

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Why we are forming a NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH for the Westwood Neighborhood?

Concerns over neighborhood safety were brought up at the Westwood Neighborhood Association meetings. After discussions, the officers of the WNA took steps to reorganize a Neighborhood Watch. There are various stages of reorganizing the watch and it will always be evolving as neighborhood concerns are addressed.

Where are we in the process?

Currently we have:

- Established communications with the Peoria Police Department
- Had Police officers speak at a WNA meeting, a Watch Captain meeting and attend our Watch Kick Off
- Divided the Westwood neighborhood into 4 watch zones
- Have Watch Captains for zones and held a meeting with those volunteers
- Requested materials and Watch signs for the neighborhood
- Established guidelines to begin member sign ups
- Bought member decals to all who sign up
- Watch Kick Off – 11/13/2019

What is a Neighborhood Watch?

A Neighborhood watch creates a cohesive body of concerned citizens addressing issues that concern the Westwood Neighborhood. It allows neighbors to get to know each other so activities that seem out of place or suspicious can be reported to the police and investigated. It also sets up communication channels for all who choose to participate.

What a Neighborhood Watch is not?

- Not a vigilante group working doing law enforcement or patrols.
- Not a program designed for participants to take personal risks to prevent crime.

If you want to participate as a member what do you do?

- The first sign up opportunity will be during the “Kick-Off” 11/13/2019
- Watch Captains will also be distributing information about membership.
- You may invite your neighbors to participate.
- Sign-up information will also be on the Westwood Neighborhood Association website at – www.westwoodpeoria.com.
- You do not have to be a member of the WNA to participate.
- Information will be gathered to help in communications.

Membership

Sign up -

- We will ask for the following information – Names of adults at your address / current and best contact phone number / address / email address so you can receive information / if you have security cameras
- After you have signed up you will receive a membership decal to display on a window or door.

Member will be asked to -

- As a member you will be asked to look after your neighbors. This could be noticing packages being delivered, activities that look suspicious, or just being aware of what is normal as you walk or drive through your area.
- If you see something say something by reporting it to the Peoria Police. The Police non-emergency number is (309) 673-4521
- If you have video security cameras we may contact you if needed.
- Cameras can be registered with the Peoria Police Department – a link is on our WNA website or on the Peoria Police Department website.

Communications

- Members will receive emails of public safety concerns in the neighborhood from the NWA Communications Chair from the Peoria Police, Crime Mapping or the City of Peoria.
- Watch Captain's may distribute information as needed.
- Currently we do not have phone trees.

See Something – Say Something!

Watch Captains

We are grateful that we have volunteers to help with sign ups and communications

- They will assist in getting neighbors signed up to participate
- They will communicate concerns to the WNA president
- They will pass out fliers
- They will attend Watch meetings as needed
- They will not be asked to contact police for other members