SANTA CLARA POLICE DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

A resident in your neighborhood has contacted the Santa Clara Police Department regarding the Neighborhood Watch Program. To help insure the success of your Neighborhood Watch Group, here is some information for you to better understand what a Neighborhood Watch Group is and how you can be an important part of its success.

What is Neighborhood Watch?

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the participation of residents, in cooperation with law enforcement, to reduce crime in their neighborhoods. Neighborhood Watch groups take a proactive approach to fighting crime by becoming the extra set of eyes and ears for law enforcement.

- Watch groups do not require a lot of time. It requires awareness and knowledge regarding the neighborhood you live in and the neighbors you live around.
- Members learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other and the neighborhood, and report activities that raise their suspicions to the police.
- You can form a Watch group around any geographical unit: a block, apartment, park, business area, public housing complex, office, or marina.
- Watch groups are not vigilantes. They are extra eyes and ears reporting crime and helping neighbors. Neighborhood Watch helps build pride and serves as a springboard for efforts that address community concerns.

In the near future, you may be invited to a Neighborhood Watch Meeting. A member of the Santa Clara Police Department will provide an informational presentation (approximately 60 minutes) to your neighborhood to help you learn more about your neighborhood, how to more effectively protect your family and valuables from becoming victims of crime, and how Neighborhood Watch can be a useful tool in the fight against crime. You are encouraged to attend this valuable presentation in an effort to build a partnership between your neighbors and the Santa Clara Police Department to reduce, or even eradicate crime from our neighborhoods.

For more information, contact the Santa Clara Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at 408.615.4876 or visit www.scpd.org.