



Important information needed by the police:

- What happened?
- When did it happen?
- Is there any injury?
- License plate number
- Vehicle description
- Direction of flight
- Description of person(s) involved (i.e. age, gender, race, hair color, facial features, height, weight, weapons, clothing)

If you see anything suspicious, call 757-441-5610. If you see a crime in progress, call 9-1-1.



Organize Neighborhood Watch in your area by contacting:

**Crime Prevention Section
2500 North Military Highway
Norfolk, Virginia 23502
757-664-6901**

PDNeighborhoodWatch@norfolk.gov



**City of Norfolk
Police
Department**

Neighborhood Watch Program



**Neighborhood
crime prevention is
a team effort.**

Report any suspicious activity...

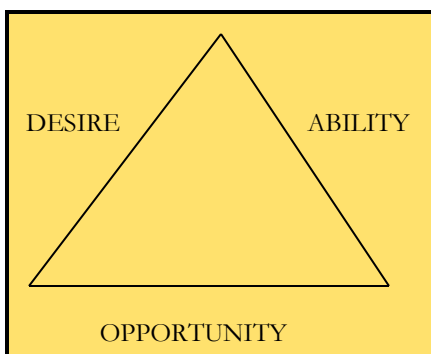
- A stranger enters your neighbor's house when it is unoccupied
- You see anyone removing license plates, car accessories, or siphoning gasoline
- Anyone is seen peering into parked cars or houses
- Apparent business transactions are observed being conducted from a vehicle
- You see anyone loitering around schools, parks, secluded areas or on the street
- Any vehicle is moving slowly and without lights, or if one is seen following an apparently aimless course
- Vehicles containing one or more persons are parked during unusual hours
- Abandoned vehicle on a street — it may have been stolen or ditched after a crime
- Vehicles are being loaded with valuables in front of unoccupied houses
- The sound of breaking glass or loud explosive noises can be heard
- You see someone being forced into a vehicle
- Person appears to be involved in gang activity — watch for uniformly colored clothing or jewelry

Neighborhood Watch (NW) is a program designed to promote security concerns and awareness in your neighborhood. This program encourages you and your neighbors to cooperate and watch out for unusual and suspicious activities in your area. Police participation is involved through patrolling and informing residents about effective home security techniques.

Note: Police officers may not recognize strangers in your area, but your neighbors would.

An effective learning tool in Neighborhood Watch is the **Crime Prevention Triangle** formula. It simply states that in order for a crime to occur all three of these triangle elements must exist: **Desire**, **Ability**, and **Opportunity**.

If we can eliminate any of these elements a crime cannot occur.



To start a Neighborhood Watch group:

- Coordinate a date, time, and location for your neighborhood's initial meeting with a Norfolk Police Crime Prevention Officer. During this meeting, the officer will offer tips on home security, crime awareness, Operation Identification, and procedures on reporting suspicious activities.

Crime Prevention Section
757-664-6901

- Publicize the meeting at least one week in advance with door-to-door fliers. During the meeting gauge the neighborhood interest and emphasize that the NW is an association of neighbors who look out for each other's family and property, alert the police to any suspicious activities or crime, and work together to make their communities safer and a better place to live.
- **When the neighborhood decides to adopt the Watch idea it should:**

Elect the following NW officers:

1. *Watch Coordinator* - to help lead the group and report suspicious activity to Police
 2. *Block Captains* - to represent individual neighborhood blocks and report suspicious activity to Police
 3. *Block Watchers* - to report suspicious activity to Police
 4. *Separate Committees* - to address specific issues or tasks if needed
- Define the territory. Establish the boundaries for the area to be covered for the "Watch Zone"
 - Establish communication between the Norfolk Police Crime Prevention Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, the Block Captains, and the Block Watchers. This can be established through email groups or phone trees.
 - Each new Neighborhood Watch will receive (3) free signs to be posted around the community. Additional signs can be purchased by the community if needed.

Don't wait until it's too late. Do it today!

Suggested Security Habits

- Re-key locks when purchasing a new home or after keys have been lost/stolen.
- Place deadbolt locks on all exterior doors including the door from the garage leading to the inside of the house.
- Make sure that exterior doors and windows are always locked.
- Trim shrubbery away from entryways and windows.
- Light all entryways and the exterior of your residence.
- Make house numbers visible from the street, day and night.
- Lock all car doors and windows and remove valuables from sight.
- Use Operation Identification on valuables.
- Know how to report emergencies to 9-1-1 and instruct children, too.
- In an emergency, know how to contact your neighbors.
- Do not reveal your name, phone number, address, or personal information to unknown telephone callers.
- Never tell a stranger your neighbor is not at home.
- Never give out information that you are alone, or when you will be away. Instruct children to do the same when answering the door or telephone.
- Postpone mail and newspaper deliveries before leaving for vacation.
- Give a trusted neighbor access to your home for periodic checks.

