeds in the collection, this is not a commercial seed source, and quality of seeds may vary. If you discover any problems with your seeds including poor germination, off types, or mislabeling, please let us know. A seed library is a community effort and you can help keep the collection healthy.

*Please ask for Amy here at the library or email noli@islandgrown.org for more information.*