

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

ABOUT THE ANCHORAGE POLICE DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH PROGRAM

WHAT IS NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH?

A citizen involvement, neighborhood and community-based effort designed to assist citizens and the Anchorage Police department in preventing primarily residential burglaries. The program's success is hinged on achieving and sustaining an appropriate level of neighborhood involvement to a point at which the neighborhood and the community realizes a reduction and/or achieves prevention of burglaries and other property crime. All portions of the APD Neighborhood Crime Watch program are offered FREE.

WHAT ARE THE GOALS OF NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH?

- 1) To increase citizen awareness of the crime of burglary and other property crimes common to residential neighborhoods.
- 2) To train citizens in various personal and physical security strategies and assist them in making their residence more secure.
- 3) To develop a neighborhood action program where neighbors help watch each others residences and report to the Anchorage Police Department suspicious activities in their neighborhood.
- 4) To encourage all citizens to cooperate with the Anchorage Police Department in reporting crime.

HOW DOES THE NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME WATCH PROGRAM WORK?

Neighborhood Crime Watch is a 2-step organizational process consisting of:

- 1) A presentation by a Crime Prevention Specialist of the APD Neighborhood Crime Watch Program.
- 2) Completing Operation ID—a measure to prevent burglary and/or aid in the recovery and return of stolen property.

DO NCW PROGRAMS REALLY WORK?

YES. Police studies consistently show significant crime reduction, especially of property crimes in Crime Watch neighborhoods.

HOW MUCH TIME IS THIS GOING TO TAKE?

NCW, like any worthwhile effort, does require a little bit of time initially for the Key-Person/coordinator, though primarily just during the organizational stage. Time investment on behalf of neighbor participants is minimal as there is just one meeting to attend, followed by the Operation ID procedure. Once the program is up and running, any extra amount of time the neighborhood devotes to the effort benefits everyone.

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