

## Why Save Seeds

- Help create a culture of sharing and abundance within the community
- Preserve seed lineages
- Support local food and steward the region's biodiversity
- Save money by growing your own food
- Sustain the rich agricultural heritage Caledon and the surrounding areas have been developing for over 150 years
- Fun for the whole family

## Growing from Seed

For better results, plant seeds that are easy to grow. We recommend you start with these:

- **amaranth** (grain/similar to quinoa)
- **arugula** (dark green salad leaf)
- **bean**
- **lettuce**
- **pea**
- **beet**
- **pepper**
- **sunflower**

Other varieties may require special planting or handling to preserve the purity of the seeds. Caledon Public Library encourages gardeners to become familiar about isolating plants to prevent cross-contamination (or pollination).

## Planting Chart

Seed Type	Planting Depth	Planting Distance
<b>Amaranth</b>	shallow	30-45 cm apart
<b>Arugula</b>	6 mm	2-15 cm apart, or scatter
<b>Bean</b>	25 mm	10-15 cm apart, rows 60 cm apart
<b>Beet</b>	12 mm	5 cm apart, rows 30-45 cm apart
<b>Carrot</b>	6-12 mm	Thin to one seedling per 2-5 cm after growth begins, rows 30-45 cm apart
<b>Lettuce</b>	6 mm	scatter for loose leaf, 15-30 cm for heads of lettuce
<b>Melon</b>	12 mm	5 seeds in 30 cm hill, hills 90 cm apart
<b>Pea</b>	25 mm	5-7 cm apart, rows 45-75 cm apart
<b>Pepper*</b>	6 mm	35-50 cm apart, rows 90 cm apart
<b>Radish</b>	6 mm	5 cm apart, rows 15-30 cm apart
<b>Squash</b>	25 mm	6 seeds in 30 cm hill, hills 180 cm apart
<b>Sunflower</b>	12 mm	15 cm apart, rows 60 cm apart
<b>Swiss Chard</b>	12 mm	10 cm apart, rows 60 cm apart
<b>Tomato *</b>	6 mm	60 cm apart, rows 90-150 cm apart

\* These plants are better suited for indoor germination in small planting pots until sprouted, then planted in bigger pots or in a garden bed.

## How to Borrow Seeds

1. **Visit** the Caledon Seed Library (2 locations)
  - **Albion Bolton Branch**  
150 Queen Street
  - **Southfields Village Branch**  
225 Dougall Avenue
2. **Browse** the seed envelopes stored in the seed cabinet
3. **Checkout** seeds

No due date, no cost!

**We encourage and welcome seed donations!**

## How to Return Seeds

1. Seed envelopes are available at all library branches to use when returning seeds saved from your garden.
2. Place seeds from each variety in its own seed envelope (do not mix vegetables and varieties) and complete the envelope label.
3. Drop off seeds at any Caledon Public Library branch for sharing with the community next year.


## How to Learn More


- Visit [caledon.library.on.ca](http://caledon.library.on.ca) for books and more information on seed saving
- Visit the Albion Hills Community Farm [www.albionhillscommunityfarm.org](http://www.albionhillscommunityfarm.org)
- Search the Internet for interesting facts on seed saving and planting
- Talk to experienced gardeners
- Keep detailed gardening records to track successes
- Share your seeds with fellow gardeners


## Seed Library Organization

Seeds available in the Caledon Public Library collection include annual flowers, perennial flowers, vegetables and herbs. The seed packets are organized alphabetically by common name. They are stored in the seed library cabinet in the gardening section of the Caledon Public Library Albion Bolton and Southfields Village Branches.



 Seed donations are greatly appreciated.

 Free seed saving envelopes available at all 7 branches of Caledon Public Library.

 Please donate seeds from your garden to **grow** the Caledon Seed Library collection.

**Thank you for your interest in promoting seed saving in Caledon!**

