



# Seed Library in Cold Spring Park

11.20.2023

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## Overview

My name is Sophie Katherine Turney. I am an Eagle Scout candidate with Newton Troop 209. For my Eagle Service Project, I propose to install a Seed Library next to the Cold Spring Park Pollinator Garden, which was installed by DoBi Wollaber and Troop 209 in October 2022 for DoBi's Eagle Service Project. The Seed Library is a box containing seed packets that are made freely available to the public. I recently met with scouts from Troop 209 to assemble a seed library box with the help of Mr. Christian Rivero and to clean seeds and fill seed packets with the help of Mr. Alan Nogee. A photo of the Seed Library is below.





## Goals

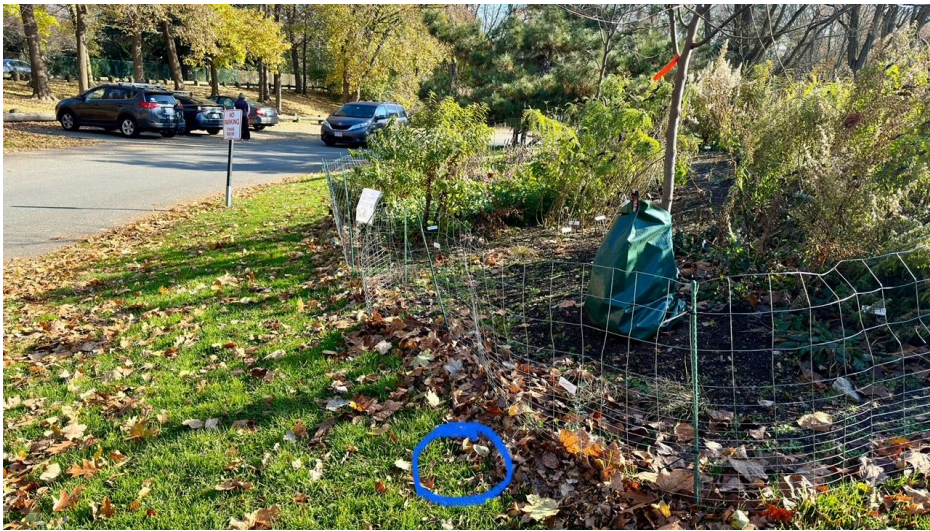
1. Install the Seed Library on a post next to the Pollinator Garden.
2. With the Friends of Cold Spring Park, the Seed Library will help to educate and inspire our community about pollinator gardens and their importance to our local ecosystem.
3. The purpose of the Seed Library is to help save native bees and butterflies that are at risk of local extinction by enabling convenient and broad distribution of seeds from the Cold Spring garden along with other native plants.

## Specifications

The Seed Library is patterned on the “Little Library” boxes that many residents have installed to exchange books. During the seed sowing season (fall, winter, and early spring), the Seed Library will contain seeds harvested from Cold Spring and other native gardens, instructions on the best way to use them, QR codes for additional resources, and the Cold Spring Park Pollinator Garden brochure. During other seasons, it will have books and resources related to native pollinator gardens.


We propose to install the seed library box on a 4x4 wood post at the lower right of the garden, where it will be readily accessible and in the shade of a redbud tree within the garden to keep it from overheating. The garden is directly in front of the tennis courts and to the left of the circle used for the Farmers’ Market. The following four photos show the Pollinator Garden and the proposed location (circled) for the Seed Library.





The seed library box is similar in size to a parcel mailbox and will be mounted on a mailbox-type post. Here is an example library post for the kit that we assembled:

Home • Library Posts • Screw In Library Post with Topper



### Screw In Library Post with Topper

\$ 149.95


Quantity:

[ADD TO CART](#) [ADD TO WISHLIST \(243\)](#)

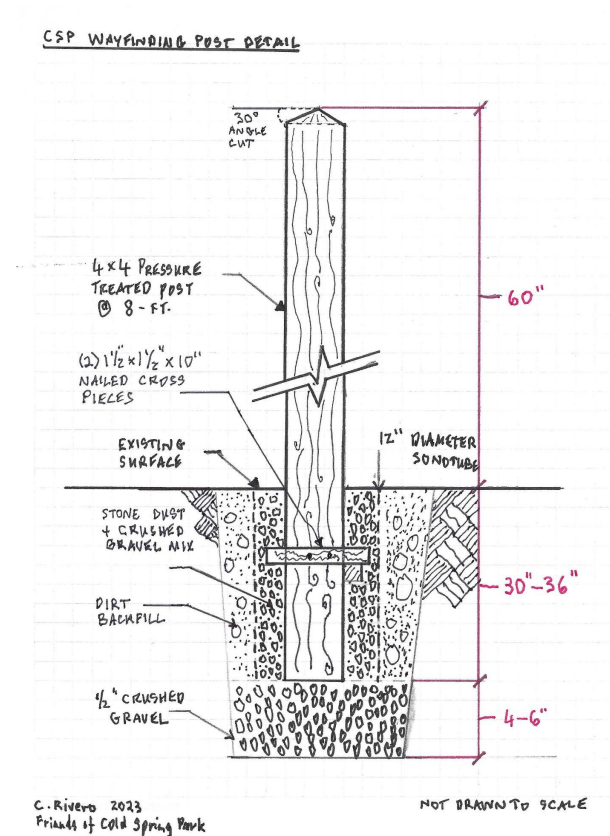
This is your chance to get everything you need to install a Little Free Library! After you select your Little Free Library book-sharing box, add this library post and topper to your order to make installation super easy. You don't even need to dig a hole! The screw-in base does the work for you.

**Key Features:**

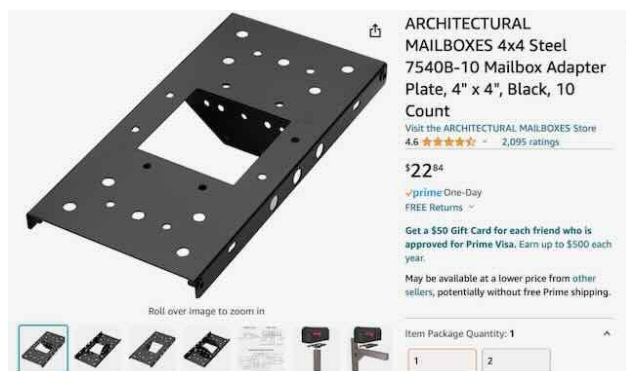
- No digging necessary! Simply screw in the post base and attach your included mounting post to give your book-exchange box a solid foundation
- Dimensions: Wood post: 31.5" long. Metal screw: total 27" long/ 22" long from where the post sits
- Best suited for standard soil conditions. Not recommended for rocky or extremely sandy conditions and cannot be used on concrete
- Cheaper shipping than Library Post and Topper
- Handcrafted in America by Amish artisans



My understanding from Mr. Ahron Lerman is that a library post may be unsuitable for permanent installation of the seed library box in the park. Mr. Christian Rivero provided the drawing below showing the scheme that was approved for installation of the signposts in Cold Spring Park.



We propose using this scheme for the seed library. We would dig a hole 34-42" deep using a post-hole digger. The 4x4 post would be 60-66" long and would have a flat top. Here is the bracket we would use to attach the seed library box to the 4x4 post:





## Milestones

### I. Install the Seed Library

Mount the fully-assembled seed library box on a 4x4 post using a steel bracket. Attach the post to a screw-in anchor, or dig a hole to sink the post below the frost line.

### II. Ongoing maintenance

Friends of Cold Spring Park President Alan Nogee has agreed to keep the seed library stocked with packets of seeds and related materials. Most seeds will come directly from the Cold Spring garden, with some additions from other trusted native seed sources. The Friends currently coordinate watering, weeding, and other garden maintenance activities. The Friends will also provide any necessary future maintenance of the box.

Mr. Nogee will also publicize the availability of the seeds on the Friends' web page, Facebook page, and newsletter, and the Facebook page of the Newton Community Pollinator Project, which he manages. He will also encourage the co-sponsor groups of the garden—Green Newton and Newton Conservators—to help publicize seed availability. To the extent there are seed shortages or surpluses, he will coordinate with the regional Mystic-Charles Pollinator Pathway Group to help with seed supply and distribution.

The Seed Library will build on the first-year success of the Cold Spring Pollinator Garden in attracting an abundance of bumble bees, butterflies, hummingbirds, and other small native bees; and in educating the public about the garden, including visitors to the Farmers' Market.