



## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH CHECKLIST

### YOU WILL NEED:

- A minimum of 10 households committed to starting a neighborhood watch.
- A list of what issues initially need to be addressed in your community.
- A means of communicating with residents, e.g. e-mail, fliers, telephone trees.
- Publicity for the initial neighborhood watch meeting (at least two week's notice).
- A meeting agenda to keep things moving on track.
- A place to meet—a resident's house or apartment, community center, school, or library.
- The NW program coordinator should be present to discuss crime and safety issues in the neighborhood.
- A map of the community with spaces for names, addresses, and phone numbers of all households.
- Brochures or other materials on topics of interest to the residents.
- Facts about crime in your neighborhood. There are often cases where residents' perceptions may not be supported by facts, and accurate information can reduce the fear of crime.

### TO ADD EXCITEMENT (OPTIONAL):

- Mix business with pleasure - allow attendees time to socialize.
- Seek out neighborhood go-getters - civic leaders - to be your advocates and mentors.
- Work with existing organizations such as neighborhood associations, tenants' associations, or local civic clubs.
- Provide speakers on topics of community interest.
- Start a neighborhood newsletter.

### TO BUILD PARTNERSHIPS:

- Endorsement by the Sheriff's Office. This agency is the major source of information on local crime patterns, crime prevention education, and crime reporting.
- Libraries can provide research materials, videos, computers and meeting space.
- Churches and places of worship can provide meeting places, and a good source of volunteers.