Libraries of Seeds and Things: Unique Collections in Your Catalog

BIBLIO CON '23

September 21, 2023

Speakers

BIBLIO CON '23

Amy Bivins, (She/Her)
Program Specialist
Pima County Public Library

PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Nadine Poulos, (She/Her)
Manager, Customer Experience & Collections
St. Thomas Public Library

St. Thomas Public Library

Brendan Lax, (He/His)
Collection Development Librarian
Hillsboro Public Library

Hillsboro OREGON

Chris Williams, (He/His)
Program Specialist
Pima County Public Library

PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Aaron DeVries
Manager, Digital & Support Services
St. Thomas Public Library

St. Thomas Public Library

Maxine Levine
Operations Manager
BiblioCommons

BIBLIO COMMONS
Love your online library

Pima County Public Library Seed Library Discoverability

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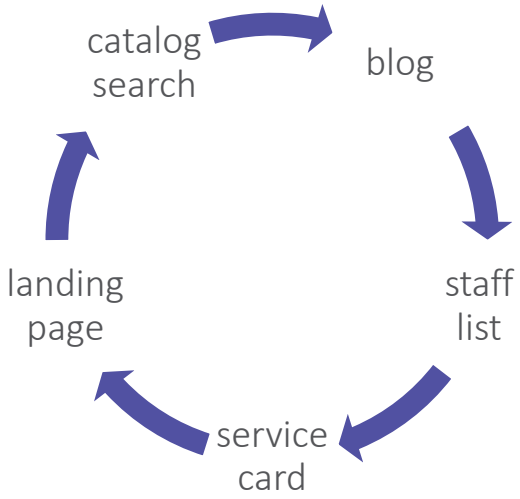
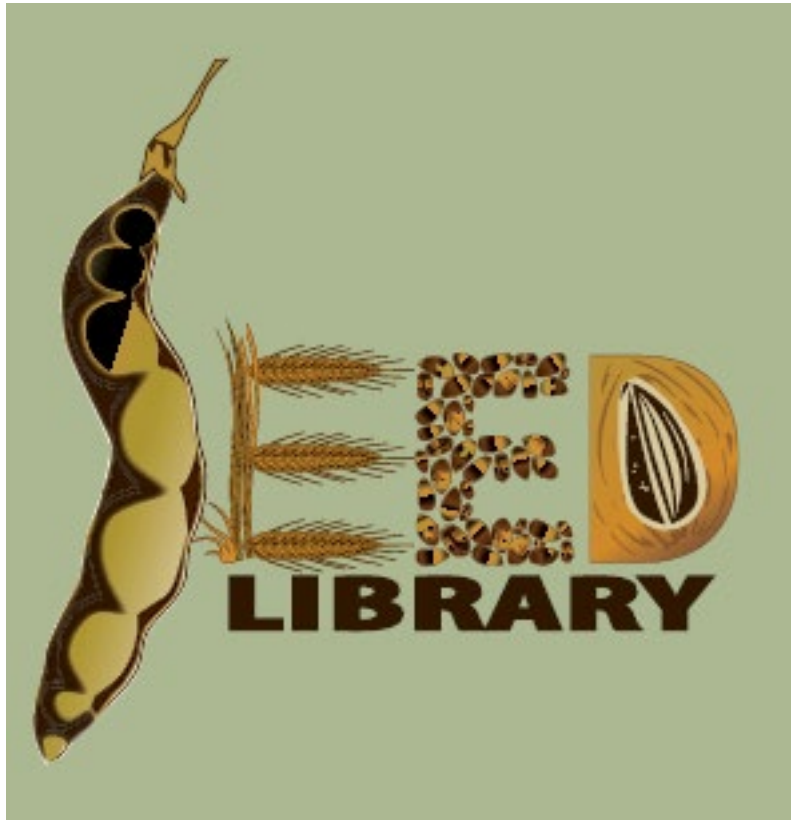
Patrons who know:

- Catalog search
- Landing page

Patrons who don't know YET:

- Keywords that lead to Personalized Promotions
- Blogs featured on the homepage

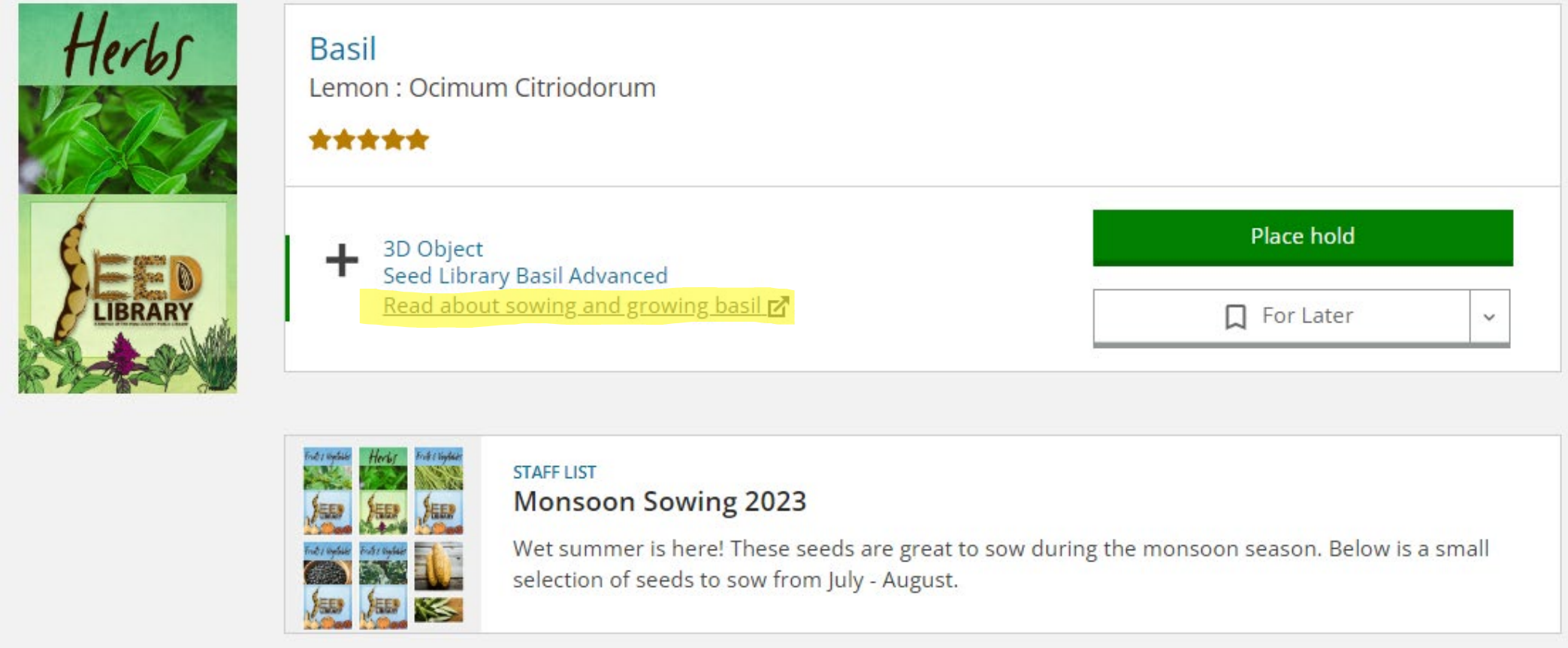




PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

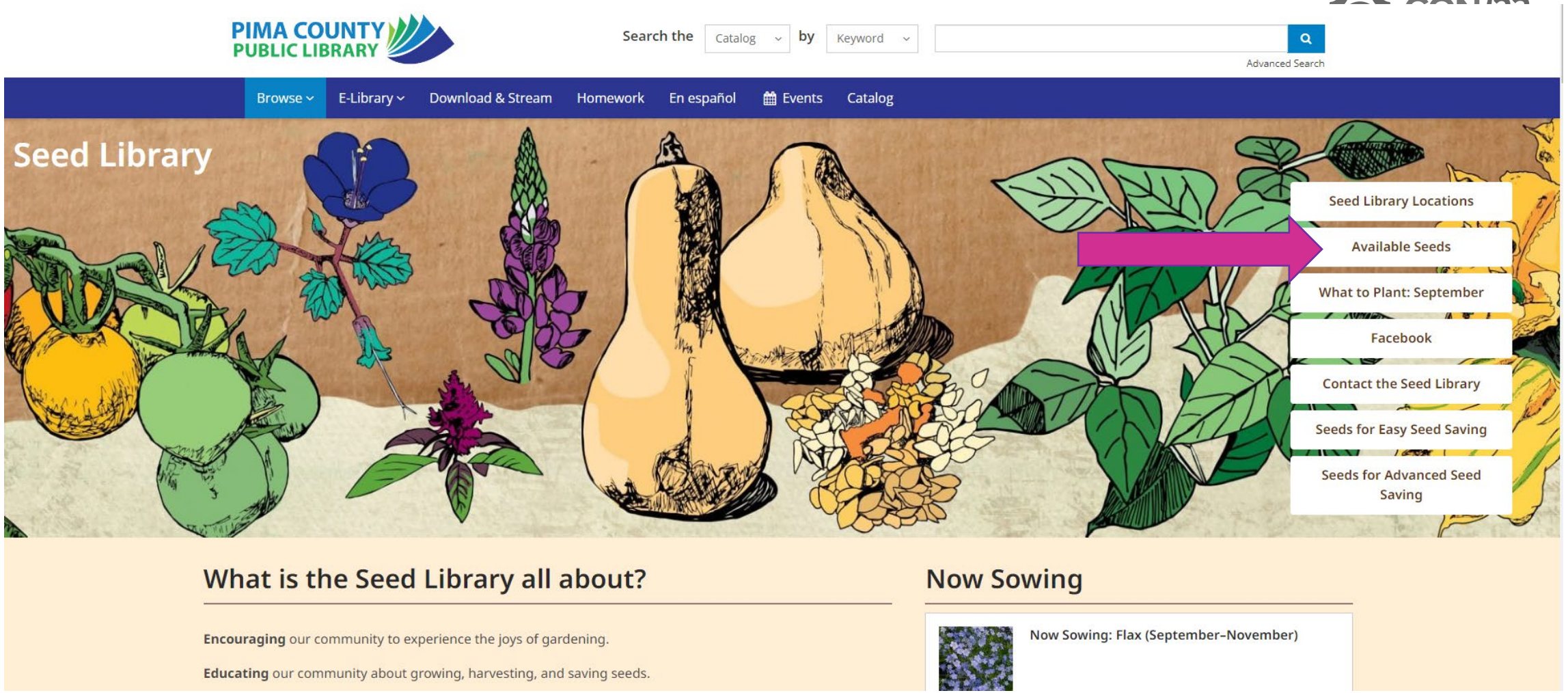
Patrons who know:

Search for one seed in the catalog...



Discover many more in a staff list!

Patrons who know visit the Seed Library landing page.



Use BiblioWeb taxonomies to populate this page with seasonal blog posts, staff lists, and events.

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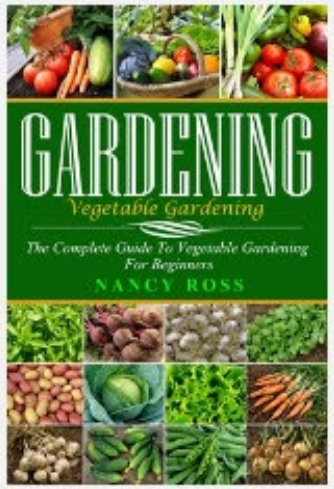
Patrons who don't know YET:

Search the catalog for "gardening"...



Gardening

The Complete Guide To Vegetable Gardening For Beginners

by Ross, Nancy

eBook - 2016

Check out now on Hoopla

For Later

SERVICE

Start your garden with seeds from the Seed Library

ONLINE RESOURCE

Home & Garden Magazines in OverDrive & Libby

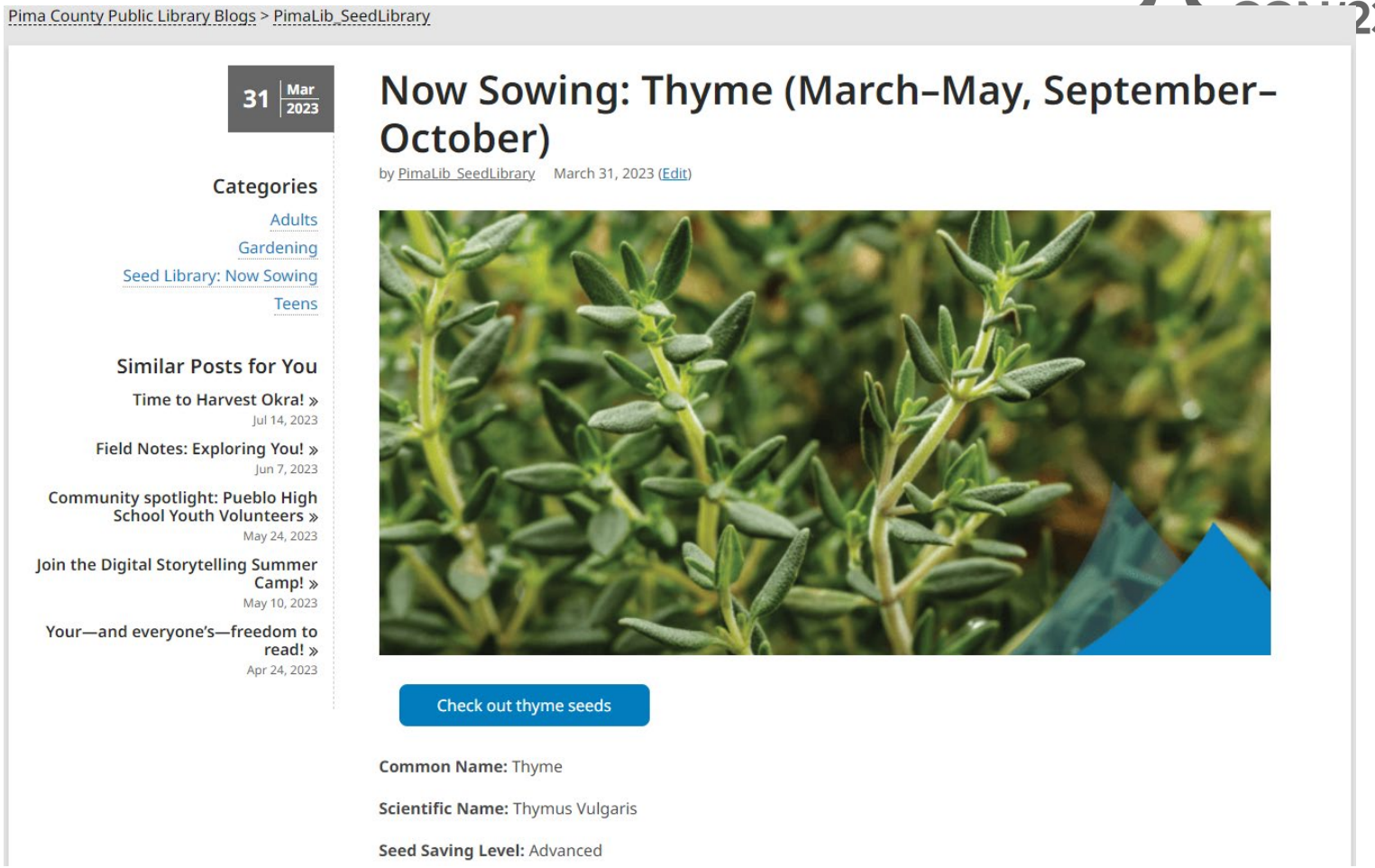
...and see a service card that leads to the Seed Library landing page.

Patrons who don't know YET:

See a Now Sowing blog on the library homepage.

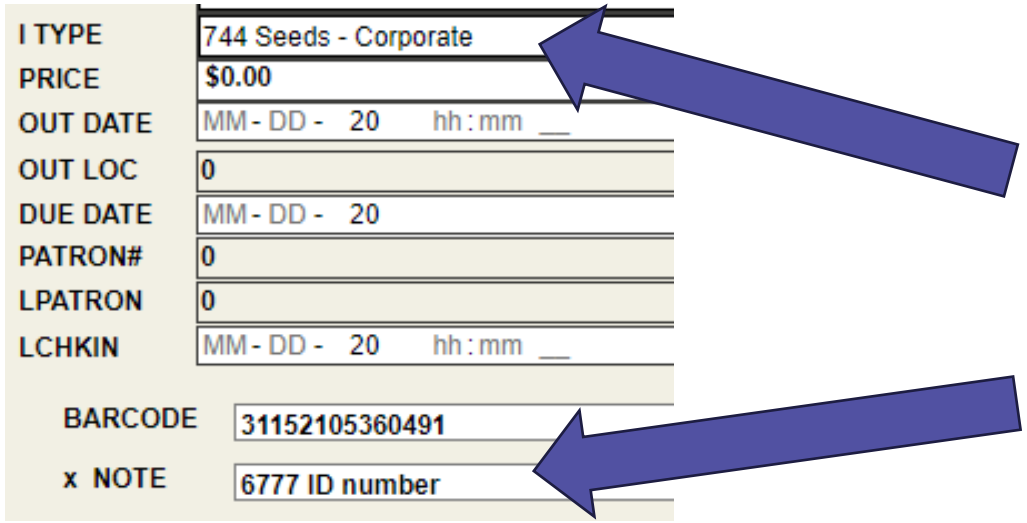
Follow links in the blog to:

- Catalog record for thyme seeds
- Other Now Sowing blogs
- Landing page



Now Sowing blog posts are written by the Seed Library Team, and they generate a lot of traffic toward seeds.

What does all that look like in our ILS?

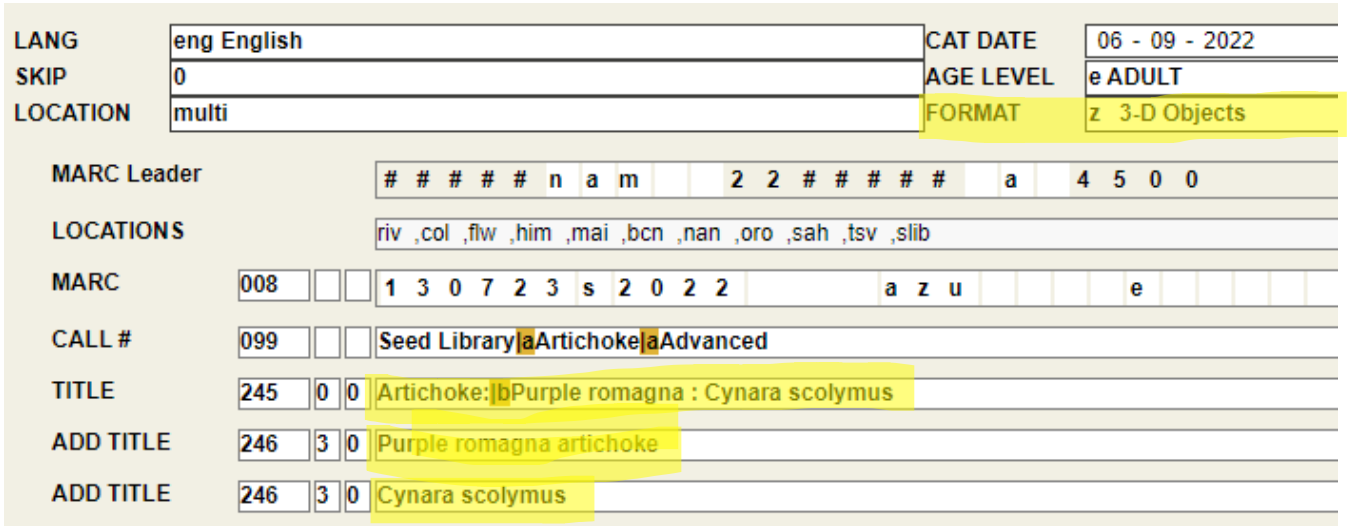


We created an I-Type in Sierra so seeds could circulate differently from other items.
This is also where we specify the origin of the seeds.

Each individual barcoded packet of seeds gets an ID number for tracking purposes.

Format for seeds is 3-D Objects.

Extra titles for varieties and scientific names.



SUBJECT	650		0	Seeds|xHarvesting.
SUBJECT	650		0	Gardening|zArizona|zTucson.
SUBJECT	650		0	Desert gardening|zArizona|zTucson.
SUBJECT	650		0	Heirloom varieties (Plants)
SUBJECT	650		0	Sustainable agriculture.
SUBJECT	650		0	Sustainable biodiversity.
SUBJECT	650		0	Libraries and community|zArizona|zTucson.
SUBJECT	650		0	Public-private sector cooperation|zArizona|zTucson.
SUBJECT	610	2	0	Pima County Public Library.
SUBJECT	610	2	0	Native Seeds of Tucson.
SUBJECT	610	2	0	University of Arizona.|bCooperative Extension.
SUBJECT	690		0	Seed Library.
SUBJECT	650		0	Pollination.
SUBJECT	690		0	Open pollination.
SUBJECT	690		0	Advanced seed saving.
ALT AUTHOR	710	2		Pima County Public Library.
ALT AUTHOR	710	2		Native Seeds/Search (Organization)
ALT AUTHOR	710	2		University of Arizona.|bCooperative Extension.
MARC	856	4	0	|uhttps://www.library.pima.gov/seed-library/|zSeed Library information
MARC	856	4	0	|zRead about sowing and growing artichoke |uhttps://www.library.pima.gov/blogs/post/now-sowing-artichoke-september-november/
MARC	856	4	2	|zCover Image|uhttps://www.library.pima.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/6/2023/06/Seed-Library-catalog-image-Artichoke-Purple-romagna-Cynara-scolymus-b2113232x.png ;

Lots of subject headings to make keyword searching more successful. So many subject headings!

Alternative authors include local gardening organizations and commercial seed donors.

These 856 fields let us add images and links to the seed records in our catalog.

PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

BIBLIO

← Search results

Artichoke

Purple Romagna : Cynara Scolymus

★★★★★ (1 rating) ☆☆☆☆☆ Rate this

+ 3D Object

Image URL from Media Library in 856 field

URL for landing page in 856 field

URL for blog post in 856 field

Available

58 copies 38 available

0 on hold

Availability by location ›

Online resource

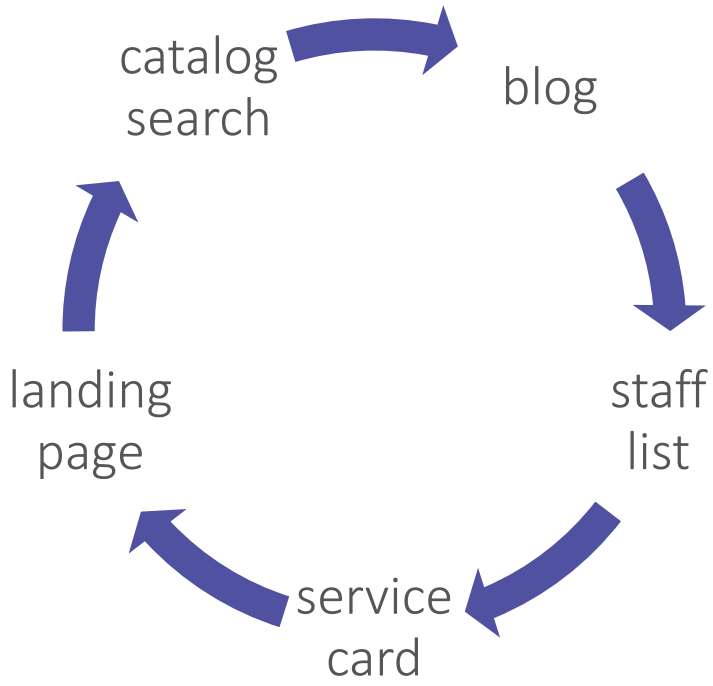
Seed Library information ›

Read about sowing and growing artichoke ›

Place hold

For Later

PIMA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



A few more details about Pima County's Seed Library

- Seeds officially check out for 6 months, but we do a monthly purge of seeds from patron accounts
- 10 seed packs per card, per month checkout limit
- Reserve up to 10 seed packs at a time
- Staff suppress and unsuppress seed records in the catalog as needed

library.pima.gov/seedlibrary/

St. Thomas Public Library Seed Library

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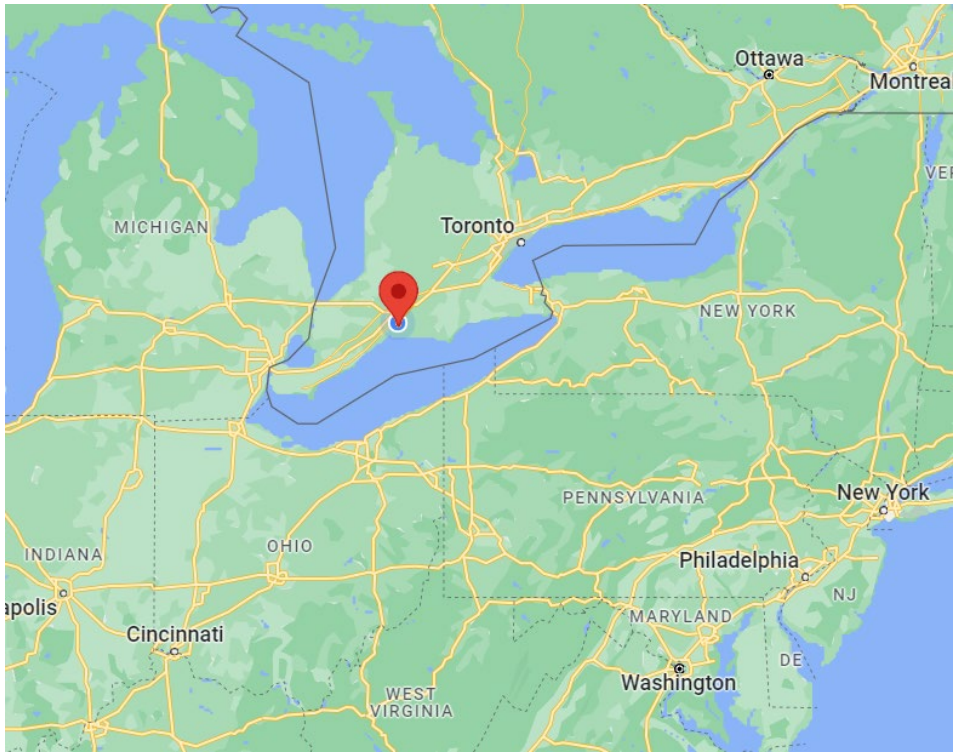
- City population: 42,000
- Launched our Seed Library in 2017
- 497 different seeds catalogued

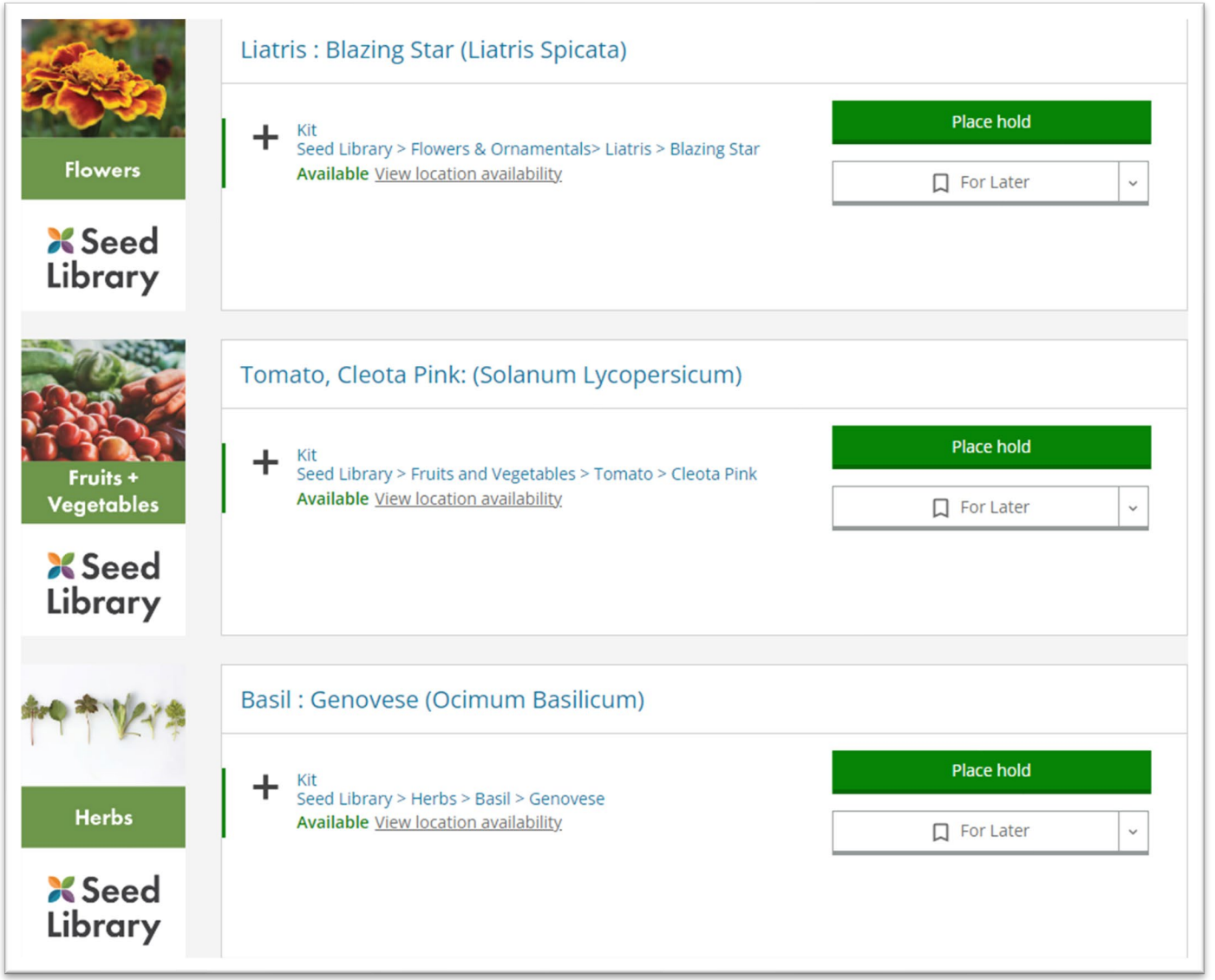


ST. THOMAS PUBLIC LIBRARY

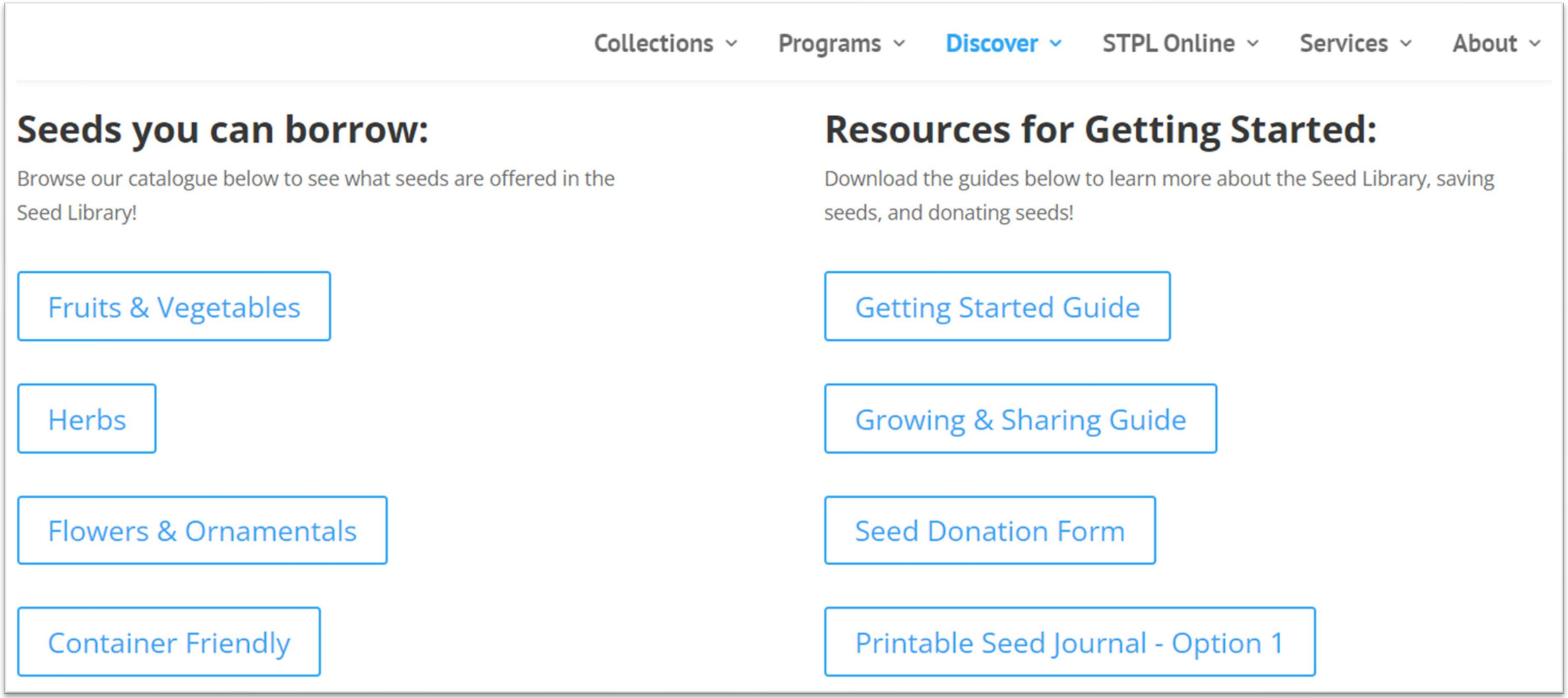
Seed Library

St. Thomas Public Library

Plant Categories



Our Seed Page



MARC Record

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Item Table | MARC Edit | MARC View | Record Notes | View Holds | Monograph Parts | Holdings View | Conjoined Items | Shelf Browse

LDR 03272nam a2200421 a 4500
001 64976
003 STTHOMAS
008
092 ǂa Seed Library > Flowers & Ornamentals > Aster > Flat-Topped
245 0 ǂa Aster : Flat-Topped (Doellingeria umbellata)
520 ǂa Flat-topped Aster is an early bloomer, flowering in July with clusters of white petals and yellow centre disks. It is rhizomatous, meaning it spreads by underground rhizomes as well as by seed.
520 ǂa Difficulty: EASY
520 ǂa Perennial
520 ǂa Open Pollinated
520 ǂa Container friendly
500 ǂa Generously donated by V. Williams, Vanier, ON
650 ǂa Ornamentals
650 ǂa Flowers
650 ǂa Gardening
650 ǂa Seed Library
650 ǂa Seeds
650 ǂa Aster
650 ǂa Container friendly
856 42 ǂz Cover Image ǂu https://stthomaspubliclibrary.ca/covers/seeds/flowers.jpg
907 ǂa .b12422502 ǂb 03-24-22 ǂc 01-26-21
998 ǂa seeds ǂb 01-26-21 ǂc - ǂd o ǂe - ǂf eng ǂg xxc ǂh 0

St. Thomas Public Library

Using 520: Describing the Seeds

Seed Library

Aster : Flat-Topped (Doellingeria Umbellata)

☆☆☆☆☆ (0 ratings) ☆☆☆☆☆ Rate this

+ Kit

Flat-topped Aster is an early bloomer, flowering in July with clusters of white petals and yellow centre disks. It is rhizomatous, meaning it spreads by underground rhizomes as well as by seed.
Difficulty: EASY
Perennial
Open Pollinated
Container friendly

Read less ^

Available
11 copies 6 available 0 on hold

Availability by location >

Place hold

For Later

Using 650: Advanced Searching

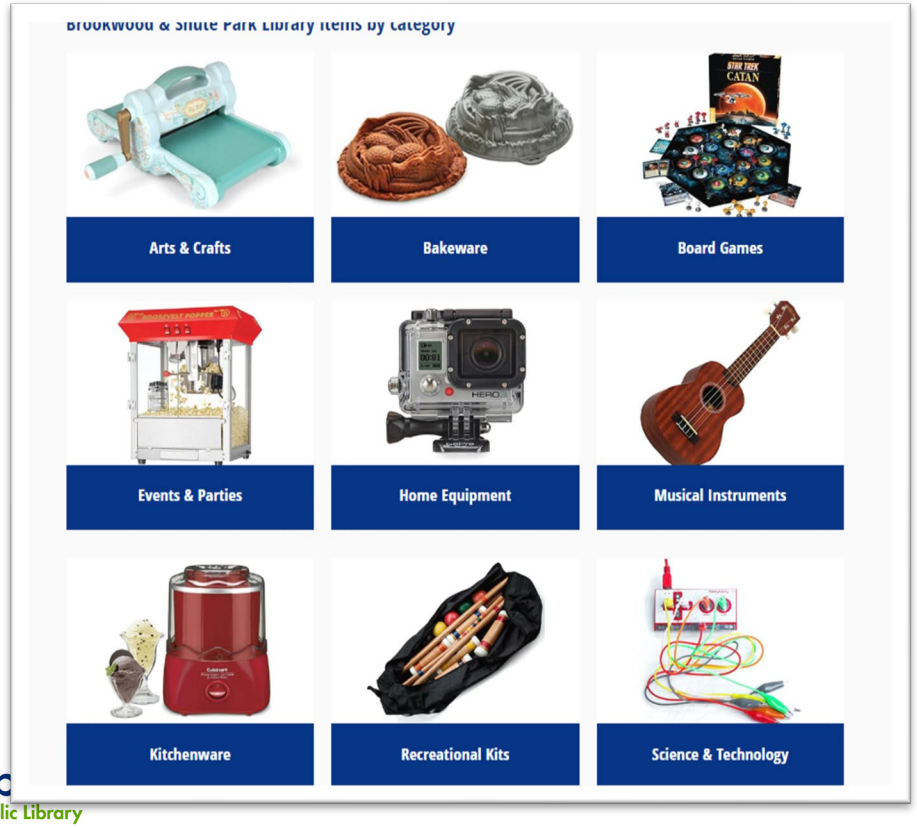
Pros and Cons

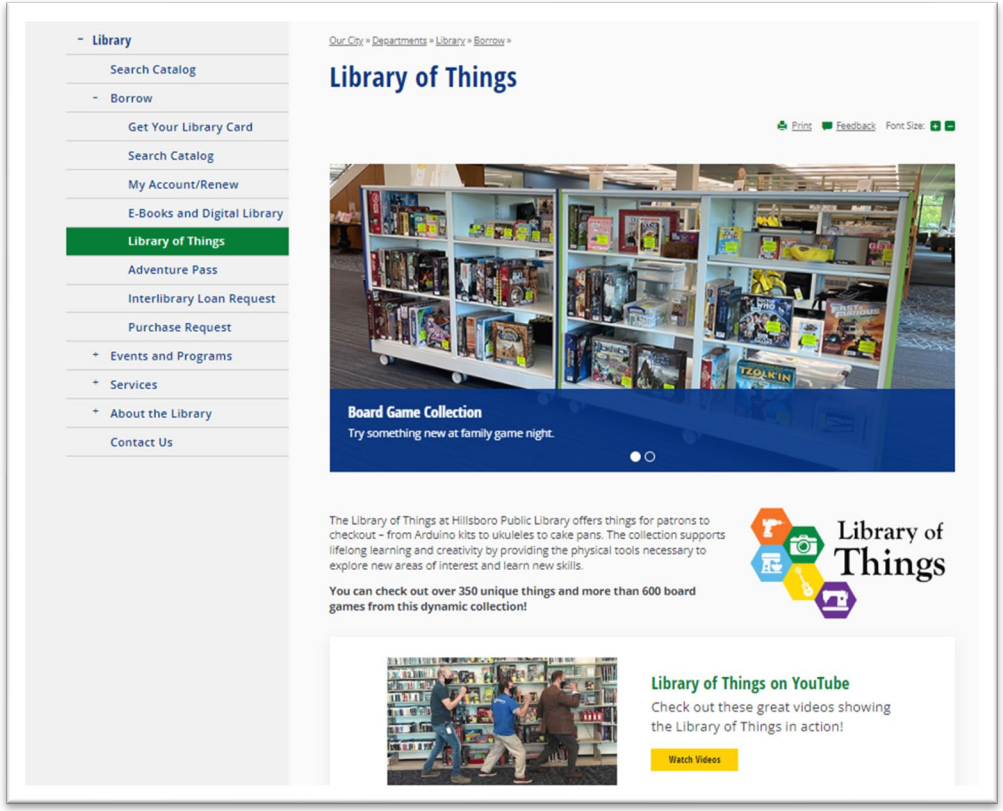
- Pros
  - Searchability for patrons
  - Ability to put the seeds on hold
  - Stats
- Cons
  - Labour intensive to start
  - How to check in an item that's not coming back

- Looking to the future
  - Creating a core collection
  - Updating images
  - Potential for additional search terms (soil types, sun exposure, etc.)
  - Linking seeds that work well together

Hillsboro Public Library – Library of Things

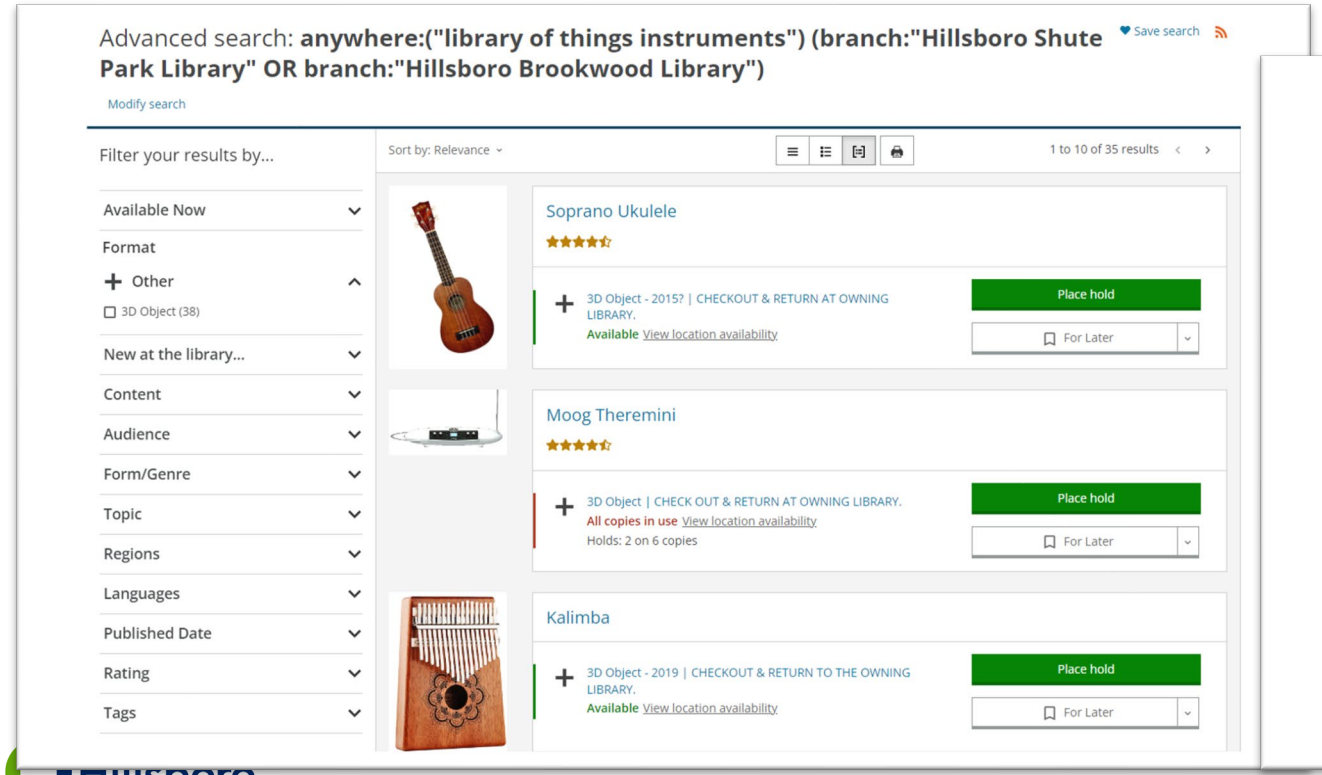
- The Hillsboro Library of Things was established in 2014, with the rest of our county cooperative starting their Thing collections in 2018.
- Our cooperative uses the Polaris ILS, and we started using BiblioCommons in 2018.
- Currently our system has 930 bibliographic records for Things (2,504 item records) and 1,229 bibliographic records for board games (2,539 item records).

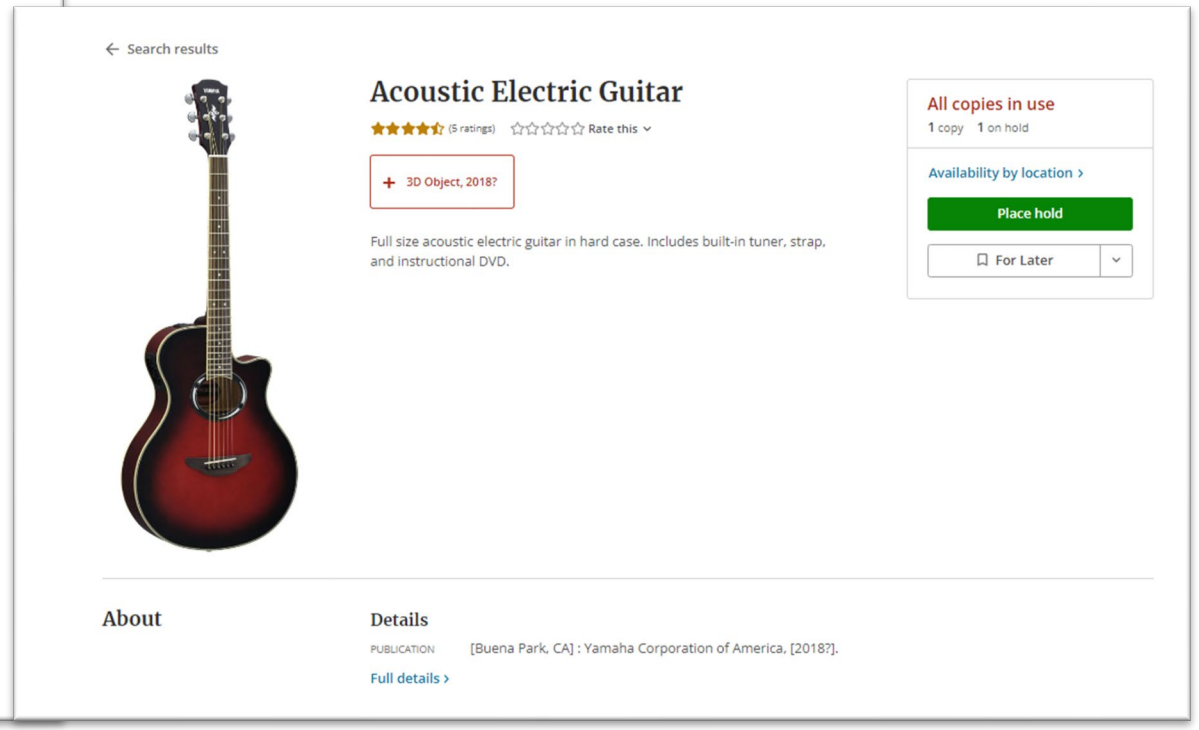




BiblioCommons Advantages

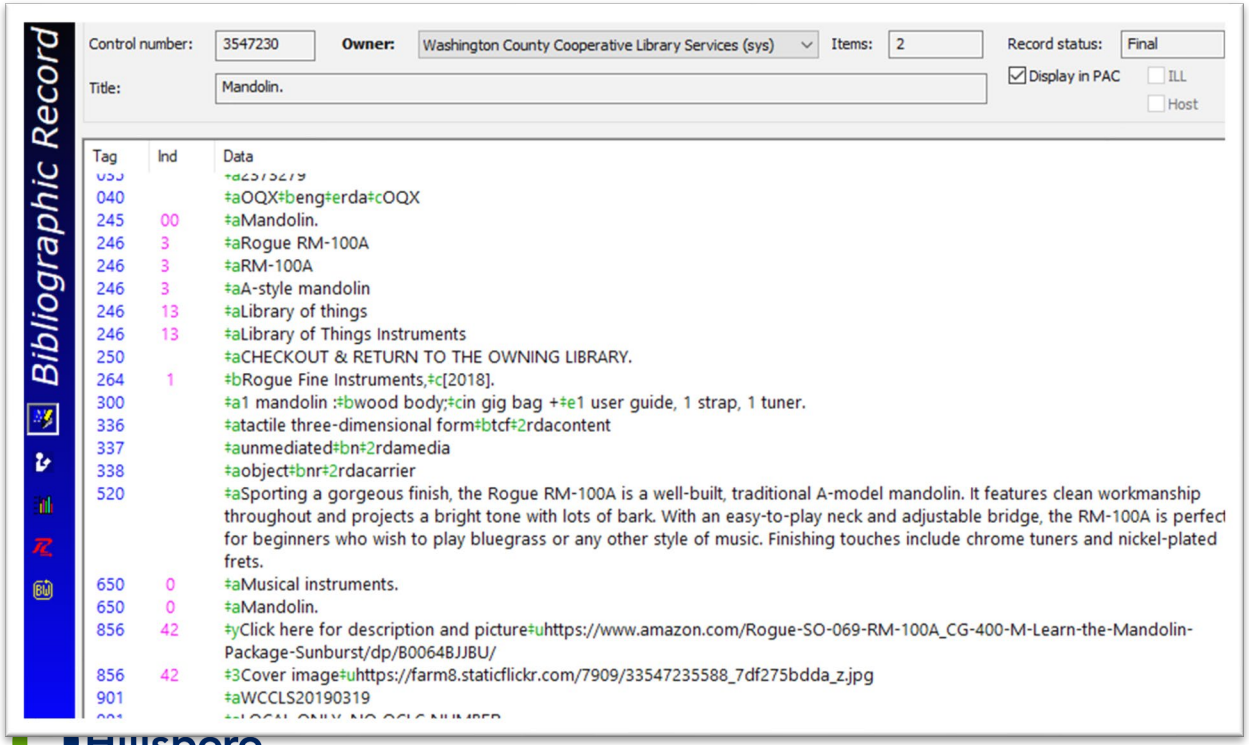
- Before BiblioCommons, we linked from our webpage to the catalog using a title search for alternative titles that we added to the 246 fields in our bib records.
- We can now create more sophisticated links on our webpage that don't need the alternative titles, and we can limit by branch location.
- Most of our Things and board games now have images in the catalog.

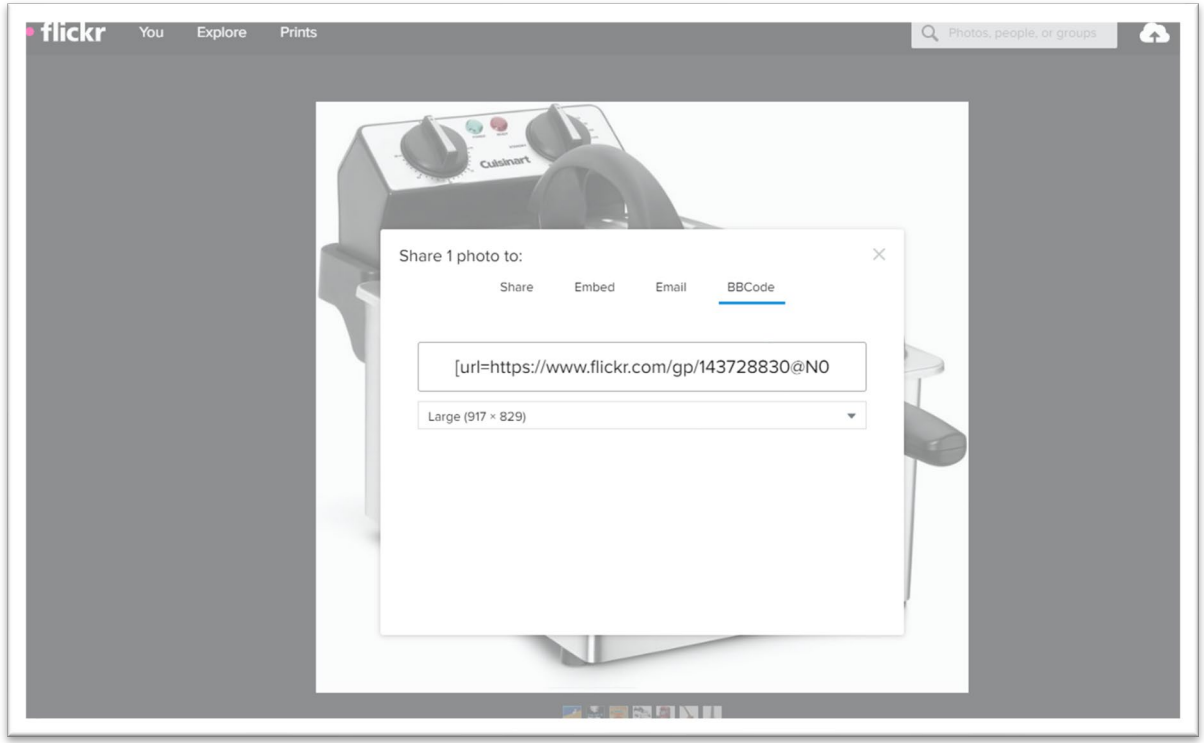




Adding Images to Our Bibliogrpahic Records

- After being warned off using inline linking in our records, each library started hosting their own images. Hillsboro created a free Flickr account for our images.
- Last year, Flickr limited free accounts to 100 images, so we upgraded to a Pro account to get unlimited storage and to keep our photos private.
- We get a static URL from Flickr, and add it to an 856 field in the bib record.





Hillsboro Public Library

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Thank you!