Duties and Responsibilities Continued…

Problem Meeting - If there is a problem on your block (street lighting, a vacant house, traffic problems, etc.) neighbors may want to get together to try and solve this problem. You may want to invite speakers from public or private agencies who can provide information or assistance. Often neighbors get together to discuss projects they can do to improve the neighborhood, (such as a litter pick-up or a graffiti paint out), or projects they can do for each other (such as helping a neighbor prune back the brambles in their yard).

Agency Meeting - An example is a meeting where you learn about other agencies and organizations which are available to help you and your neighborhood. The Fire Department, City Light and other agencies have educational or informational programs they can present to a group.

Community Meeting - Often, there are issues that impact an entire community, not just a block. In these cases, many Block Watches have gone to the surrounding neighborhoods to communicate with other Block Watches and generate a community meeting to address these concerns. This could be an 'Agency' or 'Problem" meeting, but it involves more than one block.

Annual Night Out - Night Out is an annual event, usually held o-n the first Tuesday in August, where neighborhoods show their active involvement in Block Watch and Crime Prevention by turning on their porch lights early in the evening, getting together as a block or neighborhood, and possibly even have a party. Several blocks have had block-wide picnics, potlucks, barbecues and, quite literally, block parties. This is a fun way to keep the block going and meet your new neighbors at the same time.

Duties and Responsibilities Continued…

If you have difficulty determining what type of meeting to have, ask a few neighbors for their ideas.

After selecting the kind of meeting you want, choose a place to hold it. It does not necessarily have to be at the Block Captain's home; it could be at the local library, community center, a neighbor's home, etc. Set a convenient date and time. It helps to invite all the neighbors in person.

To find out more ways you can protect your home and neighborhood, please call our Crime Prevention Unit at (425) 788-1519.

Duvall-Carnation Police Department

Report Crime Immediately!!! CALL 911

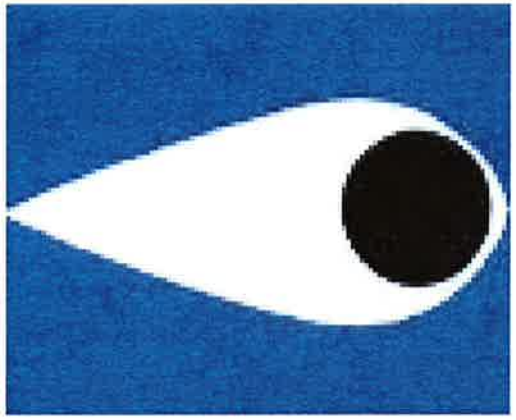
Duvall Police Department
26225 NE Stephens Street
Duvall, WA 98019

Police Business Number (425) 788-1519

DUVALL-CARNATION POLICE

BLOCK WATCH INFORMATION

http://duvallwa.gov/departments/police.html



Duvall-Carnation Police Department
26225 NE Stephens Street
Duvall, WA 98019
(425) 788-1519

What Block Watch Is

Block Watch is really just an extension of what you are probably already doing on an informal basis. We tend to know and watch out for our closest neighbors, but a group of neighbors at one end of the block who are doing this may not know the group of neighbors at the other end of the block. Organizing a Block Watch makes this attitude of watchfulness more systematic, and provides a block map with neighbors' names and telephone numbers that can be used in case of an emergency.

What Block Watch is Not

Block Watch doesn't require you to perform any special tasks, go to a lot of meetings, or take on extra responsibilities. You don't have to patrol the neighborhood, or chase burglars. Block Watch just involves being alert as a part of your everyday life. For example, when you go to the window to open or close the drapes, instead of just opening or closing them and turning away, you might stop for a second and glance around the neighborhood to be sure everything is okay. When you go out to get in the car to go to work, instead of heading for the car with "tunnel vision," glance up and check the neighborhood. It is this kind of "watching" that is involved.
Being a part of a Block Watch doesn't require you to live in your neighbor's hip pocket, or tell them every aspect of your business. You can still conduct your life in privacy. All it requires is that you and your neighbors be familiar enough with each other to know who belongs in the neighborhood and who doesn't; which cars are a part of the neighborhood and which aren't; and when something suspicious is going on. It doesn't require you to be any friendlier than you want to be.

Block Watch isn't only for home owners. One aspect of the program--upgrading home security--is more easily implemented if you own the home, since you would need to get the landlord's permission to make changes such as installing new locks. But the other two aspects--engraving an identification number on your property, and the Block Watch concept of neighbor watching out for neighbor--are just as important for renters as for home owners.

It takes two commitments

A commitment to be **concerned about your neighbor's property as well as your own**, and **a commitment that when you see suspicious activity**, you will take action by calling your neighbor or 9-1-1.

Duties and Responsibilities

Neighborly responsibilities

- Report all emergencies or suspicious activities to 9-1-1 immediately.
- Call your Block Captain after you have reported to 9-1-1 when you: Have been burglarized, or Notice any suspicious activity.
- Welcome new neighbors and invite them to join the block watch.
- Periodically look out the window and respond to any suspicious activity, strangers or noises by calling 9-1-1.
- Take your turn as block captain or Co-Captain. You can also volunteer to host your annual get together.

Individual responsibilities

- Engrave your property with your Washington drivers license number. Post Operation I.D. decals on windows and doors. Fill out your inventory sheet.
- Lock your doors and windows whenever you leave home, even if it is for a short time.
- Update security by installing deadbolt locks on exterior doors and additional locks on vulnerable windows.
- Use electric timers on lamps and radios.
- Light up the front and back entryways at night, whether you are home or not!
- Be sure your house address is visible from the street.
- Keep tools and ladders in a locked storage shed or garage.
- Have a trusted neighbor keep a duplicate house key. Do not hide it on the front or back porch.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

PROGRAM IN FORCE

Our neighbors report all Suspirious Persons to our Law Enforcement Agency

We encourage Block Watch members to get together at least once a year, on a formal or informal basis, to maintain acquaintance, update the block map, select a new Block Captain if necessary, and to get to know the new neighbors on the block.

The first thing to do is to determine what type of meeting to have. Here are a few possible types of meetings:

General Meeting - Examples are Maintenance meetings, where the block meets to refresh themselves with crime prevention tips and the services available to assist in crime prevention efforts. Often, this is just an informal get together with a Crime Prevention Coordinator.