

CHIEF'S BRIEF

Laguna Niguel Police Services



Hello Laguna Niguel,

Today I come to you with a message focused on the benefits that a Neighborhood Watch Program can provide to you and your neighbors, as well as how Laguna Niguel Police Services can assist you with establishing one.

A Neighborhood Watch Program is a community-based crime prevention program that empowers residents of a particular area by working together, along with local law enforcement, to reduce crime and improve the safety of their neighborhood. The Laguna Niguel Police Services Department encourages all residents to participate in a Neighborhood Watch Program designed to help prevent and reduce crime through education and increased communication.

Some of the benefits of such a program include:

1. Increased Safety: Neighborhood Watch Programs often lead to a decrease in crime and a sense of safety among residents. When neighbors keep an eye out for each other and report suspicious activity to their local authorities, it can deter criminals from targeting the area.

2. A Strong Sense of Community: Participating in a Neighborhood Watch Program can help residents feel more connected to their community and to each other. When people work together for a common cause, it can create a sense of camaraderie and shared purpose.

3. Crime Awareness: Neighborhood Watch Programs often involve instruction on how to recognize and report crime. This can help residents become more aware of the types of criminal activity that occur in their area and how to properly respond to them.

4. A Quick Response to Emergencies: When neighbors know each other and are familiar with their routines, they can quickly identify when something is out of the ordinary. This can lead to a faster response to numerous emergencies, including medical emergencies.

5. An Enhanced Police-Community Relationship: By working closely with law enforcement, Neighborhood Watch Programs can help build trust and understanding between sheriff's deputies and residents. This can lead to more effective communication and collaboration between the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the community we serve here in Laguna Niguel.

Overall, a Neighborhood Watch Program can be a very valuable tool in creating a safer and more connected community because it is a cooperative effort between interested citizens and Police Services that focuses on education and increasing communication. By encouraging residents to look out for each other and work together to prevent crime, it helps build a stronger sense of security and shared responsibility for the well-being of the community.

Keep in mind that any community member can join a Neighborhood Watch - young or old, single or married, renter or homeowner. And you can form a Neighborhood Watch for any area in your community.

If you're interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program, please visit the [Laguna Niguel Police services webpage](#) for crime prevention specialist contact information. They will assess your group's level of interest, discuss next steps, and provide you with effective strategies to respond to problems in a cohesive and effective way. I also encourage you to stay tuned for more information about our Neighborhood Watch Community Open House that will be held on June 27 at the Crown Valley Community Center. This Open House event will be a great opportunity to learn more about starting a Neighborhood Watch Program in your neighborhood.

Lastly, always remember, 'if you see something - say something'. We each play a crucial role in effectively preventing in our community.

Stay safe Laguna Niguel.

Captain Isaac Flores,
Chief of Laguna Niguel Police Services