

Little Free Library at the Ocean Township Police Department

Chief Michal J. Rogalski, The Township of Ocean and the men and women of the Ocean Township Police Department are proud to announce the arrival of a Little Free Library at the Ocean Township Police Department. The library, painted in Ocean Township Police Department "Blue and White" is located outside of the police lobby at 50 Railroad Ave. in Waretown, NJ 08758.

The Ocean Township Police Department received its Little Free Library – a wooden, birdhouse like home for books people can take and restock for free – after applying to a program that donated 100 standard and mobile libraries to U.S. police department. The initiative is part of the Little Free Library organization's "Kids, Community & Cops Program".

Our new library is similar to the Little Free Libraries you may have seen around. Many personnel in the police department love to read and look forward to assisting in helping others become passionate about reading. Recent research by the Department of Justice shows that low literacy is strongly connected to crime and delinquency. We hope that our Little Free Library program can attract new partnerships with community groups and demonstrate a heightened commitment to the residents. The Little Free Library will give another reason for our officers to interact directly with kids and their parents while building on community trust.

The Ocean Township Police Department has provided space at the Little Free Library for the library monthly activities schedule from the Waretown Branch of the Ocean County Library to be readily accessible to those visiting us. The Waretown Branch of the Ocean County Library is located at 112 Main St., and all township residents are encouraged to visit the branch to register for a library card, learn about digital resources you can access from home, and attend one of their many programs for adults, teens, and children. This is just one of the creative ideas we have begun

to work on with the Ocean County Library to promote their services, programs while providing literacy opportunities. Our unique partnership enhances our efforts to serve the community!

Through the Little Free Library, the Ocean Township Police Department looks forward to forging new partnerships, supporting literacy, opening the door to additional services and providing stories of community service!