

FALL 2016



# SEED EXCHANGE

## Seed Collecting



Collecting flower seeds from your favorite plants is a fun and rewarding pastime for both young and old. Growing plants from seeds is not only easy but also rewarding. With little effort and cost. Seed harvesting provides an opportunity to preserve your beautiful garden flowers to replant next year or share with family and friends.



### HARVESTING

Always harvest your seeds when it's dry. Around mid-day or early afternoon on a sunny day is ideal, but try not to collect them when they're damp. Lay seeds out separately on newspaper for about one week to dry or tie paper bags or cheese cloth around the dried flower heads, clip stems, and hang upside down to allow seeds to fall.



### SAVING

Store your completely dried seeds in a cool, dry place in a labeled envelope, air tight jar, or hand-made seed packets.

Include plant name, plant height, growing conditions (full sun or partial shade) and flower colour if possible. Consider attaching a picture of the flower. This will help when organizing your garden theme.

Keeping the seeds at a temperature of around 40 F (5 C.) is best. Do not allow seeds to freeze or over-heat while in storage as this could cause damage to them. Keeping the seeds dry at all times will produce healthy strong plants.



### TRADING

Harvesting on a brisk autumn day is like a final celebration for the gardener. A glorious past season promises a bountiful new garden for the coming year.

A great way to receive new flower seeds for your garden is to TRADE. Passing along our flower seeds to trade with family, friends and neighbours is a great way in keeping unique plant species abundant and heritage plants moving forward with future generations.



ENJOY TRADING  
By Donna Cook

