

## Comments

Received at the Union Twp. Branch on December 7, 2021 for a donation of books.



Submitted on Friday, December 10, 2021 - 09:33

==Your Name and Contact Information==

First and Last Name (Optional): Stephanie Davis

Telephone Number (Optional):

Email (Optional):

==Your Message==

Subject (Optional): Returning of books

Message Body:

I have been on hold for a book for quite sometime. It is a new book and was due November 23, 2021. Because there are no overdue fees I guess this person can keep it for as long as they wish. It is a new book and I believe the person who has it now is the first person to check it out. When there were overdue fees there was a better chance of the book being returned on time or at least fairly close to the due date. It just is so frustrating to wait

and wait for a book. What incentive is there for people ever returning their books? Thank you for your attention to this problem.

BDL Response on Tuesday, December 14, 2021

Hi Stephanie,

I can sympathize with the frustration of waiting for a book. In this case, I was able to order a copy of this title from MeL. It will be headed to Bronson for you.

Even though we have stopped charging daily overdue fines, in line with hundreds of other libraries including the New York Public Library, there are still consequences for someone who fails to return materials. All patrons are notified of their due dates, either verbally or with a receipt upon checkout. If they are not returned within 28 days of the due date, the materials are marked lost and the patron is billed. A staff member calls, a paper notice is sent out, or an email notification goes to the patron with overdue items at 7 days and 21 days. Often these kind reminder prompts a quick return of the item. Unfortunately, that hasn't worked in this situation.

Overall BDL's patrons are very respectful of our collections and the need to return them in a timely manner for others to enjoy. I apologize for your wait and hope you enjoy the book when it arrives.

Take care,

Kimberly

Google Reviews, retrieved on December 14, 2021



**Mars Davis**

Local Guide · 10 reviews



3 weeks ago

NEW

I love this library, grew up going here. Good selection of all kinds of books and the children's floor is amazing. We especially enjoy the toddler time on Tuesdays.



**LuAnn Stout**

3 reviews



2 months ago

I love the craft books.





**Nodnarb**

1 review



★★★★★ 6 months ago

Hey, I found a random cassette audiobook (Patricia Cornwell: Black Notice) from the side of the road with the due date of september 27 2006, Do you guys want it back?

Like

Facebook post, retrieved on December 15, 2021

The screenshot shows a Facebook post from Toni Ellert Garvin, who is associated with Branch District Library. The post is 21 minutes old and features a green-themed graphic with white text that reads: "Cheers to Branch District Library for the Christmas Tree making kits that they provided our classroom! The kids love them." Below the graphic, it indicates there is 1 comment. The interaction bar shows options for Like, Comment, Share, and Message. A comment from Branch District Library is visible, stating "You're welcome!" with a Christmas tree emoji. The comment was made 1 minute ago by Kimberly Feltner.

## Publicity

Great Lakes Echo Tuesday, November 30, 2021

Great Lakes Echo | (<https://greatlakesecho.org/2021/11/30/michigan-seed-libraries-grow-food-resilience/>)

### Michigan seed libraries grow food resilience

By Kayla Nelsen | November 30, 2021

**126**  
SHARES



*The seed library at the Lucile E. Dearth Union Township Library in Union City, Michigan, provides seeds and other gardening resources. Image: Michigan Seed Library Network*

By Kayla Nelsen

More than 650 public libraries, garden and community centers across Michigan will receive packets of Boston Pickling Cucumber seeds next spring as a part of a seed saving and swapping program.

Seed saving is the practice of collecting and storing mature seeds for planting in subsequent growing seasons. As with books at traditional libraries, seed libraries contain seeds that circulate among community members. Once the original seed is planted and matured, the new seeds from the fruit are harvested and returned to the library to restart the cycle.

The program, called One Seed, One State, is organized by the Michigan Seed Library Network. The program unites the state in a learning experience, said founder Bevin Cohen.



*Michigan Seed Library Network founder Bevin Cohen promotes seed libraries at a seed swap in Midland, Michigan. Image: Michigan Seed Library Network*

"Hopefully we're giving people a chance to get their foot in the door to see what seed saving is all about," he said. "Everybody's growing the same plant, so it's a shared experience."

The Michigan Seed Library Network was created in 2018 with only about 30 seed-swapping locations, Cohen said. Now Michigan has more than 100 of the 400 seed libraries in the country.

"I realized that I was teaching the same concepts and ideas, answering the same questions at each library that I visited," Cohen said. "So I thought we needed a network, an umbrella, if you will, a hub for resources."

It is the only seed saving network in the region that functions as a state-wide alliance. Cohen said he hopes the network will lead the region in making seed saving more accessible.

The network launched as a [website \(https://miseslibrary.org/\)](https://miseslibrary.org/), then became a nonprofit organization in 2019, said board member Pam Quackenbush. The network functions as a resource for independent seed savers and newly-started seed libraries. The website provides a seed library locating map, how-to guides and promotional materials.

*Michigan has more than 100 of the 400 seed libraries in the United States. Map: Michigan Seed Library Network*

The growth of seed libraries is due to increasing recognition of seed saving as a way to combat the loss of crop diversity from commercialization, said Deborah Lynch, the director of the Grosse Pointe Grows seed saving program and a librarian at the Grosse Pointe Public Library Ewald Branch.

"The loss of diversity puts us at a disadvantage when things go wrong," Lynch said. "If we have local communities conserving the genetic material of different varieties, that could actually be a saving grace for us."

Cohen said seed saving is at the root of food security, as conserving genetic material increases the nutritional quality of crops.

"When we save our seeds from our own gardens, they adapt to our local climates and that's going to ensure more vibrant plants, which is the cornerstone to food security," Cohen said. "Food is only as local as the seed it grows from."

The Michigan Seed Library Network is profiling seed libraries on its website. With further development, the network hopes to become a

nationwide seed library-planting resource, Quackenbush said.



*Seed packets in the seed library cabinet at the Herrick District Library in Holland, Michigan. Image: Michigan Seed Library Network*

"Baby steps is where we want to start with this," Cohen said. "When we do things we've never done before, it can seem daunting.

"But really, people have been seed savers since the dawn of agriculture. If you wanted to eat food, you had to grow it. And if you wanted to grow that food, you had to save your seeds," he said.