

Internet Purchase Safe Exchange Zone

The Delanco Township Police Department has established an **Internet Purchase Safe Exchange Zone**. This Safe Internet Exchange Zone would have never been completed without the assistance of Delanco Township's Public Works Department. The signs designating the zone were donated by OfferUp and there was no expense to the township. An upgrade to the Municipal Complex's security camera system allowed the police to designate a camera for this zone. In today's day and age, more and more people are conducting transactions online. Online classified ads and social media sale sites allow more people to buy and sell items without meeting until the actual transaction is made. Unfortunately, individuals with bad intentions have used these online services as a way to attract their victims to a specific location so that they can commit a theft, fraud or other crime. Often times when the incident is reported to the Police, there is very little information known about the actor.



However, police officers will not participate in transactions or act as witnesses. They are not available for legal advice or allowed to settle disputes between parties involved in transactions.

Transactions involving weapons, drugs or drug paraphernalia, and other contraband will not be permitted to take place in the Safe Exchange Zone.

Delanco Police encourage anyone who chooses to participate in an online sale without using the Safe Exchange Zone to do so during the day. They are also advised to:



- bring a cell phone along in case of emergency;
- notify friends or family of their intention to meet to conduct such a transaction;
- never invite strangers to your home or agree to meet at a stranger's home; and
- reconsider any transaction with someone who refuses to meet at a police department.

In an effort to make this process safer for our citizens the Internet Purchase Exchange Zone was established. There are two parking spaces in the Delanco Township parking lot at 770 Coopertown Road that are designated as the Safe Exchange Zone. The designated parking spaces are clearly marked by signs and outlined in high visibility paint.