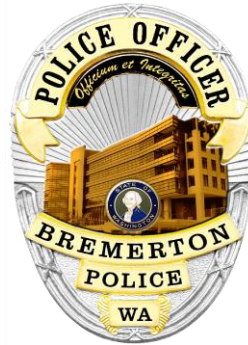

WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program enlisting the active participation of residents in cooperation with the Bremerton Police Department to reduce the incidence and fear of crime in their communities. It involves neighbors getting to know each other to develop a program of mutual assistance. It involves neighbors being educated in crime reporting and suspect identification techniques. Finally, it involves neighbors using crime prevention strategies as tools to reduce crime in their communities.

WHY NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

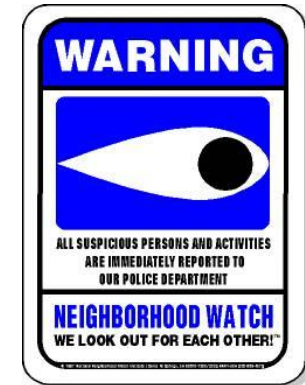
The community has the primary responsibility for preventing crime. The most effective approach to fighting crime is stopping it before it occurs. This can happen when neighbors cooperate with each other to assist the Bremerton Police Department. Neighborhood Watch members post Neighborhood Watch signs on streets, warning criminals they are in an active Neighborhood Watch community, and that "neighbors are watching out for each other."



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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

BREMERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Neighborhood Watch programs can aid in preventing crime in our community. It relies on the best crime fighting tool ever invented, a good neighbor. Fortunately, good neighbors are found everywhere. They live in houses, apartment buildings, urban, suburban and rural areas. The City of Bremerton's Neighborhood Watch Program unites the Police Department with local organizations and individual residents in a community-wide effort to reduce residential crime. Neighbors working together with the Bremerton Police Department are a formidable crime fighting team. Be a good neighbor and make your community safer by starting a Neighborhood Watch Program.

HOW DO I START A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

The Bremerton Police Department Community Resource Specialist will assist in starting a program in your neighborhood. The Community Resource Specialist will be available for your first meeting to assist with the initial organization of the Neighborhood Watch Program and discuss crime concerns specific to your neighborhood or community.

Contact Bremerton Police Department's Community Resource Specialist to get started. Talk to your neighbors. Are they interested? Do they understand the value of a Neighborhood Watch Program? Are they aware of, or concerned about specific crime problems in your area?

If they are, be sure to mention the following:

- Neighborhood Watch is a partnership between neighbors to assist the Bremerton Police Department in the reduction and fear of crime;
- Neighborhood Watch does not require frequent meetings;
- Neighborhood Watch does not ask anyone to take personal risks to prevent crime;
- Bremerton Police Department can attend your meetings to answer questions about crime and provide information about police procedures

MAINTAINING A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

After your Neighborhood Watch is established, be sure everyone understands and observes the following guidelines:

- Be alert to unusual or suspicious behavior in your neighborhood. Call the Bremerton Police Department if necessary. Write down descriptions of suspicious person(s) and license numbers;
 - Tell a trusted neighbor if your house will be unoccupied for an extended period. Tell him or her how to reach you in an emergency;
 - Look after your neighbor's homes when they are away and ask them to look after yours. This includes picking up mail, newspapers and storing trash cans or recycling bins. Don't send a message that says, "No One Is Home;"
 - Attend Neighborhood Watch meetings often.
- Contact the Bremerton Police Community Resource Specialist for information on crime trends and what you can do about them;

- Above all, stay involved. It is the most effective way to reduce or prevent crime and make your neighborhood safe; and
- Remember your job is to report crime. The responsibility for apprehending criminals belongs to the police. The key to keeping a Neighborhood Watch group active is maintaining interest over time. By getting everyone involved you will create a feeling of pride in your neighborhood. Neighborhood Watch can easily be adapted to meet your needs, wherever you live or work.

Make belonging to your Neighborhood Watch group enjoyable. People will get involved and remain interested if the programs are fun as well as meaningful.

Use your imagination. Schedule potluck dinners, organize clean-up campaigns or hold block parties. The possibilities are endless when neighbors unite and work together.

START A NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH TODAY
