

Winter Sowing Step-By-Step

Supplies: A clean gallon jug, Jug Lid, scissors, permanent marker, dampened soil (no moisture control) Native or Non-tropical seeds, twist ties or duct tape.

Optional supplies: Hot glue gun, exacto knife, drill, mug, spray bottle filled with water.

1. Make four small holes in the bottom of the jug by using hot glue gun, drill, scissors, or exacto knife. Whatever you have that works for you!
2. Rest a marker on the mug, and “spin mark” your jug so that you leave at least 2 inches of space by the handle for the ‘Hinge’ of the jug. You can eyeball this if you wish!
3. Cut open the jug.
4. Bend back the “Hinge”.
5. Optional step: Hot glue or drill 2 holes at the FRONT top and bottom of the jug if you wish to close with a twist tie. Skip this step if you are TAPING the jug shut.
6. Fill the base of the jug with dampened soil, lightly tamp down the soil.
7. Sow seeds over the surface SPARINGLY! Less is more! If the seeds are LARGE, add a tiny bit of soil to lightly cover the seeds. If the seeds are SMALL leave them exposed on the surface.
8. Mist the seed surface generously, or lightly water the surface. Alternately, put snow on the surface if available.
9. Label the jug LID. Alternately place any kind of label inside the jug.
10. Using a twist tie, thread through the two holes and close the jug, tucking the TOP of the jug slightly into the BOTTOM when closing the twist tie. If you are TAPING the jug, also slightly tuck the top into the bottom before taping shut.
11. Place the lidless jug into a shady area that will receive moisture from either rain or snow. Make sure it will not blow away in the wind!
12. Check for moisture if it has NOT rained or snowed in a while, by checking the weight of the jug OR looking for condensation on the jug interior.
13. If jug seems DRY, sprinkle or mist water through the top hole.
14. When seeds start to sprout, make sure they stay moist and out of the sun! Open jug if temperature is above 50 degrees.

You can either leave the plants to plant into the ground in Spring after the last frost date, OR you can separate the plants and up-pot into larger containers. We will cover Sprout Care in detail—towards Spring!