

Neighborhood Watch



Crime and Violence Prevention Center • California Attorney General's Office

Want to know the best crime prevention tool ever invented? A good neighbor!

In fact, neighbors working together with law enforcement is one of the best crime-fighting teams around.

We call it ... Neighborhood Watch

What is it?

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

It involves:

- neighbors getting to know each other and working together in a program of mutual assistance;
- residents trained to recognize and report suspicious activities in their neighborhoods; and
- implementation of crime prevention techniques such as home security, Operation Identification, etc.

You may hear it called NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, Home Alert, Citizen Crime Watch or Block Watch. The idea is the same:

Neighbors looking out for each other!

Who can participate?

City residents
Country residents
Suburban residents
Apartment dwellers
Mobile home residents
Young people
Senior citizens
Men
Women
Families
Couples
Singles . . .

In summary . . . YOU!

Why Neighborhood Watch?

- Nationwide, millions of crimes are committed every year and the number is still growing.
- There can't be a law enforcement officer on every corner, so citizen involvement is essential to combat crime.
- By cooperating with each other and law enforcement, people can help fight crime in their community the most effective way – before it begins.

How do I get involved?

FIRST – contact your local law enforcement agency and explain that you are interested in joining or starting a Neighborhood Watch group.

NEXT – write for the Attorney General's "Neighborhood Watch Guide" - a step-by-step instruction manual explaining how to organize a Neighborhood Watch group.

REMEMBER – law enforcement officers can't be everywhere at once — but you and your neighbors can. Put that neighborhood "know how" to work.

It's simple:

- Use your eyes and ears and then your telephone.
- If you spot something suspicious, call law enforcement immediately.



**Crime and Violence Prevention Center
California Attorney General's Office
Bill Lockyer, Attorney General**