

Lower Township Police Add 4WD Pickup

VILLAS- The Lower Township Police Department purchased a 2014, Dodge Ram 1500 pickup truck police unit with selectable two wheel or four-wheel-drive capability.

According to Chief William Mastriana, the vehicle will be utilized mainly in the Diamond Beach area from May to October. He said the truck will provide officers with the ability to patrol off-road areas such as shorelines, flooded areas and beaches where a patrol car has difficulty maneuvering.

The Ram Box section of the truck features lockable and lighted storage suitable for transporting lost, stolen and recovered items that are too large for a patrol vehicle. The truck will also be used to haul barricades and equipment for special events, said Mastriana.

Township Manager Mike Voll said police cars have a limited amount of space in their trunks. "If we have to pick up evidence or a bicycle, we now have the pickup truck available," he said.