

# SEED GATHERING 2025

SOWING TOMORROW'S RESILIENCE

## General Information

The Seed Gathering is being held at the Centre for Alternative Technology (CAT) in Mid Wales. The address is: Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, Powys, SY20 9AZ.

Google maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/dKDvcWTdSXEDQayt6>

What Three Words: ///relatives.drill.handlebar



Located at the heart of the Dyfi Biosphere, the Centre for Alternative Technology is around three miles north of Machynlleth on the A487, just by the small hamlet of Pantperthog. It is signposted from the A487. CAT is easy to get to via public transport. Machynlleth is on the Birmingham to Aberystwyth railway line, and from there regular buses will bring you within a short walk of CAT.

We will be running a **shuttle bus** from Machynlleth train station on *Friday afternoon* and back to Machynlleth train station on *Sunday afternoon*. Please fill out [this booking form](#) to secure a space on the bus.

To cycle, take the Sustrans cycle route from Machynlleth straight to CAT.

If you're coming from North Wales, a regular bus from Bangor to Aberystwyth stops at Pantperthog.

WhatsApp Lift Share group can be found here:

[https://chat.whatsapp.com/L5ntZVjG66e3REI9litCgf?mode=ems\\_copy\\_c](https://chat.whatsapp.com/L5ntZVjG66e3REI9litCgf?mode=ems_copy_c)

## Parking

There is a large car park at the main entrance to CAT. Then a 6-minute uphill walk from the car park to our venue. **Able bodied people should come prepared to carry their things up to the Seed Gathering venue.**

There is an accessible car park at the top of the site for those who are unable to walk the 6 minutes to the Seed Gathering venue. Please inform the car park stewards if you need to use this car park



## Seed Gathering Location

The Seed Gathering will be held in the WISE building, which is at the back of the CAT site. This will be signposted from the car park and main entrance.

Sessions will take place inside modern lecture theatres, the largest of which is built from rammed earth. Designed for low energy consumption in use, electricity contributions come from on-site renewable energy sources including solar photovoltaic panels, hydro and wind turbines.

Visitors have access to the CAT organic gardens and woodland walks. Attendees should bring sturdy footwear for exploring the outdoor areas.

### **Accessibility**

The conference building is a wheelchair accessible venue with ramps, lifts, and accessible toilets. Some of the outdoor paths around the site can be accessed by wheelchair / mobility scooter.

If you have any specific accessibility concerns, please contact [louise@gaianet.org](mailto:louise@gaianet.org)

### **Food**

Food is included in Seed Gathering tickets. **All food will be vegetarian.**

If you have any *additional* dietary requirements, please ensure you have listed these when purchasing your ticket (or contact us on [katie@gaianet.org](mailto:katie@gaianet.org) if you did not list them).

**Please note that breakfasts are only for those who have booked accommodation at CAT or in the Corris Hostel.** For those providing their own accommodation, please eat breakfast before arriving to the Seed Gathering.

There will be a bar open on Friday and Saturday night from which alcoholic and soft drinks can be purchased.

Guests staying at CAT are requested not to store food in their bedrooms.

A small selection of optional snacks are available to purchase at the CAT cafe.

### **WIFI**

WIFI is available throughout the CAT site. Passwords will be provided on arrival.

### **What to Bring**

- Seeds for cleaning in the Seed Cleaning workshop
- Seeds for the Saturday afternoon Seed Swap
- Harvest items for our display table
- A name badge, if you already have one

- Musical instruments for Friday evening jam session
- Compost and soil samples for analysis by the Soil Ecology Lab – see what’s alive in your soil!
- Sturdy footwear for walking around site
- Waterproofs – it rains a lot in Wales
- *For those staying in the Corris Hostel* – a towel
- *For those staying at CAT* – environmentally friendly toiletries (CAT has a reed bed system)

### **Military Planes**

CAT is generally a very peaceful site, surrounded by woodland. However, occasionally there are military planes flying over on training exercises during the daytime. These planes are extremely loud for a short time and can be alarming to those with aversion to loud noises / trauma related to military planes. Please be aware of this occasional interruption and bring ear plugs if you are particularly sensitive to loud noises.

### **Dogs**

Dogs are welcome to walk around the outdoor areas at CAT, but unfortunately, we cannot accommodate dogs inside the Seed Gathering venue.

### **Emergencies**

For anyone needing urgent assistance during the Seed Gathering, you can reach the Seed Sovereignty Team on 07884 657141.

### **Accommodation at CAT**

#### **For those who have booked a twin room at CAT...**

You will be allocated your room on arrival and given a key card. Please head to our welcome desk to check in.

Bedding and towels are provided.

Each room has an on-suite bathroom.

Breakfast is included in your booking and will be served on Saturday and Sunday morning from 7.45am - 9am in the CAT cafe.

You will need to check out of your room by 9.30am on Sunday morning. Luggage can be left in the CAT reception area for the day.

Please bring environmentally friendly toiletries (CAT water is filtered through on a reed bed system).

### **For those who have booked a bed in the bunkhouse at CAT...**

You will be allocated your room on arrival and given a key card. Please head to our welcome desk to check in.

The CAT 'Self Build' bunkhouse is located a short walk from the Seed Gathering venue. Maps are available on arrival.

Rooms are either single occupancy or twin.

Bedding and towels are provided.

These rooms do not have en-suite bathrooms. There is a shared bathroom in the bunkhouse.

Breakfast is included in your booking and will be served on Saturday and Sunday morning from 7.45am - 9am in the CAT cafe.

You will need to check out of your room by 9.30am on Sunday morning. Luggage can be left in the CAT reception area for the day.

Please bring environmentally friendly toiletries (CAT water is filtered through a reed bed system).

### **Corris Hostel Accommodation**

#### **For those who have booked a bed in the Corris Hostel...**

There are two separate sleeping areas in the hostel. Rooms 1 to 4 are all on the ground floor, with all the other facilities. Rooms 6 and 7 are on the first floor with their own bathroom. Unless you have purchased an ensuite room, you will be staying in rooms 1-4.

Rooms 1-4 contain bunk beds with lockers and a basin.

Shared bathrooms are available for everyone.

Bedding will be provided. **You need to bring a towel.**

There is a kitchen in the hostel which can be used for making snacks, teas and coffees. *You need to bring these items with you.*

Breakfast is included in your booking and will be served on Saturday and Sunday morning from 7.45am - 9am in the CAT cafe. The shuttle bus will be available to drive people to CAT in the morning (8-minute drive).

The shuttle bus will also be available to take you back to the hostel on Saturday evening, and back to CAT on Sunday morning.

Car parking: The unpacking of vehicles can be done at the hostel entrance, in the small car park by the hostel or at the farm entrance (as long as vehicles are not obstructed). Parking can be found in village, a few minutes walk from the hostel. The main village carpark is free and located by the school. Overflow parking is available at the Corris Craft Centre, up on the main road.

The Corris Hostel will be locked during the day, from *approximately* 9.30am - 6pm. If you need to access the hostel during these hours, please collect the key from the Seed Gathering Welcome Desk at CAT.

**You will need to check out by 10am on Sunday.** Luggage can be left in the CAT reception area for the day.

*For those who have booked the 'extra night' in the Corris Hostel on Sunday night, your check out time is 10am on Monday.*

**We look forward to seeing you at the Seed Gathering 2025!**



THE GAIA FOUNDATION'S  
SEED SOVEREIGNTY PROGRAMME

