



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



A COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP!

Starting a Neighborhood Watch

Starting a Neighborhood Watch is easy. The following steps must be taken when starting your group:

- 1. Decide on the number of households your watch program can effectively cover. Keep in mind the geographical layout of the neighborhood and the ease with which neighbors can observe each others' property. Some groups will involve all the houses on one street facing each other while other groups may be organized around alleys, greenbelts, or cul-de-sacs. Most groups are around 5 to 25 households.**
- 2. Visit with your neighbors and explain you are starting a Neighborhood Watch program.**
- 3. Determine what would be the most convenient day and time for them to attend a start-up meeting. In order to have maximum attendance, the most convenient day and time for the majority must be taken into consideration. It would be more convenient to have the meeting in one of the homes in the neighborhood, if that home were large enough to comfortably accommodate the number of people expected to attend. Most meetings are usually held Monday through Thursday evenings.**
- 4. Contact your Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) to see when they will be able to attend the start-up meeting. It is very important to contact your CPO at least two weeks prior to the meeting.**
- 5. Once the date and time has been coordinated with the Law Enforcement Officer, develop a meeting announcement flier, make copies, and distribute them to neighbors. When the flier is delivered, stress the importance of having at least one adult from each household attend the meeting.**
- 6. Have a start-up meeting.**