

What is Neighborhood Watch?

A Community Action and Problem Solving Program

The Neighborhood Watch Community Action and Problem-Solving Program is one of the most effective means available for resolving issues within your community. Through organized problem-solving activities, your block can reduce crime from your neighborhood and address community issues that concern residents.

The Neighborhood Watch Program relies on the best method there is – a good neighbor. Fortunately, good neighbors are found everywhere. Neighborhood Watch is not guard-duty. The focus is on community issues, forming community action groups, getting to resolutions, which involves being aware of suspicious/criminal activity and knowing what to do about it. In other words it is securing your property and developing a neighborhood communication network.

The Neighborhood Watch Program is a police/community partnership and an educational process by which neighbors can learn to resolve neighborhood issues.



How to start a Neighborhood Watch Group

It's easy!

First, select the area to be covered by your Neighborhood Watch block. A block consists of 12-20 homes that surround you. Personally contact and talk with as many block participants as possible. Share the above information about the Neighborhood Watch Program and ask neighbors to participate. Select a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday evening at 6:30 or 7:00pm on a date that is convenient to participating neighbors.

Next, contact the Oakley Police Department at neighborhoodwatch@ci.oakley.ca.us to schedule a meeting.

A positive first step towards a safer community!

What You Do

Arrange an informal meeting or discussion with several neighbors who are concerned about crime and are willing to assist in setting up the Neighborhood Watch Program.

Discuss the need for a Neighborhood Watch Program, the expected results, problem areas, and obtain definite commitments of the planning committee to continue service.

Choose a meeting site. It is important to hold the meeting in the neighborhood to encourage an informal atmosphere. If this is not possible consider the following possibilities:

- ♦ Neighborhood School
- ♦ Church
- ♦ Community Center
- ♦ Library meeting room

What We Do

Prepare a meeting agenda and discuss the following:

- ♦ Purpose of Neighborhood Watch
- ♦ What it is and what it is not
- ♦ Define law enforcement's role
- ♦ Discuss *specific* crime problems in your neighborhood

