



Worried about crime in your neighborhood? You're not alone. Most likely, your neighbors are concerned, too.

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of citizens, in cooperation with law enforcement, to reduce crime in their communities.

It involves:

- Neighbors getting to know each other, taking the time to care about each other and working together in a program of mutual assistance.
- Citizens being trained to recognize and report suspicious activities in their neighborhoods.
- Crime prevention strategies such as home security, Operation Identification, and others being implemented by citizens.

You may hear it called, Neighborhood Watch, Home Alert, Citizens Crime Watch, or Block Watch. The names differ but the idea is the same: **Neighbors looking out for each other!**

Why Neighborhood Watch?

There can't be a police officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime. You and your neighbors are the ones who really know what is going on in your neighborhood.

By cooperating with each other and the police, people can help fight crime in their neighborhood in the most effective way—before it begins!

Neighborhood Watch members place stickers in their windows and post Neighborhood Watch signs on streets, warning criminals that they are in an active Neighborhood Watch community, and that neighbors are watching out for each other. **The signs and stickers are also a constant reminder to the participants that they remain vigilant and report suspicious people, noises, or activities immediately to the police.**

Neighborhood Watch does not require frequent meetings or ask anyone to take any personal risks to prevent crime. Neighborhood Watch leaves the responsibility for apprehending criminals where it belongs—with the police department.

What are some of the benefits of starting a Watch Group?

- Partnerships with Law Enforcement and your Neighbors
- Reduction in Crime
- A More Secure and Better Prepared Hometown
- A More United Community
- Improved Communications and awareness of suspicious activity.

At a meeting we will discuss

- Recent crime trends
- Crime prevention techniques for the home and neighborhood
- Working with the police department
- Names of neighborhood police officers
- How to report a crime

Attend the meeting scheduled below, or phone the Police Department at 356-5273. You will learn how to become an active participant in the fight against crime. As you help us, you will also be helping yourself.

Together we can make your home, neighborhood, and city a safer place to live and work.

Please attend the Neighborhood Watch meeting scheduled for your block.

DATE: _____

TIME: _____

PLACE: _____

HOST(S): _____

For more information on Crime Prevention Programs contact:

**Iowa City Police Department
Crime Prevention**

410 E. Washington St.
Iowa City, IA 52240
319-356-5273



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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



CRIME PREVENTION

A Program to Prevent Crime
Neighbors Looking Out For Neighbors