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2014

Neighborhood Watch Advisory

Crime prevention tips

&

Neighborhood Watch registration information

**Carteret Police Department
Crime Prevention Unit
(732) 541-4127**

email:

neighborhoodwatch@carteret.net

web:

www.carteret.net

**To report suspicious activity, please call:
(732) 541-4181 or for an emergency 911**

**Anonymous Tip Line:
(732) 541-3852**

Neighborhood Watch Basics

What is Neighborhood Crime Watch?

A Neighborhood Crime Watch is an organization of volunteer citizens, operating under the direction of the Police Department to help residents in a particular neighborhood, apartment complex, sub-division and or businesses: prevent or reduce crime in that neighborhood, develop a positive rapport with law enforcement, and become the “eyes and ears” for law enforcement. At Crime Watch meetings, residents discuss and plan potential solutions to address the area’s crime problems. Neighborhood Crime Watch is also a great way to meet and get to know your neighbors, which enhances everyone’s safety in the neighborhood.

Neighborhood Crime Watch groups are organizations that:

- teach citizens techniques to reduce the risk of being victimized at home and in public.
- train citizens to recognize and report suspicious activities.
- teach participants how to make their homes and neighborhood more secure and how to properly identify their property.
- allow neighbors to get to know each other and their routines so that unusual activity can be reported and investigated.
- bring citizens together to address the needs and issues that concern the entire community.

Neighborhood Crime Watch groups are not:

- vigilante forces working outside the normal procedures of law enforcement.
- programs designed for participants to take personal risks to prevent crime.
- a 100% guarantee that crime will not occur in your neighborhood.

The leader of the Neighborhood Crime Watch program is a block coordinator/captain selected by your individual group. This person(s) will:

- organize “community” activity,
- distribute crime prevention literature to members of the group,
- represent their area or section at other Neighborhood Crime Watch activities in the community.
- help distribute information about various types of activity taking place in your community.
- complete a block map containing first and last names, addresses, email addresses and phone numbers of all residents in the neighborhood whether or not the household participates. This map is then used to supply information to each resident.

Neighborhood Watch Q&A

How Much Time Do I Have to Spend?

As much or as little time as YOU want. Be sure to delegate responsibility to others to help.

How Can I “Sell” the Idea of a Neighborhood Crime Watch To My Neighbors?

Tell your neighbors that:

Neighborhood Crime Watch is a return to the “old-fashioned” days when neighbors took care of neighbors and communicated with police:

- The program helps reduce the risk of becoming a crime victim.
- It helps a community become stronger and more unified.
- It generates a concern of neighbors for each other. For instance, during bad weather, whether hot or cold, neighbors can check in on other neighbors.
- Neighborhood Crime Watch lets neighbors know that someone will be there in case of a personal crisis such as a fire or flood, in addition to crime.
- There is greater access to activity information regarding criminal activity in your neighborhood.
- Having a Neighborhood Crime Watch sign posted lets criminals know that the neighborhood is not an easy target. Convicted burglars have reported avoiding neighborhoods that have these signs.
- It gives neighbors an opportunity to have block parties, covered dish suppers, or a street dance.
- It’s an opportunity to beautify the neighborhood.
- Neighborhood Crime Watch provides a forum for programs and an opportunity to meet officials in the community.
- It is a network of different neighborhoods working together.

How does my Law Enforcement Representative Help with a Neighborhood Crime Watch?

All crime prevention programs provided by the Carteret Police Department are FREE! The Carteret Police Department will also provide FREE written home security survey booklets, and keep your Neighborhood Crime Watch group informed about the current concerns of law enforcement. The representative will also introduce new crime prevention programs you might use in your community.

CRIME PREVENTION TIPS:

Doors: Your doors should be equipped with a door viewer and deadbolt lock. Keep your doors locked!

Windows: All windows should be secure. Draw window shades or drapes after dark.

Trees and shrubbery: Keep trimmed. Criminals look for hiding places. Shrubby in front of windows enables anyone to pry unseen at a window or hide while looking inside.

Exterior lighting: All entrances and garages should be well-lit.

Keys and locks: Change your locks when moving into a new residence/apartment. Remove house keys when a mechanic has your car. Remember that whoever borrows a key from you can have it duplicated. Do not leave a key under a doormat, flower pot, etc.

Answering the door: Remember that you do not have to answer your door. Should a stranger request to use your phone, do not allow the person to enter, and offer to make the call yourself.

Answering the phone: If a stranger calls, DO NOT give the person any information, especially your phone number and whether you are home alone.

Going on vacation: Stop deliveries if they will collect outside. Remove valuables from view. Your residence should still look "lived in." Tell a trusted neighbor who can also have a key, if needed. Use timers for lights and a radio.

Address numbers: All too often police officers, firefighters, etc. cannot find an address because of hidden or hard to see (blending into background color) letters or numbers. Addresses should be easily visible day or night. Do not depend on painted curb numbers as cars often block them.

Vehicles: When parking your car during the day or night, keep the windows up and the doors locked. Make sure no valuables are left visible, and that your glove compartment and/or center console are locked.

***The Carteret Police Department Crime Prevention Unit
presents***



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
Community Workshops

Wednesday, January 15, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 12, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 12, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 14, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, June 11, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 16, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 13, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 10, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 15, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 12, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 17, 6:30 p.m.

at the Thomas J. Deverin Community Center, 100 Cooke Ave.
(732) 541-4127 ● neighborhoodwatch@carteret.net ● www.carteret.net