

August 1, 2014

Dear Mr. Zook,

Thank you meeting with library officials from the Cumberland County Library System's Simpson Public Library a few weeks ago and for proposing an alternate method for handling our seed library.

We've reviewed the information and agree that this is a viable way to approach the issue.

To that end, our immediate plan of action is to:

1. Remove all the commercially labeled seeds in our library that have 'use by' dates that have passed from our seed collection. From now on, the Simpson Library will only purchase or accept donations of (current) commercially prepared/labeled seed for this year or future growing seasons.
2. Since the library does not have the capacity to test or properly store loose seed, we will not accept or store harvested seeds from our seed library participants. As you suggested, in the coming year, we plan to host seed swap events where we will encourage individuals to swap or trade seeds that they have in their possession.
3. Next week we plan to notify registered seed library participants of the changes to our program.
4. Also, next week we will post a web site that provides an update on the Seed Library with the changes to our seed library procedures.

Today, we prepared a news release (attached) about the changes to our program and sent it out to the news media.

Unfortunately though, news of the problems that the Seed Library had run into had already been made public at a Cumberland County Commissioner meeting yesterday. (In response to a question from the Commissioners, the general content of the Department's letters to the Simpson Library was reported before library officials had an opportunity to discuss what our next steps were going to be regarding your recommendations.) I apologize if this caused problems for you or the department.

We do appreciate the time you've taken to make us aware of the Seed Act, and the steps you've taken to help us reach a good compromise.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Jonelle Prether Darr

Executive Director

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