PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
POLICE DEPARTMENT

Emergency/Crimes in Progress: 9-1-1

Non-Emergency: 703-792-6500

www.police.pwcgov.org

Crime Prevention Unit
703-792-7270
crimeprevention@pwcgov.org

Traffic Safety Line
703-792-5919

Vice & Narcotics Line
703-686-6522

Youth Services & Special Victims Unit
703-792-7229

Eastern District Station
703-792-7200

Western District Station
703-792-5111

Central District Station
703-792-8555
WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?
A Neighborhood Watch is an organized effort by concerned citizens to improve the quality of life in their neighborhood. In cooperation with the police department, neighbors work to safeguard each other's homes and reduce the risk of crime in their community.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH OBJECTIVE
• Increase citizen awareness of neighborhood crime through an information sharing process.
• Train citizens in making their homes, personal property and neighborhoods more secure.
• Develop a neighborhood action program where neighbors help watch each others' property and report suspicious persons, activities and crimes to the Prince William County Police Department.

WHAT IS REQUIRED
Your active participation is encouraged to make your program a success. We need you to make the following commitments.
• Attend the training meeting.
• Make your home as burglar resistant as possible. Our Crime Prevention Unit can provide you with brochures designed to aid you in inspecting your home. Should you request, a Crime Prevention Officer will assist you in conducting your inspection.
• Participate in discouraging theft. Record the description, serial number and value of those items in your home that are most likely to be stolen.
• Report all suspicious persons, activity and crime to the Police Department.
• Encourage the community to take an active role in the program.

WHY JOIN A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?
• To take part in addressing problems and concerns in your neighborhood.
• To assisting in helping reduce crime in your neighborhood, making you and your family safer.
• To instill community spirit and camaraderie through a safer neighborhood.

WHY JOIN A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?
Neighborhood Watch is an effective and inexpensive way to prevent crime and reduce fear. It fights the isolation that crime both creates and feeds upon.
• Select a coordinator. Contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 703-792-7270.
• Conduct a door to door survey to determine interest level. When recruiting members make an effort to include working parents, young adults and senior citizens.
• Attend one of the monthly Neighborhood Watch start-up training sessions hosted by the Prince William County Police Department.
• Establish a phone tree or other method for effective communication.

ABC's OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
• Any community resident can join who is 18 and older and is a renter or homeowner.
• Participants learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other as well as the neighborhood and report suspicious activity to the Police Department.
• You can form a Neighborhood Watch group around any geographical unit: street, apartment building, etc.
• Watch groups are not vigilantes. They are extra eyes and ears for reporting crime and helping neighbors. They help build pride and serve as a springboard for efforts to address community concerns from beautification to issues of crime.

To receive additional information about other training topics, contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 703-792-7270.