

WHAT IS BLOCKWATCH

- Block Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways to prevent crime and reduce fear. Block Watch fights the isolation that crime both creates and feeds upon. It forges bonds among residents, helps reduce burglaries and robberies, and improves relations between the police and the communities they serve.

WHY BLOCKWATCH

- It works. Throughout the country dramatic decreases in burglary and related offenses are reported by law enforcement professionals in communities with active Block Watch programs.

- Today's transient society produces communities that are less personal. Many families have two working parents and children involved in many activities that keep them away from home. An empty house in a neighborhood where none of the neighbors know the owner is a prime target for burglary.

- Block Watch also helps build pride and serves as a springboard for efforts that address other community concerns such as recreation for youth, child care, and affordable housing.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

- **Police: 9-1-1**
- **Dispatch (non-emergency/24hr.): 704-2740**
- **OPD Front Office (8:00-5:00): 753-8300**
- **Olympia City Jail: 753-8417**
- **Police Community Programs: 753-8049**
- **Neighborhood Crime Stats: 570-3737**
- **Olympia Municipal Court: 753-8312**
- **Victim's Assistant (D.V.): 753-8408**
- **Narcotics Task Force: 786-0572**
- **T.C. Crime Stoppers: 493-2222**
- **T.C. Animal Services: 352-2510**

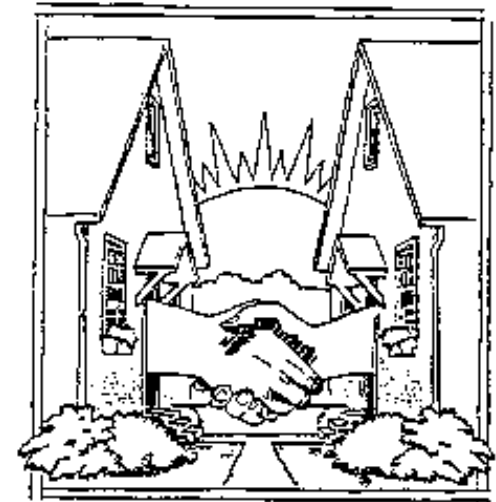
Olympia Police Department
Police Community Programs
900 Plum St SE
Olympia, WA 98501
Phone: 360-753-8049
Email: astull@ci.olympia.wa.us



The City of Olympia is committed to the non-discriminatory treatment of all persons in employment and the delivery of services and resources.

OLYMPIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS



***-Take a Stand Against
Crime-***

**BLOCK
WATCH**

Block Watch Basics...

The goal of Block Watch is to reduce crime by:

-Educating The Community-

-Increasing Reporting-

-Improving Communication Among Neighbors-

-Improving Communication Between Neighborhood Groups And The Police-

HOW TO GET STARTED

- Request a Block Watch information packet from the Police Community Programs Director at O.P.D. (Amy Stull).
- Hold an initial informational meeting with an O.P.D. representative.
- Determine Block Watch areas to be included (preferably about 20-30 homes on the same block or loop). Larger neighborhood associations can have several interrelated Block Watch programs running concurrently.
- Select a Block Captain and alternate for each Block Watch area.
- Block Captain(s) and alternate(s) meet to organize the initial program.

- Finalize the geographic boundaries of each Block Watch area.
- Select and engage team(s) to canvass the involved area(s) for members.
- Set up telephone tree(s).
- Select and engage team(s) to set up and implement Operation ID process.
- Set first meeting for the general membership.

When the telephone tree is completed and all members have completed the Operation ID process, conduct a follow-up meeting to:

- Make sure everyone understands how/when to use the telephone tree.
- Make sure everyone knows how/when to call 9-1-1 and 704-2740.
- Make sure there are no "holes" in the Watch areas.
- Make sure everyone has been able to complete the Operation ID process.
- Identify any special safety problems in the area(s).
- Arrange for a "trial run" of your telephone tree.
- After the preliminary set-up work is finished and you've tested your phone tree, contact O.P.D. to arrange for installation of Block Watch signs, getting Block Watch stickers for members, and sharing any special problem projects that have been identified.
- Plan to have Block Watch meetings at least once a year. Use a practice run of your telephone tree to remind members of the

meeting. Coordinating the meeting with National Night Out can be easy for members to remember. Ask for an officer to join you when you meet (just give us some notice).

- Captains are responsible for keeping O.P.D. current on changes in membership and changes in the phone tree.

How to participate in Operation I.D.

- Use an electric engraving tool to mark all articles of value, especially those most likely to be stolen: i.e. stereos, TV's, VCR's, tools, appliances, etc...
- Record all marked property on an inventory list.
- Photograph or videotape all property that should not be marked, as well as all marked property.
- Display Operation ID warning stickers in your windows to advertise that you have marked your property. (Note: You will not receive Operation ID stickers/signs until you show that your property has been marked and recorded).



Block Watch

- **Questions? Contact Amy Stull in the Police Community Programs Office at 753-8049.**