

Native Plant Seed Libraries

A project from Homegrown National Park®

Duration: 2 - 3'

Prep Time: 2 - 3'

Engage your: Community

You've heard of the popular "Little Free Libraries"; now we're bringing you Seed Libraries. Native plants can get costly, and often price is a barrier for folks planting native. Seed Libraries are a great way to promote native plants in a budget-friendly way.

Directions:

1. Pick Location

Choose a convenient, accessible spot like a local park, community center, library etc. You may need to get permission to use the space prior to beginning your library.

Interested in hosting the library inside your public library? [Check out how Texans are implementing these libraries](#)

2. Determine the functionality of the library

Who is going to help you build the library?

How will you get the initial seeds for your library?

Local nurseries

A community seed collection event

Local native plant orgs

Who is going to do maintenance on the library (ensure it's stocked, repairs, etc)

How will participants know what to do?

3. Promote your library

Some methods for advertising

- An email announcement
- A Facebook Event
- Social Media posts

Encourage those interested to collect and donate native seeds to help get you started. You just want to create an interest at this point so that when you do open the library, it is used.

Optional: Host a pre-opening party to build/paint the library and put together resources and seed packets

6. Set up and open your library

Determine any guidelines for lending

(i.e. Return 10% of the produced seeds, give and take, etc.)

Print out the terms so everyone can see when using the library

Optional: Host a grand opening

7. Sit back and watch your community

Now that the library is operating, you can advertise on social media to get more use out of it.

Ensure that the people you selected to manage the library are doing their job and that there are always seeds available.

Consider doing seasonal pushes depending on when it's time to plant, collect seeds, etc.

9. Report Back and Help Us Improve!

Sharing your attendance numbers and event details is crucial. Your input directly helps us measure our collective impact and improve our resources. Did you do something special? We would love to see your marketing materials, photos, and hear about unique details to feature and incorporate for future events! [Contribute Your Feedback Here](#)

Optional: Create a Follow-Up Facebook Group

A simple group helps participants:

- Share photos and progress
- Ask questions
- See the need for the library
- Stay connected for future native-plant events

Things to Keep in Mind

- Clearly label seeds
- Accessibility

Materials

(Complete supply checklist)

- Wood
- Nails
- Paint
- Envelopes

- Seeds
- Labels
- [HNP flyers/brochures](#)

Related HNP Activities

- Seed/Plant Giveaway or Swap
- Winter Sowing Party

Examples

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Images Submitted by Amanda Green



Images Submitted by Daniel Maes