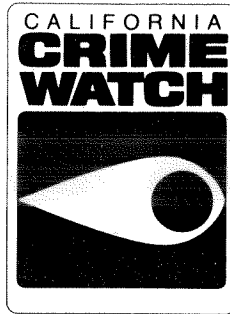


- Organize citizen patrols to alert police about crime and suspicious activities on your streets or around apartment complexes.
- Create a phone number resource list for your watch group for emergencies, child abuse, victim services, lighting, street repair, mediation services, youth activities, etc.
- Work with local building code officials to require adequate locks and other security devices in new homes and buildings.
- Start a safe home program for children.
- Publish a local newsletter that provides local crime news, crime prevention tips, and recognizes the accomplishments of Neighborhood Watch members.
- Have meetings that educate members about the isolation of the elderly, drug abuse, crime in schools, after-school programs, child safety, victim services, etc.



Courtesy of

Office of Criminal Justice Planning  
 1130 K Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95814  
 (916) 324-9100

For more information on this program in your community, contact:

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH...

LAW  
ENFORCEMENT'S  
EYES  
&  
EARS

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police or Sheriff \_\_\_\_\_

Fire \_\_\_\_\_

Block Captain \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
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OFFICE OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
 PETE WILSON  
 GOVERNOR

## WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH?

Neighborhood Watch groups serve as extra eyes and ears for law enforcement agencies and for their neighbors.

Their goal is to create an environment where people care about each other and their community.

You, as a member of a Neighborhood Watch group, can improve the quality of life in your community. You can reduce opportunities for crime by looking out for your neighbors and acting as extra eyes and ears for law enforcement.

Another important responsibility is to report anything suspicious to the police or sheriff's department.

If you have any questions, call your block captain or local law enforcement agency.

## THINGS THAT MIGHT SIGNAL A CRIME

**Watch out for these in your neighborhood and community:**

- Someone running from a car or home.
- Someone screaming. If you can't explain the screams, call the police and report them.
- Someone going door-to-door in the neighborhood or looking into windows and parked cars.
- Someone asking about past residents.
- Someone who appears to have no purpose wandering through your neighborhood.
- Unusual or suspicious noises that you cannot explain, such as breaking glass or pounding.
- Vehicles moving slowly without lights or without an apparent destination.
- Business transactions conducted from a vehicle. This could involve the sale of drugs or stolen goods.
- Offers of merchandise available for ridiculously low prices. The merchandise might be stolen.
- Someone walking or running while carrying property at an unusual time or place.
- Someone removing property from closed businesses or unoccupied residences.
- A stranger entering a neighbor's home which appears to be unoccupied.
- A stranger in a car who stops to talk to a child.
- A child resisting the advances of an adult.

## HOW TO REPORT SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY OR CRIME IN PROGRESS

The police need fast, accurate information about suspicious activities or crimes in progress. Here's how you can help:

- Give law enforcement your name.
- Describe the event briefly and state concisely what, where, when and how it happened and who did it.
- State if the crime is in progress or if it has occurred.
- Describe the suspect's sex, race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, accent, beard or mustache, and distinctive characteristics.
- If there is a vehicle involved, describe its color, make, model, year, license plate, special markings, dents, and the direction it went.

## RECOMMENDED NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH ACTIVITIES

A decline in crime is not a reason to disband your Neighborhood Watch group. The following activities sponsored by your group can improve your community's safety and well-being:

- Conduct home security surveys and Operation Identification, and include elderly and handicapped residents.