

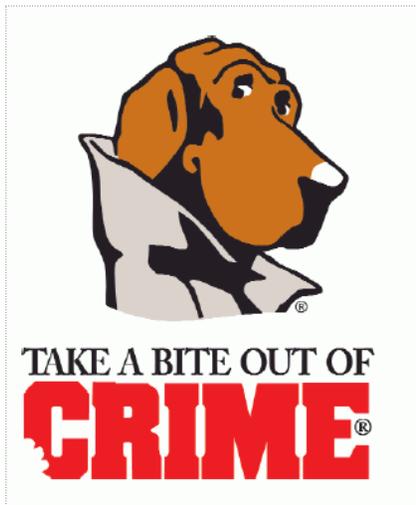
WHY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

IT WORKS!

- It works because it reduces opportunities for crime to occur.
- Throughout the country, dramatic decreases in burglary and related offenses are reported by local law enforcement professionals in communities with active Watch programs.

The most recognized definition of crime prevention comes from the **National Institute of Crime Prevention:**

"The anticipation, recognition and appraisal of a crime risk and the initiation of some action to remove or reduce it". • <http://www.nicp.net/>



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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PARTICIPANT RESPONSIBILITIES

Learn your neighbors' names and be able to recognize them as well as their vehicles.

Keep a block map, block profile and telephone tree accessible and updated.

Attend regular Neighborhood Watch meetings.

Implement security measures suggested by local law enforcement after a home security survey.

Keep an eye on neighbors' homes and report suspicious activities to the Police Department and your neighbors.

Write a description of any suspicious looking persons or vehicles and report them to the Police.

Be a good witness. Use common sense. Do not take any risk if you observe a crime in progress. Do not try to make an arrest on your own.

Notify your Block Captain and neighbors when you are going to be away from home for an extended period.

Share crime prevention information with other family members and your children.

Periodically review neighborhood watch pamphlets and crime prevention literature.

GETTING A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM STARTED



- Organize a small planning committee of neighbors to discuss needs, level of interest and potential community problems.
- Invite the local Manchester Police Department's Neighborhood Watch representative to discuss requirements, training, home security, reporting skills, responsibilities and benefits.
- Hold an initial meeting to gauge interest in your neighborhood. Establish the purpose of the program and begin to identify those issues that will need to be addressed.
- Select a coordinator and small committee to implement the program.
- Select volunteer block captains who are responsible for relaying information to members.
- Recruit members, including the elderly and young people.
- Work with the Manchester Police Department to put up Neighborhood Watch signs, usually after 50% of households are enrolled.

WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Neighborhood Watch is crime prevention program enlisting the active participation of its residents. In cooperation with the dedicated officers of the Manchester Police Department, we can reduce the incidence and fear of crime in our community.

Through our own Neighborhood Watch program, we can engage individuals just like ourselves, to get to know each other by developing an agenda of mutual support. This will involve neighbors being educated in crime reporting and suspect identification techniques.

Finally, this plan of action requires neighbors coming together to use crime prevention strategies as tools to reduce crime in their communities.

Neighborhood Watch programs are the most effective means available for keeping crime out of neighborhoods. It relies on the best crime-fighting tool ever invented, i.e., **A GOOD NEIGHBOR**. Fortunately, good neighbors can be found everywhere.

Crime Prevention Triangle



Consider the three elements required for criminal activity: **desire**, **ability** and **opportunity**. If just one of these elements can be removed, the possibility of a crime being committed can be dramatically reduced.

WAYS TO KEEP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM ACTIVE

- Regularly meet in one other's homes to share updated information.
- Always communicate information about suspicious activity in your area with your neighbors.
- Watch each other's homes while on vacation or away for an extended period.



- Recruit one of your Neighborhood Watch participants to receive training in the city's **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)** or become a member of **Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS)** and have them report on these activities at your regular meetings.
- Mix business with pleasure. Host a block party, a potluck dinner, picnic or softball game that will give neighbors a chance to get to know one another better.
- Involve everyone -- young and old, single and married, homeowner and renter.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is a simple program, which can have widespread results.

Starting a local Neighborhood Watch Program is not difficult or complicated. Interested citizens can take the first step.

Maintaining an active Neighborhood Watch Program may mean the difference between a safe community and one affected by burglary and/or vandalism.

Learn how to get involved in your community – and play a role in a safer America.

Call the **Manchester City Hall** to get started today: **636.227.1385**