

A new way to grow a library

The Pima County Public Library, in Tucson, Arizona, USA has created a seed library: edible, decorative, and herb seed varieties made available for the people of Pima County to "borrow". Community members come in to the library and check-out open-pollinated, heirloom seeds to take home and grow. These seed borrowers are then encouraged to harvest some seeds from their plants, keep a portion for themselves, and return a portion back to the Seed Library for others to enjoy, making the Seed Library self-sustaining over time.

Five libraries: the Quincie Douglas, Himmel, Flowing Wells, Salazar-Ajo, and Main Library, house the physical collection of seeds, but community members are able to request that seeds be sent to their home libraries for pick-up.

The Seed Library also aims to support users and gardeners from planting to harvesting, beginner to expert, including techniques for seed saving. The library maintains community partnerships with agencies like Native Seeds/SEARCH, the Community Food Bank, and the Pima Cooperative Extension's Master Gardeners to offer a variety of free gardening and seed-saving programs throughout the year. Anyone with a Pima County Public Library card has access to the seeds in the Seed Library. Anyone with or without a library card is able to attend any of the library programs they present.

All the seeds in the collection have been donated, with a larger portion coming from national seed companies. The library continues to be open to donations of open-pollinated, heirloom seeds from anyone in the community that is willing to share their seeds with the rest of the community, in whatever quantity donors are willing to share.

For more information, you can visit their Facebook page: www.facebook.com/PimaSeedLibrary.

THE TWO OF US

LANGUAGES DIRECT

The only national collaborative vendor of library materials in **ANY WORLD LANGUAGE** provided fully shelf-ready.

CARM

Secure, high-capacity, environmentally controlled **ARCHIVE STORAGE** of your library collections.

Just two of CAVAL's **SHARED SERVICES** for Australian Libraries

For more, go to:
www.caval.edu.au



CAVAL
Linking Leading Libraries