

## The Art of Native Seed Sowing

### Lesson One

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#### Seed Propagation Vocabulary:

**Germination:** the seed sprouts and develops.

**Viable:** the seed is alive and able to germinate and grow into a plant. Some seeds stay viable for many years, while others might only last a short time.

**Seed dormancy:** is the state in which seed is unable to germinate. Most perennials and woody plants have conditions that have to be met in order to break seed dormancy.

**Cold moist Stratification:** is a technique used to simulate the real-world conditions a seed would receive outdoors after the frozen winter gives way to a warm, wet spring.

**Winter Seed Sowing:** involves sowing the seeds outdoors in miniature greenhouses during the winter, allowing them to germinate naturally in spring.

**Hydrophilic:** Seed needs to be kept moist until you are ready to plant.

#### Online Articles related to this presentation:

Growing in the Off-Season – Native Perennials from Seed:

<https://www.ecolandscaping.org/09/designing-ecological-landscapes/native-plants/growing-in-the-off-season-native-perennials-from-seed/>

How to Grow Natives from Seed: <https://wildseedproject.net/how-to-grow-natives-from-seed/>

Winter Sowing Seeds a Quick Start Guide: <https://getbusygardening.com/winter-sowing-seeds/>

How To Prepare Containers for Winter Sowing: <https://getbusygardening.com/preparing-winter-sowing-containers/>

#### Online Resources for New York Natives:

Monroe County Master Gardener Native Plant Lists: <http://monroe.cce.cornell.edu/master-gardeners/pollinator-friendly-gardens>

Amanda's Native Garden: <https://www.amandasnativeplants.com>

#### Sources for Native Perennial Seed:

Prairie Moon Nursery: <https://www.prairiemoon.com>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/PrairieMoonNrsy/>

Wild Seed Project: <https://wildseedproject.net>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/wildseedproject/>

#### \*Bring to next Wednesday's Class: (soil and seed will be provided)

1. Prepared recycled mini greenhouse containers: holes in bottom and lid cut with hinge.
2. Coffee filters or paper towel liners so soil will not leak out.
3. Plant markers and indelible marking pen or pencil that can write on your labels.
4. Envelopes if you'd like to take additional seed home.

**Next Class we will:** 1. Plant containers, 2. Review watering techniques before setting containers outdoors, 3. Review tips for transplanting in spring, 4. Planting out in the garden, 4. Questions?