

Resources for Winter Seed Sowing Workshop

Newton Community Pollinator Project, 1/10/26

Links to Presentations

- [Winter Seed Sowing Plant List](#)
- [What are Native Plants and why are they important](#)
- [Winter Seed Sowing Why and How](#)

Native Seed Suppliers

- [Cold Spring Park Little Seed Library](#) – Free! at Cold Spring Park, Beacon St, Newton, MA
- [Blue Stem Natives, MA](#) (Sept-Dec)
- [Northeast Seed Collective](#), Ecoregion 59 — from MA, CT, RI
- [Wild Seed Project, ME](#)
- [Prairie Moon Nursery, MN](#)
- [Ernst Seeds, PA](#)

Potting Soil

We recommend organic potting soil. We used Coast of Maine Bar Harbor Blend potting soil but other potting soils would work as well. Potting soils are difficult to find in January. If you are planning to winter sow next year you may want to buy your potting soil in early fall when it is still available.

Local retail outlets that had potting soil recently are listed below. Call before you go.

- Agway 54 Emerson Rd, Waltham
- [Needham Garden Center](#) in Needham
- [Mahoney's](#) in Brighton
- [Hillside Gardens](#) in Belmont

Also available (at a higher price) online from Amazon.com, e.g., [Coast of Maine](#), or [Wayfair](#)

Buying Native Plants

Local nurseries that sell large selection of native plants include:

- [Russells Garden Center](#), Wayland, MA
- [Native Plant Trust/Garden in the Woods](#), Framingham, MA – full price but supporting native plant conservation
- [Bluestem Natives](#), Norwell, MA
- [Grown Native MA](#) maintains an extensive list of small and large nurseries that sell native plants. They also have an annual sale and organize pop-up sales at Farmers Markets.

One-Day Local Native Plant Sales

- Newton Farmer's Market has hosted one day native plant sales in the past and will likely do so again this September.
- [Grow Native MA](#), Lexington, MA, holds a [large native plant sale](#) every spring, visit their website for details. This year's sale will be May 29 – 30.

Newton Resources

- [Newton Conservators Pollinator Toolkit](#)
- [Cold Spring Park Pollinator Garden webpages](#) (includes plants, links to descriptions, sources)
- [Newton Conservation Commission](#) Plant List

Broader but applicable to Newton

- [Plants for Bees & Butterflies At Risk in MA](#) – by Dr. Robert Gegear, UMass Dartmouth
- [National Wildlife Foundation](#) Plant Lists, especially for Keystone Plants (host the most caterpillars) and specialist bees. Search by zip code.
- [Association for the Preservation of Cape Cod](#) Plant Finder – especially good for dry, sandy sites

Garden Design

- [Wild Ones](#) – free sample northeast and mid-Atlantic designs with most plants native to here. Also [Native Landscaping 101](#) video by Larry Weaner.

Biodiversity

- [Biodiversity Loss: A Health Crisis](#) – editorial in *The Lancet*, the world's most read medical journal
- [Landscape Interactions](#) Biodiversity web page on biodiversity and pollination
- Any article, book, or [video](#) by Dr. Doug Tallamy