



5939 Main St. New Port Richey, FL 34652

New Port Richey Public Library Plants Seeds of Knowledge with Native Wildflower Garden

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

New Port Richey, April 22, 2025 — The New Port Richey Public Library is proud to announce the planting of a new native wildflower garden just outside the Library entrance, made possible through the *Seeds of Knowledge - Library Demonstration Garden Grant Program*. This vibrant space showcases Florida's native wildflowers, supports local pollinators, and encourages community engagement with the environment.

The *Seeds of Knowledge* grant, launched as a pilot initiative, selected three Florida libraries to create demonstration gardens that would serve as models of sustainability and education. Participating libraries received funding to purchase native plants, establish engaging garden displays, and share native seed packets with visitors. For the New Port Richey Public Library, this project is a perfect complement to its already thriving Seed Library, which offers members free, organic, non-GMO seeds to start their own gardens at home.

This initiative was led by library employees Paige Ely and Tori Ladd, who turned their passion for the outdoors into a program that educates and inspires. Through their leadership—and with the support of community volunteers and local organizations like the Master Gardeners—the library's outdoor space has been transformed into a vibrant, purposeful garden that fosters a stronger connection between the community and the natural world.

By incorporating native wildflowers and educational signage, the Library's demonstration garden encourages visitors to explore the role native plants play in supporting wildlife, conserving water, and enhancing biodiversity. It also underscores the Library's commitment to serving as a hub for lifelong learning, environmental stewardship, and community engagement.

"We're excited to be part of this innovative program," said Andi Figart, Director of the New Port Richey Public Library. "Our new wildflower garden is not only beautiful—it's a living classroom that promotes sustainability and invites our members to learn and grow alongside it."

The community is encouraged to visit the Library, explore the new garden, and take home a packet of native seeds to start their own pollinator-friendly spaces.

For more information about the Seeds of Knowledge project, the Seed Library, or our upcoming programs, please visit www.nprlibrary.org or call us at (727) 853-1279.

About the New Port Richey Public Library:

Since 1920, the New Port Richey Public Library has served as a hub for learning, creativity, and connection in the community. From in-person programs to online resources, the library is committed to enriching lives through access to knowledge and opportunity. To learn more, visit www.nprlibrary.org.