

COMMUNITY WATCH SECURITY TIPS

MAKE YOUR HOME LOOK OCCUPIED

Leave some lights and a radio on when you're out.

LOCK YOUR DOORS

Never leave your house open for "just a moment," always lock your doors when you're out.

USE DEADBOLT LOCKS

A deadbolt lock is a good deterrent to burglars.

DON'T HIDE A KEY OUTSIDE

Burglars know all the secret hiding places.

DRILL AND PIN YOUR WINDOWS

Window locks can be jimmied; pins cannot.

BRACE SLIDING GLASS DOORS

If the door is braced, the only way a burglar can get through it is to break it.

INSTALL GOOD EXTERIOR LIGHTING

Motion sensor lights and other good lights don't let a burglar hide in the dark.

KEEP BUSHES AND SHRUBS TRIMMED

If bushes are too high, someone hiding near your windows and doors cannot be seen.

STOP MAIL AND PAPER DELIVERIES

If you go on vacation, stop deliveries or have one of your neighbors collect your mail and papers.

GET A DOG

Even a small dog may be a deterrent to a burglar.

INSTALL AN ALARM SYSTEM

Houses with alarms are avoided by burglars

PROVIDED BY:

Henderson Police Department
200 Breckenridge Street
Henderson NC. 27536
Tele: (252) 438-4141

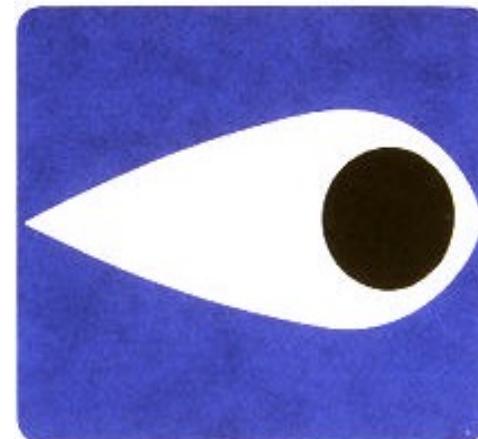
Or
911

GOVERNOR'S CRIME COMMISSION
1201 FRONT STREET, Suite 200
RALEIGH, NORTH CAROLINA 27609
(919) 733-4564

www.ncgccd.org



WARNING



COMMUNITY WATCH

**The Way To A
CRIME FREE
And
SECURE
NEIGHBORHOOD**

WHAT IS COMMUNITY WATCH?

COMMUNITY WATCH is a Crime Prevention program that involves citizens working with each other and with law enforcement agencies to reduce crime and victimization in their communities. It involves:

1. Citizens protecting themselves and their property by using common sense crime prevention practices.
2. Neighbors getting to know each other, watching out for each other and acting on or reporting suspicious activities.
3. Citizens working with groups, community leaders, and, more importantly, law enforcement agencies to make entire communities safe and free from crime.

CITIZEN ALERT, NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH, BLOCK WATCH, or COMMUNITY WATCH: the names may differ, but the idea is the same. Neighbors looking out for each other.

WHY START A COMMUNITY WATCH?

Because law enforcement officers cannot be on every street corner, citizen involvement is necessary to combat crime. On average, there are approximately two law enforcement officers for every 1,000 citizens.

You and your neighbors are the ones who really know what is going on in your community. By cooperating with each other and with the police, citizens can help fight crime in the most effective way – preventing the victimization of themselves, their families and friends. You are the key element in fighting crime. GET INVOLVED!

COMMUNITY WATCH WORKS

The goal of COMMUNITY WATCH is to make criminals aware that every move is being watched and will be reported to the police. Across North Carolina, citizens work together to secure their homes, mark their valuables, identify drug dealers, develop child safety programs, and improve the environment in which they and their families live.

HOW TO START A COMMUNITY WATCH

1. Contact your local Police or Sheriff's Department about setting up a COMMUNITY WATCH program. They can assist with information, materials and technical advice. Ask for the Crime Prevention officer.
2. Schedule a meeting with your neighbors in a church, home, community building, volunteer fire department or other location.
3. Invite the Crime Prevention Officer or other law enforcement officer to speak at your original meeting to help get your COMMUNITY WATCH program started.
4. Contact every resident in your community and invite them to the meeting. Do this by making door-to-door visits, phone calls, or mailing flyers.
5. Hold your meeting.

WHAT ARE MY RESPONSIBILITIES AS A Watch member?

- Be alert
- Know your neighbors and watch out for each other.
- Report suspicious activities and crime **to** the Police or Sheriff's Office
- Learn how you can make yourself and your community safer.

•WHAT KIND OF ACTIVITIES SHOULD I BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR AS A WATCH MEMBER?

- Someone screaming or shouting for help.
 - Someone looking in windows of houses and parked cars.
 - Property being taken out of houses where no one is at home or from closed businesses.
 - Cars, vans, or trucks moving slowly with no apparent destination or without lights.
 - Anyone being forced into a vehicle.
 - A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child.
- Report these incidents to the police or sheriff's department.
Talk about concerns and problems with your neighbors.

HOW SHOULD I REPORT THESE INCIDENTS?

- Call 9-1-1 or your local emergency number.
- Give your name and address.
- Explain what happened.
- Briefly describe the suspect's sex and race, age, height, weight, hair color, clothing, distinctive characteristics such as a beard, mustache, scars, or scent.
- Describe the vehicle if one is involved: color, make, model, year, license plate, and special features such as stickers