

## Block Captain/Co-Captain, continued

- Invite your crime prevention officer to address the group and show films on such topics as home security, rape prevention, child molestation, and crimes against the elderly.
- Contact new neighbors about the program.
- Disseminate any special information to the group such as crime patterns in the area, homeowners that are on vacation, or attending a function listed in the newspaper such as a wedding or funeral.
- Distribute newsletters to members.

## Resident

- Attend the program meetings and read the newsletter.
- Secure your home and personal property.



For more information about starting a Neighborhood Watch Program please contact the Support Services Division at 603-886-6011.



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# Neighborhood Watch Program



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## Neighborhood Watch

The purpose of this brochure is to tell you how the Neighborhood Watch program works and how to organize and maintain a successful program. Neighborhood Watch was created to obtain citizen involvement in discouraging and preventing residential crime. The program uses citizen involvement to secure their own homes and personal property and to report any suspicious activity to the police. When residents and police form partnerships, crime can be reduced due to the extra eyes on the street.

## Neighborhood Crime Facts

- Burglaries, thefts, motor vehicle thefts, criminal mischiefs, juvenile crimes, and arson are the most prevalent neighborhood crimes.
- Household burglary is one of the easiest crimes to commit and prevent but one of the hardest to solve.
- Household burglary is one of the most rapidly increasing major crimes in the nation.
- Most home burglars are young amateurs looking for easy targets.
- Statistics show that in over one-half of household burglaries forced entry is not involved.
- A majority of household burglaries occur during daylight hours.

## How Neighborhood Watch Works

Neighborhood Watch operates to educate participants in the principles of deterrence, delay, and detection. The program depends on a communication network organized with three levels of participants: the resident, block captains and co-captains, and a local law enforcement representative.

***No one is asked to take personal risks or be a hero.***



## Organizing a Program

- Visit your neighbors and tell them you are interested in discouraging crime in the neighborhood. Ask for help toward this goal.
- Organize a neighborhood meeting. Contact your local law enforcement representative to address the group or be present to answer questions.

- If the group decides to organize a Neighborhood Watch program, block captains and co-captains should be elected.
- Block captains should prepare a watch map listing names, addresses, telephone numbers, license plate numbers and vehicle descriptions for each residence on their block. Copies should be distributed to each household.
- Once the police department's requirements are met, block captains should erect street-size Neighborhood Watch signs at each entrance to the neighborhood or block. The Hudson Police Department can provide participants with the information needed to purchase signs. We can also help to coordinate the signs being erected.

## Program Duties

Since awareness and involvement are the keys to a successful program, keeping interest high and continuing the group's crime prevention education must be a primary focus of all participants. Specific duties include:

## Block Captain/Co-Captain

- Schedule periodic group meetings (at least every six months), and encourage each homeowner to attend.
- Act as a liaison between homeowners and the police.