

# Manchester Urban Diggers

## *Top tips for hosting a seed swap in your community*

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Manchester Urban Diggers are a not-for-profit social enterprise, designing, building and managing spaces for people to grow food. We asked MUD for their top tips on holding a seed swapping event for your local community.

- 1 Tell all your friends** and go to everyone else's seed swaps so that they come to yours. Use social media, newsletters and word of mouth to get everyone in and offer any spares you have for free to people who don't have anything to swap.
- 2 Ask around** neighbouring gardens and allotments, people usually have lots of seeds to share. We managed to get thousands of chilli seeds from a friend of the garden this year.
- 3 Swap plants, cuttings and tubers** as well as seeds.
- 4 If you can, offer food and drink.** Even if people just come for that, you can entice them into your seedy wonderland. Everyone loves tea and cake.
- 5 Run a talk or workshop** at the same time and swap ideas and tips as well as seeds. There's a wealth of knowledge out there to be shared.
- 6 Plan another seed swap** later in the year before Summer sowings and tell everyone about it at your Spring one.
- 7 Have fun and make friends** and your swaps will get bigger and better every year!