



What Is Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program for bringing residents together with the police department to reduce crime, solve problems, and improve the quality of life in your neighborhood. The Neighborhood Watch program helps residents to:

- Recognize and report crimes and suspicious activities
- Protect themselves, their families, and their property
- Identify crime and neighborhood issues and work with the City of Campbell to address these problems

How do I start a Neighborhood Watch program where I live?

1. Talk with your neighbors to determine the level of interest in a Neighborhood Watch program. Most people are enthusiastic about starting a program and will want to be involved.
2. Decide how large of an area to include within your Neighborhood Watch group. Neighborhood Watch groups are usually inclusive of a street block, segment of a long street, an entire apartment complex, or residents who belong to a homeowner's association.
3. Contact the Campbell Police Department at 866-2121 and ask to speak with an officer in Crime Prevention about a Neighborhood Watch program. A Campbell Police officer will arrange to attend your Neighborhood Watch meeting, present information, and lead the discussion
4. Identify a date, time, and location in the neighborhood for a meeting. Meetings are usually held at a home, church, school, or community center. A few weeks in advance, extend an invitation to all residents within the boundaries of your proposed Neighborhood Watch group. Invitations can be made in person, by email, telephone, or by means of a flyer. It is also helpful to send out a reminder a few days before the meeting..

What will be discussed at a Neighborhood Watch meeting?

Most importantly, this is an opportunity for you to get to know your neighbors. You will want collect and share names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses.

The officer attending your meeting will bring data on calls-for-service in your neighborhood. He or she will want to hear about any specific concerns or problems in the area. The officer can also discuss:

- Home and personal security
- Preventing thefts from vehicles
- Preventing fraud and identity theft
- How to arrange for clean-up of graffiti, trash, or other blight conditions
- How to recognize and report suspicious activity or crime

What happens following a Neighborhood Watch meeting?

1. Create and distribute a roster. The roster should include a map of the neighborhood and names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses of residents.
2. Form an email distribution list or create an on-line group webpage in order to share information about neighborhood events, activities, and concerns.
3. Designate a member of the group to serve as a liaison with the Police Department for requesting, receiving, or sharing information.
4. Consider scheduling one or more annual neighborhood events such as a BBQ, picnic, or holiday gathering. Neighborhood get-togethers and traditions are fun and build a sense of community identity.
5. Arrange and/or host other neighborhood meetings as needed to address specific issues or concerns. The group may request a member of the Police Department to speak to the group on such topics as:
 - Gangs & graffiti
 - Drug and alcohol abuse
 - Domestic violence prevention
 - Fraud and forgery prevention
 - Homeland security
 - Teen driving laws and safety

The Police Department can provide information on where groups can purchase Neighborhood Watch signs and hardware. These signs can be installed with permission on private property or utility poles, with perforated metal tape on City street light poles, or at least 7 feet above the grade level on City street signs. Neighborhood Watch signs cannot be installed on any traffic control sign or City tree.

Campbell Police Department
866-2121 Business Office
9-1-1 Emergencies
378-8161 Emergencies – Direct Dial from Cellphones
866-2101 Non-Emergencies