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## Library's seed library pilot program launched at two branches

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Posted: Monday, September 29, 2014 12:00 am

By NOUR HABIB World Staff Writer | 1 comment

Seeds for lettuce, kale, arugula, carrots, parsnips and more can now be found at the Tulsa City-County Library.

Last week, two branches launched the seed library that has been in the works for several months.

"It is a new pilot program to increase healthier living by providing seeds for the public to get from the library, to plant, to build their own gardens, to begin sustainable living," said Sherrie Wallace, manager of the Suburban Acres branch.

In addition to Suburban Acres, 4606 N. Garrison Ave., seeds will also be housed at the Glenpool branch, 730 E. 141st St.

Johanna Burton, the coordinator for the seed library, said the two branches were chosen for the pilot program because their staffs expressed interest.

Wallace said her branch, located in north Tulsa, was interested in the program because it would allow it to provide needed resources for the community.

"We have limited resources with regards to fresh fruits and vegetables," said Wallace, mentioning the closure this summer of north Tulsa's largest grocery store.

"The biggest benefit is to see an improvement in the quality of living for those individuals



Attendees look over varieties of seeds and tomato plants after a presentation in May by Tulsa City-County Library's Johanna Burton about the new seed library. MICHAEL WYKE/Tulsa World file



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### Seed library

Need more information? Visit the Glenpool or Suburban Acres branches, go to [guides.tulsalibrary.org/tulsaseedlibrary](http://guides.tulsalibrary.org/tulsaseedlibrary) or contact Johanna Burton at 918-549-7423 or [jburton@tulsalibrary.org](mailto:jburton@tulsalibrary.org).



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that don't have the means to get fruits and vegetables," she said.

Currently more than 60 seed packets are available to check out at the library. The varieties can be found in the online library catalog by searching "seed library." Packets can also be requested for pick-up at other locations, in a method similar to book

requests.

Burton said most of the seeds for the pilot program have been donated, and the library staff association donated some funds. Supplies, such as buckets and soil used at a gardening demonstration this weekend, was also donated.

The seed library will allow individuals to check out up to five packets at a time. They can then plant them, enjoying most of the produce while drying a few seeds to return to the library.

Brochures explain the planting process for beginners, offer definitions of common gardening terms and provide instructions on how to dry seeds.

Seeds are divided by difficulty, with some labeled for beginners and others recommended for more advanced gardeners.

Burton said she will send tomato seeds to the branches toward winter, followed by spring and summer plants such as green beans and squashes.

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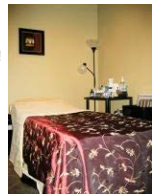
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
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