

WELCOME TO NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH TRAINING

It's time to train the Neighborhood

**Presented by the Prince
William County Police
Department's
Crime Prevention Unit
703-792-7270**



Ashland Neighborhood Watch(NW) Contacts and Areas

Please contact any of the following for NW issues:

-Ken Wright, Coordinator, 703-670-0876, kwright1961@aol.com

-Kim Winston, Crime Prevention Unit, 703-792-7240, kwinsotn@pwcgov.org

Area 1: (Bruce Paddon, 703-897-7355 BAPADDON@aol.com) Warm Springs, Coiner House, Lycum, Eggelstetton, Milton Hall, Persinger House, Hansberger Barn, Haw Branch, Gholson Bridge, Callie Furnace

Area 2: (Kevin B. Connolly, 703-897-7619, vaconnollys@comcast.net) Bowmans Folly, Tinkling Springs, Colonial Village

Area 3: (Krist Losquadro, 703-670-9686, m.losquadro@comcast.net) Fincastle (Warm Springs to Toddsbury), Hume School, Pamplin Pipe

Area 4: (Dawn Portner, 703-897-6849, jkportner@msn.com) Toddsbury, Paine run, Keitewan, Fancy Farm, Fincastle (Toddsbury to Federal Hill, Plain Dealing

Area 5: (Dan Williams, 703-730-0416, daniel.williams@hwda.army.mil) Three Otters, Cat Rock Sluice, Eppes Island, Fincastle (Federal Hill to Weyanoke)

Area 6 (Heidi Paul, 703-730-5167, thepauls4@juno.com) Miller School, Corbin Hall, Boar Run, Hopsons Choice

Area 7: (Laura A. Waterman, 703-680-6233, llwaterman@msn.com) Gunston Hall, Balls Bluff, Sabine Hall

- Benefits of Neighborhood Watch
- Neighborhood Watch Patrol
- Neighborhood Watch Patrol Instructions

- Home Security
- Theft Prevention
- Crime Reporting
- Drug Houses
- Gangs
- Prince William Crime Prevention Council

BENEFITS OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

1. *Community and Police in a Cooperative Effort*

- ✓ Personal contact Officer: Crime Prevention Officer
- ✓ Training Classes
- ✓ Monthly crime reports
- ✓ Crime Alerts
- ✓ McGruff's Newsletter
- ✓ Evacuation contact list for SWAT or other emergency
- ✓ Identification of "hot spots" effecting your community

2. Community Interaction

□ Identifying community leaders

Watch Coordinator

Block Captains

These folks are NOT:

☑ Block Cops. They are not to receive calls about crime or activity that should be reported to the police department.

☑ They are not responsible for behavior of other people.

☑ It is NOT their fault if the neighborhood is targeted by a criminal.

3. *Community Roster*

- Includes names, home addresses, telephone numbers and e-mail addresses of everyone in the Watch, this provides a way to get information out to NW members.

4. *Increased Territoriality*

- Extending the concern from my property to my neighbors and community.

5. *Neighborhood Watch Patrol*

- Visibility and proves as a warning to criminals.

6. *Community Newsletter or Web site*

- Great catalyst for distributing information to the community. Whether it is a Crime Alert, Crime Report or just advertising a yard sale.

7. *Crime Council participation and interaction*

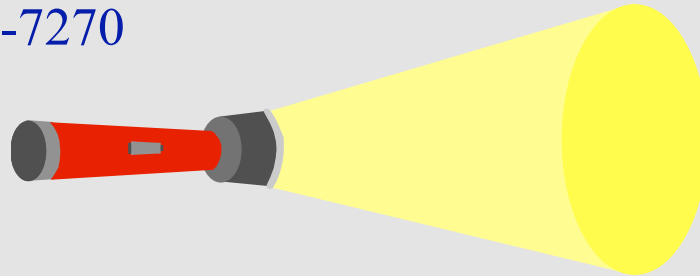
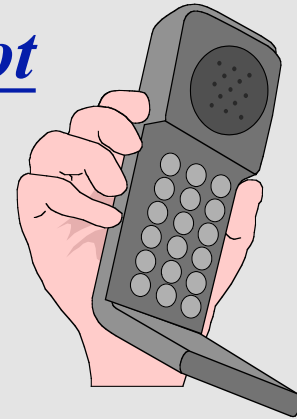
- Council is made up of all PWC NW.
- Meets every other month at McCoart.
- Coordinator expected, all are welcome to attend.

8. **Monthly Crime Reports**

- This is mailed to the Coordinator monthly and shows requests for Police Assistance, also called Calls for Service.
- Not true reflection of crimes.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PATROL

- *The purpose of Patrol is to DETER, not apprehend.*
 - High visibility
 - Flash Light
 - Optional Vests, Hats and magnetic signs
 - Purchase from PW Crime Prevention Council
 - 703-792-7270

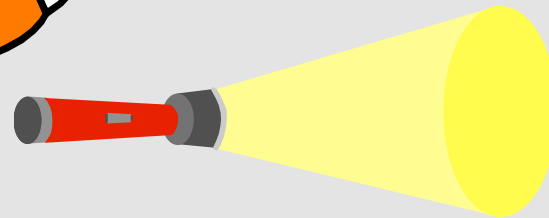


- **Importance of Patrol**

- Enhances community participation and cohesiveness, everyone is watching out for each other.
- Gives the Neighborhood Watch Sign *and* Neighborhood Watch Program credibility.

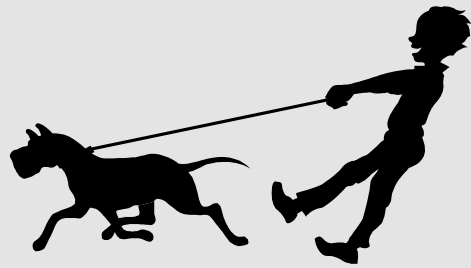
- **Recommended Tools of Patrol**

- Pad & Paper
- NW Roster
- Flashlight
- Patrol logs (optional)
- Optional identification equipment (vest, hat or sign)
- Cell Phone



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PATROL INSTRUCTIONS



- Patrol with a partner
 - You are encouraged to patrol in pairs. This is not only a safety issue but also provides for additional witnesses and assistance in case of trouble.
- Transportation
 - Walk, drive or both.
- Schedule
 - Random patrolling is the best. If you or your family can patrol during the daylight hours or after midnight, please do so. Any hour of the day is suitable for patrol.

- Route

- Your designated Neighborhood Watch area.

- Recommended Equipment

- Flashlight: at least one per patrol during the night hours.

- Magnetic sign: if driving, affix to your vehicle.

- Orange hat and/or vest: if walking, to identify yourself as Neighborhood Watch.

- Log book or notepad with a pencil: to document suspicious events for accurate report to the Police.

PATROL UNARMED!!

NO side-arms, shotguns, rifles, ax handles, mace/pepper spray or any other type of weapon.

These are **prohibited** while on patrol.

- Crime Reporting

- If you suspect criminal activity, observe a crime in progress or see evidence of a crime having been committed, one patrol member should contact the police. Identify yourself as NW to the Police dispatcher and provide the appropriate information. The other patrol member should remain at or near the scene and continue to observe, if safe to do do.

- Do not attempt to detain individuals against their will.

- Not only might this be dangerous but you could also be violating their civil or legal rights.

- Try to identify victims/witnesses and urge them to file a formal complaint.
 - Many crimes are never reported, remain unsolved or offenders are not punished because people refuse to get involved.
- Maintain high visibility during your patrol.
 - It is just as important for potential lawbreakers to see you as for you to see them.
- Always put safety first!!
 - Do not be a hero.

- If anything looks suspicious, report it!
 - Report immediately to the police, not to the block captains or coordinator.
- Record information
 - If you see anything on patrol that does not warrant a call to the PD, but does draw your attention, record the information.

**TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME™**

HOME SECURITY

- *Profile of the PWC Burglar*
 - Young adults
 - No specific tool, limited to screw driver or what he/she can find
 - Opportunist, not professional
 - More entry through unlocked door/window
- *Dogs*
 - Can be effective, unless confined
 - Does not have to be vicious, just noisy
 - Do not routinely tell neighbors dog friendly

- Guns

- The key to *safe gun ownership*

- Agreement by all adults in the home that a gun is needed.
 - Safe storage - unloaded and securely locked
 - Proficiency - regular yearly training
 - Mental Preparedness: Are you prepared to kill another person?? If the answer is NO, then you may lose your weapon to the burglar, who generally has no weapon.
 - Using the gun is a last resort. Key: **Retreat - Retreat - Retreat!!**



- **Alarms**
 - Designed to react, bring help, and record.
 - Want central monitoring station and dual technology
- **Operation ID**
 - Mark Property with some type of personal identification number. Example; the last four of you SSN# - year of birth. (1111-45) Mark all property with the same #s.
 - Refer to the Operation ID Trifold for further info
- **Residential Security Survey**
 - Offered free of charge
 - Contact Crime Prevention Unit at 703-792-7270

- *Coming Home to a burglarized home*
 - Instinct may be your first indication.
 - DO NOT CHECK THE HOUSE.
 - DO NOT CALL SPOUSE, INSURANCE COMPANY JUST YET.
 - The PLAN is to get out of the home, quickly.
 - Call the Police (911) and tell the dispatcher your home has been burglarized and you have not checked the house.
 - Stay outside until the police arrive.

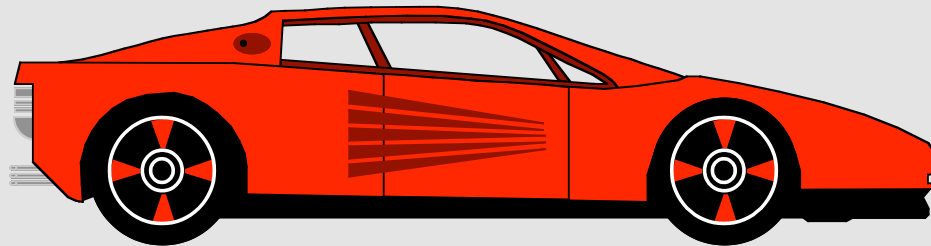
- *Prowlers*

- A bump in the night-noise not normal for your home
- Do not investigate!!
- Lock doors and go to a safe room
- Phone the police (911) and stay on the line
- Do not hesitate to call the police

Theft Prevention

– *Vehicles*

- Lock doors.
- Do not leave valuables in plain view.
- Consider additional security for high target vehicles.
- Keep track of who has car keys.



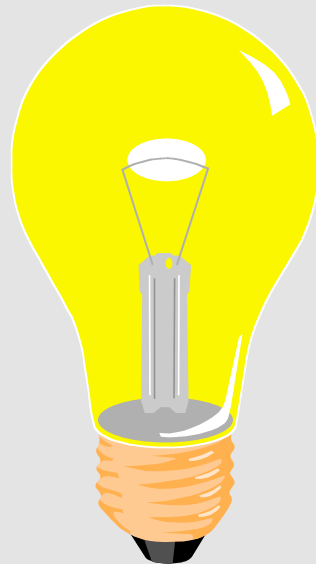
– *Property*

- Do not leave garage doors open or unlocked.
- Mark bicycles so can be easily identified.
- Use solid steel locks to secure bicycles.
- Do not leave bicycles in yard or on front/rear porches.
- Remember operation ID program.



– *Lighting*

- Lighting can be effective deterrent to property crime.
- Dawn to dusk, front & back.
- Timers: great way to make it look like someone is home - even if you aren't.



CRIME REPORTING

- *What is “Suspicious Activity”?*
 - Breaking glass.
 - Juveniles hanging out during school hours.
 - Someone trying to hide/conceal themselves from view.
 - Someone carrying electronics or pillow case.
 - People sitting in cars for prolonged periods of time.
 - Anything that draws your attention and looks odd or out of place. Trust your instincts. You know what is normal for your neighborhood.

- *When to call?*

- **Immediately!** If on patrol, use a cell phone, go to nearest Block Captain home, go to your home if you are close, or ask a neighbor if you can use his/her phone to make the call.



- **Who to call?**

- **DO NOT** call your Block Captain or Coordinator.

- **Call the Police!!**

- **703-792-6500**: past occurrences, non life threatening

- No caller ID or address tracking

- **911**: Immediate threat to life or property

- Enhance: address tracking



- *The Dispatcher will need from you:*
 - Name (optional)
 - Address (optional)
 - Nature of Problem
 - Location of Problem
 - Description of involved parties
 - Do you want to see the officer or just have the complaint checked - BE SPECIFIC!!
 - The dispatcher's mission is to take the info quickly and move on to next call; do not mistake efficiency for rudeness

- *Response Time*

- Priority

- Calls are handled based on priority, **not order received.**
 - The way a call is reported has a lot to do with priority given, **DO NOT MINIMIZE THE CALL.**
 - Emergency calls are generally handled under 5 minutes.
 - High priority calls 0-15 minutes.
 - Routine calls can take longer.
 - Everything hinges on manpower and calls for service, constantly changing.
 - If situation escalates/changes, you need to call back to change priority.

- *Why report crime?*
 - We need to know a problem exists, so do neighbors. If you don't report, we will not know a problem exists that needs attention.
- *Teleserve*
 - Telephone reporting unit.
 - Convenient for victim & Police Department.
 - Necessary to manage department's current work load.

DRUG HOUSES

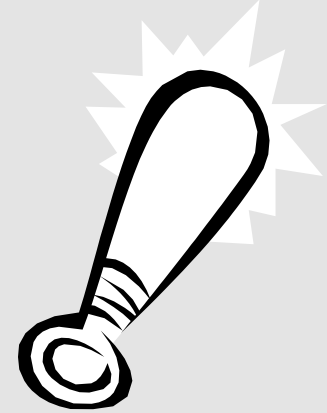
- *Possible indicators*
 - Frequent and short (under 5 minutes) visits by numerous vehicles and visitors.
 - Multiple vehicles using signaling technique (horn or flashing lights).
 - Concealing or partially concealing exchange of \$\$ for property that is small enough to fit into hand.
 - Needles, papers or drug paraphernalia around residence.
 - Admission by someone in the residence they sell/use drugs.
 - Admission by someone they have purchased drugs from the home.

- *Keep a log*
 - Chart days, times, vehicles.
 - Report information as it occurs to Police Communications (703-792-6500).
 - Pass on information to your Crime Prevention Officer.





GANGS



- *Definition of a “gang”*
 - **A group of 2 or more people who form an alliance for the common purpose of:**
 - **engaging in acts which are detrimental to the public welfare**
 - **obstructing justice**
 - **engaging in criminal activity**
 - **create an atmosphere of fear and intimidation within the community**

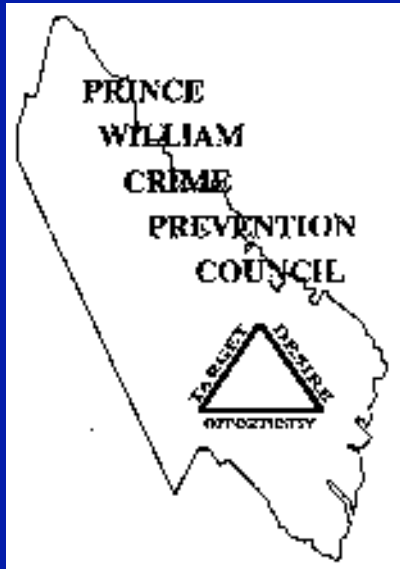
- **Common Misconceptions**

- Gangs are only found in lower socioeconomic neighborhoods. **Not true.**
- Gangs are exclusively male. **Not true.**
- Most gang violence is drug related. **Not true.**
- Most gang members come from single parent households. **Not true.**

- **Why do kids join gangs? Primary reasons are reported as being:**
 - Bad family life. Drugs, alcohol or abuse.
 - Protection.
 - Sense of identity and belonging.
 - Lack of alternatives.
 - Money from criminal activities.
 - Power trip.
- **Signs your child might be associating with a gang**
 - New friends you know very little about.
 - Abrupt non-interest in family activities and values.
 - Abruptly becoming hostile and solitary.
 - Grades falling and truancy problems.
 - Strange new vocabulary. Signs, symbols and nick names.

- *Graffiti*
 - Two forms
 - Tagging: vandalism
 - Gang related: marking territory
 - Rules of Graffiti: 4 R's
 - Read
 - Record
 - Report
 - Remove

Prince William Crime Prevention Council



- Non-profit organization
- Established in 1982
- Membership consists of Watch groups
- Activities
 - Meetings
 - McGruff Speaks
 - Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch Picnic
 - National Night Out
 - Annual Awards

Questions and Answers

