



Neighborhood Watch Signs

After your Neighborhood Watch training and commitment to organizing your neighbors, TPD will work with you on getting a sign installed in your neighborhood.



Keeping the Watch Going

The strongest groups are ones that persist over time, where neighbors continue to get to know each other, the routines of the neighborhood and build stronger connections.

Yearly neighborhood gatherings are key to the success of a Watch – whether you get neighbors together for an ice cream social, barbecue, block party or National Night Out party, or a meeting focused on a topic of interest to your neighbors such as emergency preparedness. Build in time for neighbors to be able to connect, which may include ice breaker activities.

Please consider that there are neighbors who don't want to participate in the Watch who may be interested in attending a gathering.

When more than one neighbor is willing to coordinate the group and gatherings, the Watch is also likely to continue to thrive. If people can rotate taking on some of the tasks, no one person must do all the work to keep it going.

All the effort is worth it! Community members who connect with their neighbors tend to enjoy their neighborhood more and have pride in where they live. They are also more likely to work together to address crime and livability impacts to their neighborhood.

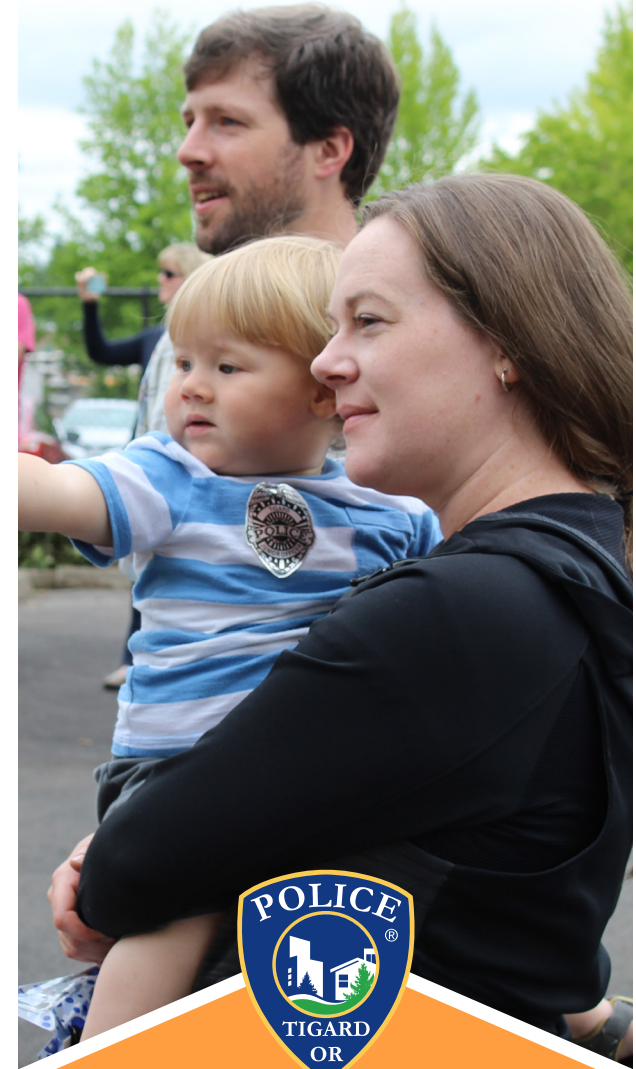
Questions?

Tigard Police:
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City of Tigard

TIGARD POLICE DEPARTMENT
13125 SW Hall Boulevard, Tigard, Oregon 97223



TIGARD POLICE DEPARTMENT



Establish a Neighborhood Watch for a safer, more connected neighborhood!

Neighborhood Watch is a community crime prevention program with the goal of reducing crime and the fear of crime. Through the program, you:

- ▶ Get to know your neighbors,
- ▶ Become familiar with the routines of the neighborhood,
- ▶ Look out for one another,
- ▶ Become more invested in what happens in your area,
- ▶ Learn crime prevention strategies and
- ▶ Communicate suspicious or criminal activity happening in your area to police and each other.

Tigard community members often start Neighborhood Watches after crime affects their area. However, you can be proactive and organize your neighbors to build a stronger, safer neighborhood at any time, whether you live in a house or apartment.

How to Get a Watch Going

If you live within Tigard city limits:

- ▶ Contact the Tigard Police Department (TPD) to discuss the steps, training and the area you want to organize. A smaller area (1-2 blocks) typically allows neighbors to get to know each other and have visibility over their homes.
- ▶ Coordinate the date and time of an initial training with TPD.
- ▶ Choose the place where you will hold the training. Many neighbors host meetings in their home or neighbors' homes. Virtual meetings are also an option.
- ▶ Send out invitations to neighbors by social media, door-to-door visits or email. Ask another neighbor to help.
- ▶ Start thinking about who might lead the group after the training. Consider asking neighbors who you are inviting if they are interested.



Initial Training

The day of the training, TPD will have neighbors provide their contact info on a sign-in sheet and ask attendees to introduce themselves to the group. The meeting will last 1 ½ - 2 hours and cover the following topics:

- ▶ Accessing the public safety system
- ▶ How to be a good reporter when you observe criminal or suspicious activity
- ▶ Home and vehicle security
- ▶ Concerns that neighbors are having in the neighborhood
- ▶ More information about Neighborhood Watch



Responsibilities of Leader(s)

The responsibilities of the leader are to:

- ▶ Create a contact sheet and share with the group. Neighbors will use the sheet to communicate issues concerning safety and livability with each other.
- ▶ Consider creating a neighborhood map showing names, phone numbers, emails and addresses. The map can help identify an address in an emergency.
- ▶ Give neighbors who are interested, but could not attend, a Welcome Letter created by Tigard Police that describes the purpose of the Watch, how to report suspicious activity and provides basic crime prevention advice.
- ▶ Recruit new neighbors into the group.
- ▶ Arrange for a neighborhood gathering every year.