



## **Montgomery County Police Neighborhood Watch Program Responsibilities:**

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE LAW ENFORCEMENT**

#### **LIAISON**

The Law Enforcement Liaison is the link between law enforcement and citizens. The liaison provides the following services to citizens:

- Offers training and information on topics of interest or concern to members

Provides guidance, support and motivation to Neighborhood Watch groups

- Provides technical assistance

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD**

#### **WATCH AREA COORDINATOR**

The Area Coordinator is a citizen volunteer position. The Coordinator responsibilities include:

Serve as liaison between members, law enforcement, civic groups and block captain

- Arrange neighborhood crime prevention training
- Coordinate neighborhood watch training
- Obtain and distribute crime prevention materials to block captains
- Involve others in specific crime prevention projects
- Designate a person to set-up list serv
- Arrange meetings for block captains and membership

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF BLOCK CAPTAIN**

The Block Captain is also a citizen volunteer position. He or she:

Serves as spokesperson for the group (approx 10 residences)

Maintains a list of participants with telephone numbers and emergency contacts, and e-mail addresses

Arranges training programs

Designates work assignments

Distributes materials  
Acts as liaison between group members and coordinator  
Identify an alternate block captain for periods when you are away and unable to perform the duties of a block captain  
Recruitment of new residents

### **RESPONSIBILITIES OF WATCH MEMBERS**

Watch members are responsible for the following:

- Attend meetings
- Report suspicious or criminal activity to Police
- Help recruit new members
- Practice safety measures at home and in community
- Schedule home security survey with Community Services Officer
- Support captain and other leaders in their roles

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ACTIVITIES**

There are several Neighborhood Watch program activities that promote teambuilding. Some of the activities include:

- Keep an eye on neighbors home while away for vacation
- Communicate with neighbors
- Practice safety and security measures at home
- Maintain a lived-in appearance at your home
- Keep eyes open for suspicious individuals and vehicles
- Provide support to neighbors who may be victims of crime

### **EFFECTIVE TEAMWORK = GROWTH**

Here are some strategies for helping your team grow and increase its effectiveness:

Keep an eye on your neighbor's home while he is away on vacation

Communicate with your neighbors

Practice safety and security measures at home

Maintain a lived-in appearance at your home

Keep your eyes open for suspicious individuals and report it to Police

Provide support to neighbors who may be victims of crime

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF EFFECTIVE WATCH GROUPS**

As a neighborhood watch group working towards building a strong team, here are some characteristics of effective watch groups:

- Informal, comfortable atmosphere
- Discussion involves everyone and stays on task

- There can be disagreement
- Consensus is predominant when making decisions
- Feedback is frequent and comfortable
- Assignments are clear and accepted

### **BENEFITS OF TEAMWORK**

There are so many benefits associated with teamwork. Aside from making an impact within your community, here are some other benefits:

- Deeper friendships with neighbors
- Shared responsibility for neighborhood
- Increased support and safety
- Improved communication – and, of course, we hope that the most important benefit is
- Prevention of crime!

If you have any questions, please contact:

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