NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK CAPTAINS GUIDE





RMERSDE COUNTY SHERFFS DEPARTMENT

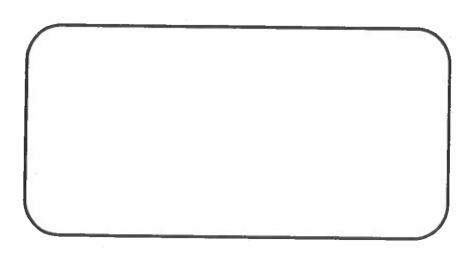
Your Neighborhood Watch Representative

There are 3 full-time Crime Prevention Officers who coordinate the Neighborhood Watch programs, in addition to their other duties. The Perris Station has been divided into 3 areas and a Crime Prevention Officer is responsible for each area.

Listed below is the name and phone number of the coordinator for your area.

Get to know your coordinator and please contact them with any questions or concerns you may have. We are here to provide the information you need to help make our communities a safer place in which to live.

The coordinator for your area is:



Introduction

Neighborhood Watch... What is it?

The NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH program is the cornerstone of all crime prevention programs. It enlists the active participation of citizens in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce burglaries and other neighborhood crimes. Its primary purpose is the protection of property—

yours and your neighbors!

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH crime prevention programs are a proven and effective means to substantially reduce not only the incidence of residential burglaries in a specified geographical area, but the incidence of other crimes. A good neighbor is one of the most effective crime prevention tools ever invented.

This program teaches you steps that can be taken to help protect your home. It also helps you organize a neighborhood group and start making crime prevention a part of every persons daily routine.

Why fstablish of Neighborhood Watch?

The Neighborhood Watch program will help deter crime in the neighborhood you live in. The "job" of a citizen in a neighborhood watch area is to be suspicious, alert and to report any suspicious activity to the sheriff's department. It is the responsibility of the sheriff to apprehend the criminals. Yours is to report crime.

Welcome to the Neighborhood!



Who gets involved...

EVERYONE!

Get as many neighbors involved as possible. Not everyone will want to be a part of the program, and that's all right. Make sure they know about the Neighborhood Watch program and that they are always welcome to come to the get-togethers. Make sure they know about all your events.

Where to hold your Neighborhood Watch meetings

Make the meetings as convenient as possible. Have them in the neighborhood so that your neighbors will come. The first meeting can be held indoors or outdoors, depending on the weather. If outside, ask the participants to bring their own chairs. Most meetings are held outdoors, in the front of the home, in the driveway, garage, etc. Just make sure everyone can find the meeting easily. Your second meeting and subsequent meetings can be held anywhere, just make it convenient. You want as many people to be there as possible. If you have it somewhere other than the neighborhood, make sure there are good directions to the event.

When do you hold your meetings or get-togethers

Whenever it is good for your neighbors! Make it hard for them to give you an excuse not to be there. Evenings are goo. Mondays through Thursdays are the recommended days. FPM or after is a good time to start. It allows everyone to get home, eat something and those with children can spend time with them.



In many cases the Neighborhood Watch was created because of problems in the neighborhood.

The interest level in crime prevention is very high when residents feel their neighborhood is in jeopardy. People will do almost anything to maintain the sanctity of their home and street. When sanctity or a reasonable resemblance of it is restored, interest wanes and people become complacent again. This complacency eventually causes the neighborhood to fall back into a tenuous situation, putting people and homes into a less safe and secure environment. Therefore, it is important that the Neighborhood Watch captains and the assistants maintain a high interest level in the Neighborhood Watch program and help the street avoid complacency.

The
Neighborhood
Watch Captain
plays a very
important role in
the Neighborhood
Watch
Program

What are your responsibilities as a Neighborhood Watch Captain?

A neighborhood Watch captain is very important to the success of the program! Your involvement and enthusiasm will get the other neighbors in the neighborhood watch involved. You arrange the Neighborhood Watch meetings or events. Two are required per calendar year.

Don't let it scare you! It will take less time than you think.

Your initial Neighborhood Watch meeting can be used to establish to your neighbors the meaning and purpose of the Program and how it will benefit them, or your first "meeting" could just be a fun activity. Get the people out and meet one another. Suggestions for activities will be included later to help make your meeting a success.

The Crime Prevention officer for your area will present the information and provide materials at the 1st or 2nd meeting!

All subsequent meetings just need to be some kind of get together for fun. Only talk briefly about the crime prevention that is taking place. The purpose of these meetings, <u>again</u> is for the neighbors to get to know one another!



CITIZENS IMMEDIATELY REPORT ANY SUSPICIOUS PERSONS OR ACTIVITIES TO THEIR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT.

The Neighborhood Watch captain is the liaison between the Sheriff's Department and the neighbors. The sheriff's department sends the information to the Neighborhood Watch captain and they, in turn, can disseminate this information to the neighbors. If there are questions or concerns that are conveyed during an event, the Neighborhood Watch captain can call their crime prevention specialist for clarification and answers.

How to Flan Your Neighborhood Watch Meetings and Make Them Buccessful!

Make the date as convenient as possible for the majority of the people. Send out invitations or flyers at least 2 weeks before the event. You will probably never get everyone at the same meeting. That's okay. You need 50% of the homes in your designated area to participate and that's it! Monday through Thursday evenings are always good. Take a quick survey of your neighbors and see what they say. They are the ones who will make the Neighborhood watch successful! Be sure to have everyone there sign the attendance sheet so you know who has attended the meeting.

To Be An Active Neighborhood Watch You Must:

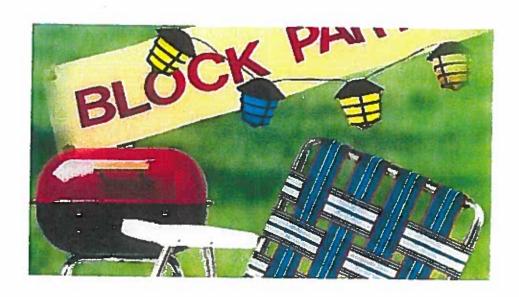
Have two (2) Neighborhood Watch Activities:

The first or second meeting must be the organizational meeting with your crime prevention officer presenting the information and materials. All other et-togethers can be ocial events.

All meetings require at least 50% participation of the homes in your designated area, and an attendance sheet must be kept to keep the neighborhoods status active.

After your second activity (meeting):

Once the meeting is over and your crime prevention officer has been notified, your record will be updated and Neighborhood Watch window stickers will be sent to you and you will receive 2 signs for the entrance to your neighborhood.



Jips For Having A Neighborhood Watch Party!

- ◆ Send out invitations at least 2 weeks in advance. Give the date and the approximate length of the party.
- Assign one person to handle the RSVP's. In taking the RSVP call, get the caller's name, address, phone number and number of people coming with the ages of the children.
- 🖶 Have name tags ready with each person's name and house numbers.
- In addition to the food that people will bring, have one person responsible for paper plates and napkins, one for ice, another for soda; or have the guests bring their own beverage.
- If you want a street rather than a backyard party and want to block off your street, please pick a cul-de-sac with in your neighborhood watch area.
- Younger children are comfortable on blanket on the ground. It's nice to have some toys for them to play with.
- 🖶 Províde several large trash containers.
- 4 Ask guests to bring their own chairs.
- Be generous with food. People tend to eat twice—once upon arrival, and later, when they have relaxed. Finger foods work well. Desserts are also very popular. Have "doggie-bags 'for leftovers.
- 🖶 Just in case, have a first aid kit available.
- If you barbeque, begin cooking about a half hour before the party.
- Take pictures to make a board or book to put out at your meetings... They also make good souvenirs.



Some Adeas For Your Next Meeting



- > Ice Cream Social
- > Potluck/Barbeque
- > Progressive dinner and let the older children serve the food
- > Pool party
- > A dessert party
- > Flashlight walk
- > Bike Parade
- > Pet parade
- > Sidewalk and or driveway chalk drawing contest
- > Crime prevention presentation (please give your crime prevention officer at least 4 weeks in advance notice to schedule this)
- > Invite
- > A block party for Halloween and pass out candy or go Christmas caroling for Christmas in neighboring neighborhoods.







VISTA SERRANO MEST

Annual Neighborhood Watch Party

Saturday, October 23 from 5 - 10 pm

FREE tacos...Music...Entertainment!

- ✓ Learn to country line dance!
- √The Mesa Fire Department will display one of their engines!
- √There will be a drawing for valuable prizes!

Bring Your Own Drinks and Chairs
You May Bring Appetizers
Or Finger Foods
Or Your Favorite Casserole
Or Dessert

Paper plates, utensils and ice will be furnished





you have a talent you wish to share with your neighbors, please contact us!

Drawing Sponsors: ABCO, Coco's, Cost Cutters Hair Care, Dobson Road Animal Clinic, EyeMaster's, Golden Gate Restaurant, KFC, Modern Cleaners, Ranch House Restaurant, Roffler Family Hair Center, Sally's Cafe, T & G Air Conditioning, Vac Shop.

For further information call:

Chris (555-1687), Amy (555-8522) or Sybil (555-2070)

You're Invited To our NEIGHBORHOD WATCH PARTY!!



Saturday, October 16th, 1999

4:00 PM - 6:30 PM

Come and join the fun at our Fall Festival!

It will be held at the cul-de-sac on Lisa Lane.

Plates, napkins, utensils, and drinks are also needed.

Please bring lawn chairs.

<u>Kids:</u> decorate your bikes, big wheels, and wagons for a parade and contest!

All entries will receive a prize! Prizes will also be given for "Best Entry", "Most Creative", and "Most Unique"!



Please RSVP to Al at 555-0505 by Wednesday, October 13th.

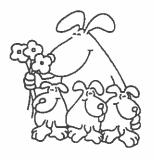
Let him know what kind of food you'll be bringing and how many entries your family will have for the parade.





You are invited to attend the Neighborhood Watch Meet	ling
to be held on	
at	
Be sure to mark your calendar for this important event and	_

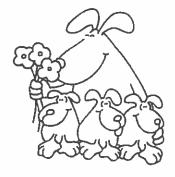
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You are invited to attend the **Neighborhood Watch Event**

When:
Where:
Time:
What to Bring:
Captain:
Phone Number:
Be sure to mark your calendar for this important event

Neighborhood Watch

Date
To Whom It May Concern:
Please recognize this Neighborhood Watch Captain as a registered and active participant in the Neighborhood Watch program.
To help make their neighborhood program successful, any donation you can make to this neighborhood organization would be appreciated.
Thank you in advance for your generosity.

You now have the necessary information to be a successful Neighborhood Watch Captain!

The following information is contained in the manuals that were given to you...

- Starting a Neighborhood watch
- Neighborhood project & Event Ideas
- · Crime prevention tips
- Organizational chart
- A Phone tree
- Neighborhood Watch observation notes
- * What to observe
- Riverside County Sheriff's Neighborhood Watch Meeting invitation
- Neighborhood Watch meeting agenda
- * Street house layout info
- · Inventory of household items
- · Family data sheet
- · Block map example and blank sheet to do your own
- Lighting audit
- Vehicle and home burglary prevention tips
- · Nextdoor program
- · Neighborhood Watch NOW info on App

