

Be alert for:

- Someone running from a car or home.
- Someone screaming. If you cannot determine what the screams are, call the police and report it.
- Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood or looking into windows and parked cars.
- Someone asking about past residents.
- A person who seems to have no purpose wandering in the neighborhood.
- Any unusual or suspicious noise that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.
- Vehicles moving slowly, without lights, or with no apparent destination.
- Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- Offers of merchandise at ridiculously low prices. It is probably stolen.
- Property carried by someone on foot at an unusual hour or place, especially if the person is running.
- Property being removed from closed businesses or unoccupied residences.
- A stranger entering a neighbor's home that appears to be unoccupied.
- A stranger in a car stopping to beckon to a child.
- A child resisting the advances of an adult.



Keep Neighborhood Watch Going and Growing

Just because crime declines, do not let your Neighborhood Watch group die. Stay alert and aware, be neighborly, and look for other activities to enhance community safety and well-being.

- Conduct home security surveys and Operation Identification for elderly and handicapped residents.
- Organize citizen patrols to walk around streets or apartment complexes and alert police to crime and suspicious activities.
- Organize meetings that focus on current issues such as isolation of the elderly, drug abuse, crime in schools, after school programs, child safety, and victim services.
- Publish a newsletter that gives local crime news, recognizes block captains and other persons who have helped the police by reporting, and highlights community activities.
- Make a resource list for your watch group of numbers to call for emergencies, child abuse, victim services, lighting, street repair, mediation services, youth activities, etc.
- Work with local building code officials to require adequate locks and other security devices in new homes and buildings.
- Organize a community clean-up day.
- Start a safe home program for children.
- Do not forget events such as a holiday parade or a pot luck dinner that give neighbors a chance to get together.

How to Report

The police need to have accurate information as quickly as possible about a suspicious activity or crime in progress.

- Give your name and identify yourself as a member of a watch group.
- Describe the event as briefly as possible: where, when, how, and who did it.
- Tell if the crime is in progress or if it has already occurred.
- Describe the suspect: sex, race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, accent, beard or mustache, and distinctive characteristics.
- Describe the vehicle involved: color, make, model, year, license plate, special markings, dents, and which direction it went.



Remember, Neighborhood Watch groups are not vigilantes and do not assume the role of the police. They only ask citizens to be alert, observant, and care. They serve as extra eyes and ears for law enforcement agencies and for their neighbors.