

# Little Libraries



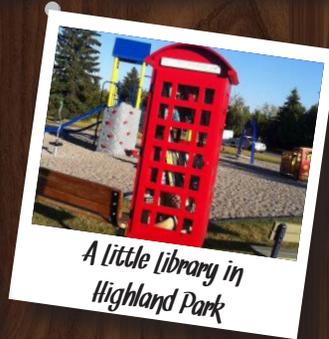
*A Little Library in Kensington*



*A Little Library in Briar Hill*



*A Little Library in Brentwood*



*A Little Library in Highland Park*

## History:

Little Free Libraries first originated when Todd Bol mounted a wooden container (designed to look like a red school house) on a post in his yard and filled it with books. After that, the libraries expanded quickly. By February 2013, Little Free Libraries were in every state in the US and 40 countries worldwide. What started with only one has now grown to over 10,000 registered Little Free Libraries with an estimated 1,650,000 shared books!

# Little Libraries

*Need a Book? Take a Book!  
Have a Book? Leave a Book!*

## What is a Little Library?

A Little Library is small and free and whatever shape you'd like it to be. The idea is that the Little Library sits on your lawn or in a public space where neighbours can take a book or leave a book.

Help continue the movement in Calgary by building your own Little Library today!

# Little Libraries

## How to Get Started:

1. Find a home for your Little Library. This can be on your property or in a public place like a park or community association. If you choose a public place ensure to get permission from the landowner or The City.
2. Next, choose a steward to take care of your Little Library. This can be one person or a couple people who will be in charge of making sure the Little Library is cleaned, stocked and inviting for the public.
3. You are all set to build a Little Library! This can look like anything you choose, so be creative! It can look like a telephone booth, a bird house, a mailbox, etc. You can also purchase one online at [www.littlefreelibraries.org](http://www.littlefreelibraries.org).
4. Remember to always call or click before you dig: 1 (800) 242-3447 [www.albertaonecall.com](http://www.albertaonecall.com).

## Collect Books to Fill your Community's Little Library:

- Check with friends, family and neighbors for book donations or if you have money donations, try checking out a second hand book store!
- Create some buzz within your community!
- Tell your friends and neighbors
- Get community book clubs involved
- Advertise on social media
- Plan a block party for an inaugural celebration of your community's Little Library!
- Check out our guide *Love Where You Live: Host a Block Party!* in the Building Safe Communities Virtual Resource Centre online at [www.calgarycommunities.com](http://www.calgarycommunities.com)

## Benefits of Having a Little Library in Your Community:

- They are low maintenance as many people tend to like adding books just as much as they like taking them!
- Realtors have said Little Libraries have had an influence on perspective home-buyers when considering neighborhoods.
- Small business owners have reported that Little Libraries help them attract customers.
- They can be used as geocaches
- Neighbours knowing neighbours make communities safer!

## Additional Information and Contacts:

If you would like to register your Little Library with [www.littlefreelibraries.org](http://www.littlefreelibraries.org) it only costs \$34.95. However, you are not required to register.

You can also email [yyclittlefreelibraries@gmail.com](mailto:yyclittlefreelibraries@gmail.com) to have your Little Library placed on a Calgary map at no charge.

Check out all of the resources Building Safe Communities has to offer at our Virtual Resource Centre online at [www.calgarycommunities.com](http://www.calgarycommunities.com)