

Neighborhood Watch Safety Tips

Five Easy Steps to a Safer Neighborhood:

1. Get to know your neighbors

- Exchange phone numbers (home, work, cell)
- Learn each other's routines (work schedules, vacation plans, guests' visits, scheduled workers)
- Regularly check on elderly neighbors
- Volunteer to pick up your neighbor's newspapers when they are gone
- Organize or join a Neighborhood Watch Group for your block*

2. Don't be a target

- Have plenty of lighting around your home; use motion sensors, if possible
- Don't leave window or doors open, even on a hot day, if you are not home
- Leave lights on inside your home or use timers when you're gone
- Lock your car and keep valuables out of sight
- Secure gates and fences that are easily accessible
- Have keys ready when coming home; don't fumble around at your door
- Check your surroundings when approaching your door at night
- Be wary of solicitors at your door, even in the day time

3. Report suspicious activity

- Call 911 whenever something looks unusual (strange cars with people in them in front of houses; strangers checking out houses or cars)
- Have a pen and paper handy to write down details that could help police

4. Get out and about

- Walk around your neighborhood or sit on your front porch as much as possible
- Encourage your neighbors to get out with you

5. Keep our neighborhoods neat and clean

- Pick up trash, even if it's not yours or in front of your house
- Keep yards maintained and looking good
- Trim hedges that can be used as hiding places
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**For information about Neighborhood Watch Groups, call SLPD 577-3247 or 577-3248*