

## Little Free Library Milestones

---

- 2009 • Todd H. Bol design and builds the First Little Free Library at his home in Hudson, WI
- 2010 • In May, Bol has garage sale and neighborhood excitement grows around his Little Free Library
  - Bol gives away 30 Little Free Libraries to friends and family and has a vision for accelerated expansion after watching them multiply
  - Bol and Rick Brooks explore the viability of Little Free Library as an organization
  - Little Free Library's first goal is to build 2,510 Libraries—one more than Andrew Carnegie
  - Amish carpenter, Henry Miller of Cashton, WI, becomes primary craftsman, using 100-year-old reclaimed barn wood
- 2011 • Additional builders join Little Free Library to assist in the growing demand
  - Plans begin to become a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization
- 2012 • In May, Little Free Library is officially established as a Wisconsin nonprofit corporation
  - In August, the 2,510th Little Free Library is built, and the first goal of surpassing Andrew Carnegie's free public libraries is reached
  - In November, Little Free Library moves from Bol's deck to an official workspace in Hudson, WI
- 2013 • Reader's Digest names Little Free Library No. 11 in their "50 Surprising Reasons We Love America"
  - The National Book Foundation awards Little Free Library with an Innovations in Reading Prize
  - The American Library Association presents Movers and Shakers Award to Little Free Library, highlighting the thought leaders in the library industry
- 2014 • Public libraries begin partnering with Little Free Library and expand the impact
  - Brooks retires from Little Free Library
  - Little Free Library earns more than \$1.5 million in revenue, the majority from library sales and registration fees
- 2015 • In April, *The Little Free Library Book* is released, chronicling the journey of Little Free Library and stewards worldwide
  - Little Free Library announces goal to have 100,000 registered Libraries worldwide by the end of 2017
  - First crowdfunding campaign to support the mission of the organization raises \$58,081.
  - In October, Little Free Library is awarded the Library of Congress Literacy Award for its effective implementation of best practices in literacy and reading promotion
- 2016 • 50,000 Little Free Libraries are found in all 50 states and more than 70 countries worldwide
  - 16 million books each year are being exchanged through Little Free Libraries worldwide

