

<p>LITBL/Suffolk Cooperative Library System 627 North Sunrise Service Road P.O. Box 9000 Bellport, New York 11713-9000 631-286-1600 (General Information) 866-833-1122 (Toll-Free - Nassau/Suffolk) 631-286-4546 (TTY for hearing impaired) www.suffolk.lib.ny.us/tbp</p>	
---	---

ABOUT THE LONG ISLAND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY (LITBL)

The Long Island Talking Book Library is a free library service for Long Island residents who cannot hold, handle or see well enough to read conventional print because of a visual or physical disability. Eligible individuals can borrow professionally recorded books and magazines, along with the special playback equipment needed to listen to them, by postage-free mail.

BOOKS AND MAGAZINES

Our collection of approximately 100,000 books includes all types of popular-interest books, such as bestsellers, classics, mysteries, westerns, history, biographies, religious literature, children's books and foreign-language materials. Readers may also subscribe to more than seventy popular magazines – such as *Good Housekeeping*, *Sports Illustrated*, *Consumer Reports*, and *National Geographic* – in braille or recorded formats.

BOOK SELECTION

Readers find out about available titles through annual catalogs and special subject bibliographies. They learn about new materials through *Talking Book Topics*, a bimonthly publication that announces newly released books. In addition, specially trained staff help readers select books by telephone or in person. The talking book catalog can also be accessed on the Internet.

SPONSORSHIP

LITBL is a subregional library of the Library of Congress/National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. It is a service of the Suffolk Cooperative Library System, Nassau Library System, and the public libraries on Long Island. It is funded primarily through the New York State Division of Library Development's Coordinated Outreach Service Program.

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

Special cassette and record players needed to play the talking books and magazines, which are recorded at slower than conventional speeds, are loaned indefinitely to readers.

In addition, the following special equipment and accessories are available for individuals with special needs:

Easy Cassette Player - for individuals who have difficulty operating the standard cassette player, this machine is simpler to operate but also less versatile

Combination Player - combines all the features of the standard cassette player and the record player in a single unit; however, it is somewhat heavier and more complex to operate than the separate units

Lightweight Headphones - issued only to readers who require them in order to be able to listen to talking books, as in nursing homes and hospitals where loudspeakers are not permitted

Amplifier - for persons with a significant hearing loss (medical certification required)*

Remote Control Unit - for persons confined to bed with difficulty in mobility, this device turns playback equipment on and off but will not control other functions such as volume and speed*

Breath Switch - for persons with little or no use of their extremities, to be used in conjunction with the Remote Control Unit*

Tone Arm Clip - for persons who have difficulty grasping the tone arm of the record player

Extension Levers - for persons who have difficulty manipulating the key controls on the standard or C-80 cassette player

Pillowspeaker - for persons who are confined to bed, is placed under the reader's pillow and is normally heard only by the reader

*A separate application form is required for these devices

HOW TO APPLY

Individuals wishing to receive talking book service should complete and return the yellow application form. Be sure it is certified by an appropriate professional in the space indicated. Nursing homes, hospitals, schools and other institutions should complete the orange application form. If the application form you need is missing from this brochure, please contact our office.

RELATED LIBRARY SERVICES

In addition to the loan of recorded books and magazines, the LITBL provides many related library services to support the needs of Long Island residents who have disabilities. These include:

- **Fast Forward**, our bimonthly newsletter, featuring news and tips for talking book readers and other people with disabilities.
- **READ Center** (Reading Equipment, Aids and Devices) at the Long Island Talking Book Library in Bellport, featuring displays of magnification aids, bookholders and related devices.
- **Assistive technology demonstrations**, including computers with voice, large print and braille output.
- **Books and pamphlets about Long Island** recorded by the LITBL volunteers.
- **Information and referral services** to help talking book readers, local libraries and community organizations locate needed resources and services relating to disabilities.
- **Disability Information Access Library (DIAL)** - print books, pamphlets, magazines, and audiovisual materials about disabilities, available through local libraries.
- **Videotapes with audio narration** for people with visual impairments, available through local libraries.
- **Print/braille** children's books (small demonstration collection).
- **Scores, instruction and magazines about music** from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.
- **Braille** materials from the Andrew Heiskell Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.