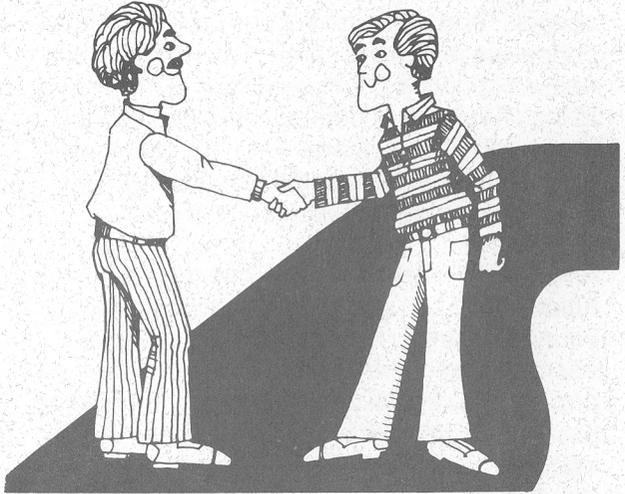


Whether or not you join an organized group, you and your neighbors can make crime prevention part of your daily routines, just by watching out for each other. Remember, though, your job is to **report** suspicious activities to police. It's **their** job to handle the crooks!



“So you see, there are a lot of ways you can help take a bite out of crime. These are just a few of my favorite ideas, and there are many more. Before you and your neighbors get started, check with your local law enforcement agency for tips on crime prevention programs that are just right for your community.”

**TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME**

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WARNING

**THIS AREA PROTECTED BY
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
AND
OPERATION IDENTIFICATION**

SUPPORTED BY THE ARIZONA CRIME PREVENTION ASSOCIATION

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TAKE A BITE OUT OF CRIME

THIS CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION
IS PRESENTED BY THE
PRESCOTT POLICE DEPARTMENT
CRIME PREVENTION DIVISION

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**Don't let 'em knock
your
block
off!**



®

**Join Neighborhood Watch
and...**

**TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME**

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Be A Good Neighbor



- about specific crime problems in your area.
- the best prevention techniques,
- what to report,
- how to organize a responsible anti-crime project if none exists, and
- how your club or neighborhood group can make crime prevention part of its activities.

Neighborhood Watch

Law enforcement experts say the battle against crime is half won when people take a few simple steps to lessen their chances of becoming victims. Like keeping doors and windows locked and making sure keys don't fall into the wrong hands. It's surprising, but burglars don't always force their way in. About half of the time, they enter through an unlocked door or window, or by using a key. The fact is, victims lose more than \$400 million a year from these "no force" burglaries! That's a high price to pay for a crime that can be prevented.

Another important fact: Half of all home burglaries occur during the day when alert neighbors could spot the thieves and call police. In hundreds of communities, concerned citizens are doing just that. They're part of a Neighborhood Watch, Block Watch or Citizen Crime Watch. The names may differ, but the idea is the same: neighbors looking out for each other. Check with the police or sheriff to see if your community has such a program. If so, join up.

If not, start one! It's easy. Get together with neighbors on your block and surrounding streets. Start by sharing crime prevention tips. Then exchange home and work telephone numbers and information about daily routines, planned vacations or visitors, scheduled repairs or deliveries. That way, your neighbors know what to look out for. If neighbors spot an

unfamiliar car in your driveway or activity in your home while you're away, they know they should call the police.

Reduce The Risks

Your group can involve others in the community in crime prevention, too. Businesses, schools, and other institutions can and should cooperate in fighting crime. For instance, businesses in dense commercial areas may need to install lighting in parking lots. High schools may need to keep students on the premises at lunch time to reduce the risk of vandalism or burglary in nearby residential areas.

And this goes for everyone, businesses, institutions, and you and your neighbor as well: your goals are to make sure that crooks are easily stopped and to keep them off your property. So install fences and get rid of hiding places by cutting down tall shrubs and removing piles of junk from behind garages and storage areas. All are good ways to keep criminals out of your neighborhood.



Want to know the best crime prevention device ever invented? A good neighbor. The police can't be everywhere at once, but you and your neighbors can. You're the ones who really know what's going on in the neighborhood.

Put that neighborhood know-how to work. It's simple: just use your eyes and your ears – and then your telephone. If you spot something suspicious, call your police or sheriff immediately. Don't try to stop a criminal yourself – it can be dangerous.

In cities and towns across the country, people are joining with their neighbors to fight crime. Take the initiative. Don't wait until a crime happens. Start your "good neighbor" program now.

Check with your local police or sheriff's office. They can tell you –