

Consider creating your own newsletter to attach to ours. Include information particular to your neighborhood including statistics from your Community Policing officers, highlights of achievements of residents, or upcoming neighborhood events.

Hold a potluck block party and invite your Community Policing Officer to attend and speak for a few minutes on crime in your area.

Hold a neighborhood clean up and provide treats for those who clean up the most garbage in the neighborhood.

**Take it one step further...**



Some neighborhoods are content to participate in the Neighborhood Watch program by watching for suspicious persons and vehicles from their home or front lawn. Others want to expand by organizing a Mobile Community Watch effort where trained citizen volunteers drive or walk within their immediate neighborhood to be a visible deterrent to crime after participating in a training put on by the Unified Police Department. They too, observe and report suspicious activity but in a more proactive, visible manner.

When you need assistance or advice on how to successfully conduct your Neighborhood Watch program, contact Crime Prevention Services at 468-3901. Report chronic nuisance problems prevalent in your neighborhood to the Community Oriented Policing (COP) officer who serves your area.

#### UPD SUBSTATIONS

Kearns Precinct	272-5225
Holladay Precinct	272-0426
Millcreek Precinct	967-4420
Magna Precinct	250-1474
Riverton Precinct	254-0167
Herriman Precinct	302-2080
Crime Prevention Unit	468-3901
Graffiti Cleanup	468-2182
UPD Non-emergency	743-7000
Emergency	911

### **Unified Police Department**



## **Organizing a Neighborhood Watch**

# *A Coordinator's Guide To Organizing A Neighborhood Watch Program*



This document is intended to provide a Neighborhood Watch Coordinator with the guidance necessary to successfully organize a crime prevention program to reduce crime and the fear of crime in the neighborhood.

Unified Police Department  
Sheriff James M. Winder  
[www.updsl.org](http://www.updsl.org)  
743-7000

*“Neighborhood Watch is a citizen involvement program. By working towards a positive partnership between the community and law enforcement we can and will make a difference.”*

The Unified Police Department continues to be proactive in enforcing laws and ordinances to protect the lives and well being of Salt Lake County residents. However, due to the increasing number of calls for service, it is essential for residents to act as extra eyes and ears for the UPD.

Our successful Neighborhood Watch program teaches residents how to observe and report suspicious person, vehicles, and activity in their neighborhoods. Officer’s want and need the assistance of neighborhood residents to report suspicious persons, acts of vandalism, abandoned cars, or any other behavior that causes a resident to feel uncomfortable.

Neighborhood Watch may be the most effective and least costly means to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime in your neighborhood. However, you can’t do it alone. To be successful, invite the entire neighborhood to participate.

**Neighborhood cooperation and involvement is essential for success.**

Neighborhood Watch groups not only prevent crime, but can offer a catalyst for bringing better service and restoring pride to a neighborhood. The program provides residents with a means to learn crime prevention methods. Residents can speak with a unified voice when contacting elected officials or other who provide services to their neighborhoods. The program helps provide cohesiveness in a neighborhood for problem solving and communication and it helps promote belonging and pride in a neighborhood.

**STEP 1: Determine interest.** Talk to several of your neighbors and determine that sufficient interest exists to organize a Neighborhood Watch program.

**STEP 2: Choose a coordinator.** The coordinator finds interested people who will serve as block captains. The coordinator serves as the liaison between the UPD and the block captains. The block captains take information to the neighborhood residents and then bring feedback to the coordinator to be relayed to the UPD or Community Policing Officer.

**STEP 3: Plan a meeting.** Arrange a time and place to meet with the residents of your neighborhood. At this meeting choose block captains and formulate a list of concerns and fears to present to the UPD

for suggestions and recommendations. Then, at a second meeting, arrange for a crime prevention specialist to attend by calling 468-3901 to train your group in various crime prevention methods and to provide ideas for your program. However, we emphasize that this is a citizen program. We will offer suggestions, but we will not dictate how you will organize or conduct your program.

Our experience shows you will obtain the best turnout Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday evenings. If you wish to schedule another day we will make every effort to accommodate your request. Please allow us a minimum of two weeks notice.

**Advertise, advertise, advertise!** Residents may need a little push to go to a meeting. Hold it at a convenient location and consider providing simple refreshments.

### **You’re On Your Way!**

Keeping interest from waning may be your most difficult undertaking. Many programs start strong because there has been an outbreak of crime. As crime decreases, the Neighborhood Watch program fades and crime comes back. Here are some ideas to keep your neighbors interested: