

## **Mansfield Offers New Seed Library Service**

With the end of winter finally in sight and the indoor growing season upon us, seasoned and beginner gardeners alike have been visiting the Mansfield Library to browse and check out seeds from the <u>seed library</u> that launched mid-February. This new service is proving to be both helpful and popular, with more than 350 checkouts in just 18 days!

Responding to community interest in growing food and pandemic-spurred food insecurity, the seed library was started to provide community members with the resources and encouragement to gain food, knowledge and experience with sustainable seed practices.

Through relationships with the Five Valleys Seed Library, UM Dining, the PEAS Farm and other local farmers, the Mansfield Library can provide the public with both seeds (many of which are regionally adapted) and information about gardening, seed saving and food systems.

Students and non-student community members alike can take seeds from the seed library, meaning usual patrons of the currently closed Five Valleys Seed Library still have access to free seeds!