Establishing Neighborhood Watch

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Neighborhood Watch

What is Your Concept of Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is Not....

• A Vigil-Anti Group
• Being a Mrs. Cravitz
• Police as private patrol
• A sign
Neighborhood Watch Is......

- People working together
- Neighbors looking out for each other
- Practicing crime prevention methods and techniques
- Being the "Extra eyes and ears" for the Police Department

Why Neighborhood Watch?

- It works
  - Can help decrease or eliminate crime
- Shows ownership
- Builds neighborhood pride
  - Springboard to address community concerns
  - Crime
  - Recreation for kids
  - Neighborhood clean-up

How do I get started?

- Organize a meeting
  - Set a date
  - Pick a time
  - Pick a location
    - a home
    - Library
    - Park
    - Community center
  - Publicize meeting 1-2 weeks in advance
    - Use a flyer
    - Invite people from your block

- Have an agenda
  - Establish a purpose for the meeting
  - Identify issues to address
  - Find workable solutions
  - Select people to relay information to people on the block
How can you help?
- Meetings
  - Only as often as needed
- Patrol your neighborhood
  - Bike
  - Foot
  - Cars
  - Golf cart
- Communicate
  - Talk to each other
  - E-mail
  - Newsletter
  - Block parties
- Develop a Neighborhood Emergency Plan
  - Assess who has what skills
  - Identify what each person will be responsible for
  - Take the Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.) Training

What are my responsibilities as a watch member?
- Be alert!
- Know your neighbors
  - Phone tree
  - Email tree
- Report suspicious activity
- Educate yourself
  - Learn CPR
  - Learn First Aid
  - Disaster preparedness
  - Join the Neighborhood Watch Academy

What do you look for?
- Someone yelling for help or fire
- Someone looking into windows or casing houses
- Property being taken from a house or business
- Anything Suspicious
How do I report an incident?

- Call 9-1-1 for emergencies
- Call 787-7911 for non-emergencies
  - Give your name
  - Explain what happened
  - Give suspect info
    - Sex
    - Race
    - Age
    - Height & weight
    - Hair color
    - Clothing description
    - Vehicle description

How do I report an incident cont’d

- Call 826-5314 to report past crimes
- Call 826-5311
  - Street lights
  - Speed humps
  - Graffiti

Questions?