

# Morrow County Sentinel

## ‘Little Free Library’ sets up shop in Marengo, promotes free book exchange

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By Zach Jones - [zjones@civitasmedia.com](mailto:zjones@civitasmedia.com)



In a world that is constantly pushing for digital media access, readers in Marengo are taking a step back to literary tradition, through a trend that is sweeping across the country and across the globe.

‘Little Free Libraries’ are exactly what they sound like. They are in fact little, free libraries. The concept is simple; an individual builds a small structure that is used to house books the surrounding community members can exchange. Customers from around the area can come, “take a book and leave a book” for others.

The ‘Little Free Library’ program was started in 2009. Most ‘Little Free Libraries’ are placed in front yards, parks, gardens and easily accessible locations. Some libraries are even located in coffee shops, in or near restaurants and community centers. There are 25,000 registered libraries in over 70 countries.

“A few years ago, I watched a short video clip about the Little Free Library. I really liked the idea of exchanging a book that you are done reading to others to enjoy,” said Christy Harvey of Marengo. “I wanted to get involved and give the neighborhood a place to trade used books.”

Since learning about the program, Harvey has helped start Morrow County’s first ‘Little Free Library’. The inaugural effort was constructed from recycled materials. It is registered with the county and designates an official charter sign.

“It’s a great way to recycle books,” said Louann Holmes with the Recycling Promotion & Litter Prevention at the Morrow County Health Department. “The first ‘Little Free Library’ in Morrow County is a great addition for the community and promotes reading.”

Morrow’s first ‘Little Free Library’ is now open for use. A ribbon cutting ceremony and a lemonade toast is planned for, April 23 at noon as part of Earth Day activities.

“I still like to hold a real book in my hands,” Harvey adds. “It’s OK to come out, sit on the bench, relax and enjoy reading your ‘new’ book.”

The ‘Little Free Library’ is located at Grins & Pickin’s CampFarm, 1 County Road 170 in Marengo. The public is now welcome to trade a book on any day of the week but daylight hours are preferred.

[http://morrowcountysentinel.com/news/7625/little-free-library-sets-up-shop-in-marengo-promotes-free-book-exchange?utm\\_content=buffer887c0&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook.com&utm\\_campaign=buffer](http://morrowcountysentinel.com/news/7625/little-free-library-sets-up-shop-in-marengo-promotes-free-book-exchange?utm_content=buffer887c0&utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook.com&utm_campaign=buffer)

Reach Jones 419-946-3010 ext. 1803 or Twitter @zJones\_1239