

BENEFITS OF COMMUNITY WATCH

A comprehensive Community Watch program in your neighborhood, whether it is a high crime area or not, will have many rewards to you and your family.

Community Watch programs are known to instill a greater sense of security, well-being, and reduce the fear of crime in your community as well as create a greater "sense of community" and put the neighbor back into neighborhood. Community watch also brings law enforcement and the community together as a team to reduce crime in your area.

Some of the other benefits of Community Watch are:

Reducing the risk of being a crime victim. The risk is reduced because participants are taught how to take preventive measures that substantially decrease the likelihood of becoming a crime victim. Law enforcement agencies report that not only does Community Watch reduce the risk of your home being burglarized, the instances of other crimes such as vandalism, personal assault, and fraud also decrease.

Being better prepared to respond to a suspicious activity. Part of the Community Watch program is training on how to report suspicious activities occurring in your neighborhood and what law enforcement officers need when a crime is being reported and why.

Greater access to criminal activity information. Community Watch programs are designed to keep participants informed of crime trends and patterns so they will be better prepared to spot any crime activity and stop it in their neighborhood.

Receiving a Community Watch sign to post in your neighborhood. Criminals know that if a neighborhood has a Community Watch sign posted, that neighborhood is not an easy target. They have taken the necessary steps to deter crime in their neighborhood and are probably being observed. Convicted burglars have reported avoiding neighborhoods that have Community Watch signs posted.

Knowing your neighbors. Community Watch promotes getting to know your neighbors and their regular patterns so that each of you will be able to report any activity that doesn't fit with regular schedules. This means that when you're away, you can feel more secure about your property. This also instills more sense of Community and puts the neighbor back into neighborhood.