

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **WRL Debuts New Seed Exchange at James City County Library**

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (Feb. 13, 2023) – Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL), with support from the Friends of Williamsburg Regional Library Foundation, is starting a Seed Exchange at the James City County Library.

The Seed Exchange is a collection of seeds and plant cuttings available for public exchange that gives gardeners a way to share the fruits of their labor and gives new gardeners and learners a place to find free new plants to take home. During regular library hours, users can take home a variety of seeds including flowers, vegetables, herbs, and more. Each seed packet describes the plant and care instructions. Part of the Seed Exchange is the Propagation Station, which offers a space to give and take plant cuttings.



*WRL's Seed Exchange, located in the James City County Library. Photo available upon request.*

“Hands-on experiences are an exciting part of learning,” said Williamsburg Regional Library Director Betsy Fowler. “What better way to learn about plants than by getting your hands dirty planting seeds and growing a garden? As always, we appreciate the support of the Friends of WRL who make creative and innovative services like the Seed Exchange possible.”

WRL will offer programs related to gardening throughout the year, gardening resources, as well as a connection to experts who can answer questions about plants.

“Our partnership with the James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardener Association will help users find resources and knowledge they need to nurture their newly planted gardens not only by being on hand to answer questions, but also by offering plant-related programs in the library on a regular basis,” said Fowler.

Local organizations and businesses supporting of the Seed Exchange include the James City County/Williamsburg Master Gardeners and the Ulster American Homestead Garden Center. To learn more about how your organization or business can help, email Alicia Phinney at [aphinney@wrl.org](mailto:aphinney@wrl.org).

The public can learn more about the Seed Exchange at [wrl.org/library-of-things](http://wrl.org/library-of-things). WRL welcomes the public to donate any type of non-GMO seeds and plant cuttings along with growing instructions to either library location or sign up to volunteer to help maintain the Seed Exchange at [wrl.org/how-do-i/volunteer](http://wrl.org/how-do-i/volunteer).

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*The Williamsburg Regional Library (WRL) is an award-winning regional library system that consists of the Williamsburg Library on Scotland St. in Williamsburg, the James City County Library on Croaker Rd. in James City County, the Stryker Center on N. Boundary St. in Williamsburg, and its Mobile Library Services vehicles. The WRL service area includes the City of Williamsburg, James City County, and York County.*

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