



WHAT ARE THE MAJOR COMPONENTS OF A WATCH PROGRAM?

WHAT DOES A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH DO?

A Neighborhood Watch is neighbors helping neighbors. They are extra eyes and ears for reporting crime and helping neighbors. Members meet their neighbors. Learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other, the neighborhood, and report activity that raises their suspicions to the police or sheriff's office.

WHY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

- It works. Throughout the country, dramatic decreases in burglary and related offenses are reported by law enforcement professionals in communities with active Watch programs.
- Today's transient society produces communities that are less personal. Many families have two working parents and children involved in many activities that keep them away from home. An empty house in a neighborhood where none of the neighbors know the owner is a prime target for burglary.
- Neighborhood Watch also helps build pride and serves as a springboard for efforts that address other community concerns such as recreation for youth, child care, and affordable housing.

HOW DOES A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH START?

Any community resident can join—young and old, single and married, renter and homeowner. Even the busiest of people can belong to a Neighborhood Watch—they too can keep an eye out for neighbors as they come and go.

Yes, Watch Groups can be formed around any geographical unit: a block, apartment building, townhouse complex, park, business area, public housing complex, office building, or marina.

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A WATCH MEMBER?

- Be alert
- Know your neighbors and watch out for each other.
- Report suspicious activities and crimes to the police or sheriff's department.
- Learn how you can make yourself and your community safer.

WHAT KIND OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD I BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AS A WATCH MEMBER?

- Someone screaming or shouting for help.
 - Someone looking in windows of houses and parked cars.
 - Property being taken out of houses where no one is at home or from closed businesses.
 - Cars, vans, or trucks moving slowly with no apparent destination or without lights. Anyone being forced into a vehicle.
 - A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child.
- Report these incidents to the police or sheriff's department. Talk about concerns and problems with your neighbors.

HOW SHOULD I REPORT THESE INCIDENTS?

- Call 9-1-1 or your local emergency number.
- Give your name and address.
- Explain what happened.
- Briefly describe the suspect's sex and race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, distinctive characteristics such as a beard, mustache, scars, or scar.
- Describe the vehicle if one is involved: color, make, model, year, license plate, and special features such as stickers.



Wilmington Police Department Residential Security Survey

Instruction: This survey is designed to be a do it yourself security assessment of your residence. Answer each question as best as you can. Items where you have answered "NO" are the areas where you should focus your attention as they indicate areas needing improvement. This survey is for your personal use and once completed, it should be stored in a safe location.

NEIGHBORHOOD			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have you met and become acquainted with the neighbors who live on all sides of your residence?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you belong to a Community Watch Program?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are common areas such as community mailboxes, building entrances, and courtyards illuminated at night?
HOME EXTERIOR			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are your house numbers clearly visible from the street (both day and night)?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If your home has a mailbox near the street, is the house number clearly visible on the mailbox?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If your home is located along an alley, are the house numbers clearly visible from the alley?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are shrubs, bushes, and other plant growth within 4 feet from the sidewalk, driveway, door, or gate maintained at a height of 2 feet or less?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are trees trimmed so that the lower branches are at least 6 feet above the ground?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are trees located so that they cannot be used to climb to an upper level of the home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are spiny/thorny plants used as ground cover along the fences and under windows of the home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Has decorative stone or rock been placed near the home to notify you of someone approach?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Has fencing, paving, landscaping, or some other means been used to identify when a person moves from public or common property to private property?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If there is a fence around the home or property, are the gates routinely locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you routinely secure items of value such as bicycles, lawn mowers, ladders, etc. when not in use?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are entryways, porches, and walkways to the residence illuminated at night?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior lights controlled by photocells instead of manual switches?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If you have motion detecting light fixtures, are they properly placed and adjusted to reduce false activations?

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If there are detached buildings on the property (garage, shed, barn, etc), are the doors and windows kept locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior telephone lines protected so they cannot easily be cut?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior utility boxes (electrical, cable, telephone, etc.) padlocked to prevent unauthorized access?
GARAGE			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the overhead garage door kept closed when not in use?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If you do not have a garage door opener, is the overhead garage door kept locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the pedestrian door between the garage and the home kept locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are windows into the garage covered or frosted to prevent visual inspection of valuables from the exterior?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are keys removed from vehicles when they are parked in the garage?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are keys stored in a garage secured in a lockbox mounted to the wall?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If keypad entry is used, is the entry code changed frequently?
DOORS			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior doors (including the pedestrian door between the garage and home) of solid core construction or metal encased?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are door locks at least 40 inches away from glazing or are double cylinder deadbolts locks installed?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior door strike plates secured to the frame of the house using screws at least 3 inches in length?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do exterior doors fit tightly within the door jamb?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If exterior doors swing outward and have exposed hinges, have the pins been secured in place?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have screws been installed in the top track of the sliding glass doors to prevent the door from being lifted off the track?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have locking "Charlie" bars been installed in the center of sliding glass doors in lieu of wooden dowels?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are exterior doors kept locked, even when someone is home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the door between the basement and upper levels of the house kept locked?

LOCKS			
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are door locks in good repair?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are keys removed from double-cylinder dead bolts?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Was the residence re-keyed the last time an occupant moved in or out?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do occupants of the home avoid hiding keys outside the residence other than in a lockbox secured to the structure?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are deadbolts locks with a minimum 1 inch throw installed on exteriors doors, including garage pedestrian doors?
WINDOWS			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have secondary locks been installed on windows capable of being opened?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do basement windows have security bars, grills, or other locking covers?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are windows kept closed and locked or locked open no more than 6 inches, even when someone is home?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are window air conditioners anchored and protected to prevent removal from outside?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	When you are away, are windows covered or frosted to prevent visual inspection of valuables from the exterior?
ALARM SYSTEMS			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the home have an intrusion alarm system?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the alarm system monitored by a professional monitoring service?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Has everyone with a key to the residence been trained to properly arm and disarm the alarm system?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the alarm system have a battery back-up system in the event of power outage?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the alarm system have a cellular or radio back-up system in the event of telephone outage?
MISCELLANEOUS			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Does the home have a safe for storage of firearms and other valuables?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have valuables papers (birth certificates, titles, deeds, social security cards, checks, tax records, passports, etc.) been secured in a fire resistant safe or in a safe?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	If you have a safe, is it bolted to the house to prevent removal?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have you engraved items of value with a unique number that would help identify your property should it be stolen and recovered?

<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is there a corded phone in the house in case a power outage disables cordless phones?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are alternative entry points (skylights, crawl spaces, vents, etc.) secured and locked?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Have you removed identifying information from your key rings in case your key ring is stolen?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are interior lights visible from the outside left on at night when the home is unoccupied?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are documents with personal information shredded before being placed in the trash?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is a radio or television left on and playing when the home is unoccupied?
VACATION CHECKLIST			
YES	NO	N/A	
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are home deliveries stopped and arrangements made for a trusted neighbor or family member to pick-up mail, newspaper, and packages?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are trusted neighbors asked to watch the residence when you are away?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are arrangements made to have lawn mowed or snow removed when you are away?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Are arrangements made to have garbage cans placed for pick-up and returned to the house on pick-up days?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you contact your local law enforcement agency to advise them you will be away and how to contact you in case of an emergency?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Do you provide emergency contact information to trusted neighbor or family member?
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	Is the ringer on the telephone turned down or off when you are away?

To find more ways to protect your home and neighborhood, please call the Wilmington Police Department



Crime Prevention Unit

910-343-3945

Completing this survey does not guarantee that the residence surveyed will stop criminal activity. While this survey can be an effective tool in uncovering security weaknesses, neither the Wilmington Police Department or any other agency, can guarantee that the residence will be completely secure from criminal activity.

Home Inventory Sheet



This form is available for you to document all items of value in your home. It is best to describe as much detail as possible. The benefit of documenting your valuables is you will be able to help the police in tracking your items if stolen. After completing this form, put it in a secure place, so that it can be turned over to the police should they need it. **Example provided below.**

ITEM	MAKE MODEL	COLOR DESCRIPTION	SERIAL #	OWNER APPLIED #	VALUE \$
TELEVISION	SONY - R12	BLACK... 47"	4364596	6363	1,500.00

Wilmington Police Department
 Crime Prevention Unit ♦ 615 Bess Street ♦ Wilmington ♦ North Carolina ♦ 28401
 (910) 343-3945 phone ♦ (910) 343-3646 fax ♦ (910) 341-7873 TDD
www.Wilmingtonnc.gov



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