



Somerset Community Fundraiser

Our mission is to bring about awareness on how to identify needs in the community and the impact and importance of giving back. By meeting the needs around them, our students learn compassion and make a tremendous difference in the lives of others.

Proceeds have benefited and supported families, through holiday food baskets, fresh produce donations to the local food pantry, and even globally to support schools in Zanzibar. In addition, money is also used to maintain the outdoor classroom garden project. Every year we assess the focus depending on the needs that are brought to our attention. This year we will use profits to support a need in our community and also to provide supplies and transportation for the Windstorm Challenge at UMO.

Objectives:

- Connecting the school and local community.
- Educate students about the healthy benefits of gardening and sustainability.
- Provides leadership roles for students and fosters relationships.

Students Run a "School Seed Store"

- o Students take seed orders, purchase seeds in bulk, repackaging them, and distribute back to customers (All seeds are from [FEDCO](#)).



ORDER FORMS: please use a pencil!

- Get full name and phone number: Printed neatly.
- Collect \$ in advance by check if possible or cash.
- Checks made payable to [Skowhegan Area Middle School](#).
- All seed packets are \$2.00 - Encourage all for \$25.00
- Keep all documents together in the folder, including \$ & checks in a separate zip-loc bag or envelope.

It is your responsibility to keep track of the orders and money.

Orders will be Collected: 03/27/2024

Seeds will be distributed mid-late April.

Questions? Please call or email Mrs. Cormier @ SAMS

bcormier@msad54.org 207-474-3339

2024: Vegetables

Beets - *Beta vulgaris* (48 days). Early Tall Tops are a purple reddish colored variety the size of a baseball. These beets taste sweet. Full sun, water, and well drained soil is necessary. Did you know that Women in the nineteenth century used beet juice for their cheeks and lips? Ladies have you considered this natural alternative make-up? They emerge quick. Plant seeds in a row 1" apart and about 1/2" deep. 1 pack sows 20 ft.



Carrots - *Daucus carota* (68 days). Scarlet Nantes Carrots are 7" long. This variety of Carrots has a fresh clean crisp taste. Nantes *Fancy's* are very uniform and an excellent keeper. Sweet with a small dark core. The seed prefers cooler conditions, they need lots of water. Carrots are the most popular root crops grown and consumed in the world. Grow in rows about 16"-24" apart. Plant 1/2" deep and thinning carrots is critical. At 3" high thin to 1/2" apart, at 6" thin again to 1" apart. Sows 35 ft.



Cucumber - *Cucumis sativus* (8-9 wks). *Marketmore* Cucumbers are sweet and crunchy and are good for pickling or eaten in raw salads. They are usually uniform and look a lot alike. They are a little bit prickly but they can be rubbed off before eaten. They grow to be 8-8 1/2 inches long. They are an annual depending on soil, climate, and irrigation. These plants are big sun and water eaters. Will not survive frost. Cucumbers are highly nutritious and are also said to help aid digestion and constipation. Many people use cucumbers on the skin as a beauty aid as well. Plant in mounds 4-5" high and put 4-5 seeds/ mound.

Waltham Butternut Winter Squash (105 days) Elegant 9" tan fruits weighing 4-5 lb. Orange dry flesh has a sweet nutty flavor. Our best-selling winter squash variety. Plant in hills 4-6' apart sowing 4-5 seeds per hill 1" deep ASAP after danger of frost. 1/8 oz packet sows 7 hills.

Green Beans - *Phaseolus vulgaris* (50 days). Provider Green Beans, are open pollinated, tender, and will not survive frost. Pick frequently, so new ones will grow. If the weather is wet, then stay away from the patch to prevent spreading of disease. Providers have the highest early yields even under bad weather conditions, providers can't be beat. Plant seeds 1" deep, in rows that are 24-30 inches apart, 3-4 seeds/ foot. 180 seeds/ pack. Sows 25 ft.



Winter Density Bibb/Romaine Lettuce - *Lactuca Sativa*. (60 days) Also known as Craguerelle du Midi, a French heirloom from the 19th century. Is it a bibb or a romaine? Any way you look at it, its thick tender dark green leaves make superb eating. Starts out looking like a *bibb*, then wrapper leaves fold tightly, forming a head like a romaine when mature. Combines the substance of romaine with the tender succulence of *bibb*. Replant every 2 weeks for continual supply and thin regularly. Sows 25 ft.; 875 seeds/ pack.

Spinach - *Spinacia oleracea* (37 days). Popularized by the Popeye cartoons in the '30s and '40s ("I'm strong to the finish because I eat my spinach"). Very hardy. Sow at normal spring-planting time. Vigorous growing at all times cold-hardy through at least part of the Maine winter. Upright growth results in good clean dark-green leaves with a juicy sweet taste. Pick large leaves often for heavier production. To reduce bolting, avoid hot-weather planting, use wider spacing and irrigate or use shade cloth. *Bloodwade* produces the kind of vigorous big thick, and wavy leaves that market growers love and restaurant chefs adore. 1/4 oz packet sows 30-50 ft.



Sugar Snap Peas - *Pisum sativum* (65 days) Sow as early as ground can be worked for best yields. All peas produce more when staked; varieties over 2 1/2' must be supported. Use either a trellis or chicken wire. Install support at planting time to avoid disturbing seedlings. Plant 8-10 seeds/ft on each side of supports in double rows. Set supports for rows 3' apart (5' if very tall varieties). Harvest snow peas before pods fill out. 2 oz packet sows 25 ft. 1 lb sows 200 ft.



2024: Herbs

Sweet Basil – *Ocimum basilicum* (70 days). A very heavy yielding variety. Recommended for drying, all-around eating, and large-scale pesto production. Plant seeds directly when the soil warms in late spring or transplant after danger of frost in well drained soil. Use row covers to enhance early season vigor and speed up maturity. Pinch tops regularly to induce branching and increase the total yield. Harvest prior to flowering. 2400 seeds/pack.

Dill – *Anethum graveolens* (55 days). This bouquet variety is the biggest, best and ferniest strain. One of the easiest herbs to grow because it is a low maintenance plant. Grow in cool weather in full sun and in dry soil conditions. Plant in rows 12" apart. Grows up to 3-4' tall. Dill herbs are green and have feathery foliage that has a crisp sweet taste. Excellent on fish, potatoes and is an attractive yet tasteful addition to summer salads & dips. Water this plant during dry periods once or twice per week. Plant in well drained soil and thin to 4" apart. 2000 seeds/pack.



Forest Green Parsley *Petroselinum crispum* (75 days). Combination double- and triple-curved with long upright stiff stems. Holds color well all season, tolerates heat and repeated cuttings. Great for parsley pesto and other culinary adventures. Very hardy. Very slow to germinate (up to 30 days). Soaking seed 8-12 hours will help germination. 1/16 oz packet sows 25 ft. 875 seeds/pkg.

Flowers

Zinnia – *Z. elegans* (90 days). This Gold Medal Mix produces huge 4"-5" blooms on 30" plants. Saturated colors include red, magenta, purple, orange, lavender, white, and pink. Can be started indoor 4-8 wks early and transplanted after danger of frost. Tolerates full sun. Space 9-12" apart. 40 seeds/ pack.



Cosmos – *Cosmos sulphureus* (10 wks). Cosmos are a sensation because cosmos produce different varieties of pinks, roses, magentas, and occasional whites. Cosmo plants usually grow from 4-5 ft. tall in a season. Deadhead regularly, to keep cosmos in bloom for many weeks. Do not over fertilized or over water because it will reduce the production of the flowers. Cosmos attract a wide range of beneficial insects so you could plant them in your vegetable garden to pollinate other plants. Can be started 4-6 wks. early indoors. Space 9-12" apart. Tolerant to drought. 196 seeds/ pack.


Sunflower Mix *Helianthus annuus*. These sunflowers are admired for their fragrance, beautiful diversity and plethora of polyheading 6" blooms. Selma's heads have small dark centers, pointed petals, and display various hues and shades including yellows, golds, maroons and reds. These flowers are known to be appreciated by many flower lovers. Start planting inside 3-4 weeks before the last frost or plant after frost. Direct seed by placing three to a pocket & one inch or more apart. Harvest when the flowers are almost open completely. " 6-7" tall. ~ 55 seeds/pack.



The goals of this fundraiser are to raise awareness of gardening, promote healthy lifestyle choices, and to support the identified needs in our local community.

Please make checks payable to **SKOWHEGAN AREA MIDDLE SCHOOL.**

If a certain variety of seed is not available at the time of ordering, it will be substituted.

		Sweet Basil	Dill	Parsley	Spinach	Green Beans	Cucumbers	Carrots	Beets	Butternut Squash	Romaine/ Bib Lettuce	Sugar Snap Peas	Sunflowers	Zinnias	Cosmos	***Package of all Varieties - \$25.00	2024 Individual Packages are 2.00 each	
Full Name	Phone Number																Amt. Due	Paid
Totals																		

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STUDENT NAME:

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