



Block Watch and Crime Prevention Information

North Precinct Crime Prevention Coordinator (East of I-5)

Diane Horswill 684-7711 or diane.horswill@seattle.gov

North Precinct Community Police Team

Officer Kipp Strong 233-3734

kipp.strong@seattle.gov (prefers email contact)

Wedgwood Wide Block Watch (WWBW) Contact Information

WWBW Website - <http://www.wedgwoodcc.org/wwbw/>

Wedgwood Wide Block Watch Coordinator: wwbw@wedgwoodcc.org

If a Burglary Occurs...

Contact the victim and determine:

- When the burglary occurred and whether it was reported to the police.
Note: All crimes should be reported to the police.
- How entry was gained and what was taken.
- Remind the victim to keep a record of the Incident report number. If they wish to follow up on the case, this number is needed when contacting the Burglary Unit.

Notify all Block Watch members on your block. Contact everyone to determine if they are aware of any suspicious activity and remind them to be careful about their security practices.

WWBW Note: Please keep in mind the protection of the victim's privacy. When you talk to neighbors on your block about the burglary, please **do not disclose what was taken from the burglarized neighbor unless you have the victim's express permission.** The Block Captain Handbook does not spell out the purpose of having the captain ask. **Do** ask the victim if you can pass the information on to your quadrant lead so that we can enter the information in a database to determine if there are any trends regarding stolen property. Contact your respective WWBW Quadrant Lead to provide him or her with the information.

New Neighbors

When new neighbors move in, they should be informed of the Block Watch and asked to join.

Updating the Block Watch Map

The Block Watch map is an important communications tool for you and your neighbors. For this reason, the map should be updated at least once a year with a revised copy provided to each participating household.

WWBW Note: The Seattle Police Department Crime Prevention Program used to collect the revised information from the block captains and send the revised maps out; they no longer do this. This now falls on the captain, please contact the Wedgwood Wide Block Watch Committee and we will help you devise a strategy to update or make a map.

Annual Block Gathering

Block Watch members are encouraged to meet at least once a year. Neighbors can become reacquainted and renew their commitment to watch out for one another by having an informal "get-together." **Suggestion:** Potlucks and Barbecues are great in the summer. Open house parties are ideal during the holidays.

Once everyone has arrived, remember:

- Welcome new neighbors and if necessary update the Block Watch map. Remind everyone to use the map as a communication tool for keeping in touch.
- Briefly review the importance of home security and property marking.
- Discuss any crime related problems, as well ways to prevent similar problems from occurring in the future.
- If a new Block Captain is needed, ask for a volunteer.

Vacation Time

Being on vacation provides an opportune time for a burglar to strike, especially if a home appears to be unoccupied.

Block captains should remind neighbors to take the following precautions whether they leave for a day or a week

- Check all doors and windows to make certain they are securely locked.
- Inform a trusted neighbor of any vacation plans.
- Leave a door key with a neighbor so that the position of and drapes can be changed. Also, leave a key to the burglar alarm system if there is one.
- Ask a neighbor to pick up deliveries, newspapers, and mail.
- Use automatic timers on interior and exterior lights and portable radios
- Arrange to have the lawn mowed
- Arrange to have a neighbor park a care in the driveway
- Consider a house sitter
- Make sure items such as children's toys, ladders, lawn furniture, etc., are put inside

Recruiting a New Block Captain

If you feel you would like to be replaced, a new Captain can be recruited by having a block gathering and asking for a volunteer or ask a co-captain (if there is one) to take over as Block Captain.

Crime Prevention Resources

Seattle Police Department Non-Emergency (Missing Person/Juvenile Runaway, Identity Theft, etc.)

625-5011

Abandoned Vehicles 684-8763 or http://www.seattle.gov/police/forms/Abandoned_Vehicles.htm

Graffiti Hotline - 684-7587

Drug Activities - 684-5797

Sex Offender Information - 684-5332 or <http://web1.seattle.gov/police/sexoffender/>

Community Service Centers near the Wedgwood area:

12525 28th Ave NE (2nd Floor) 684-7526

4534 University Way NE 684-7542

Seattle Conservation Corps 684-0190

Neighborhood Clean-ups, Health Hazards

Lighting

Electricity Outage Hotline 684-7400

Burned Out Street Lights 684-7056 or <http://www.seattle.gov/light/streetlight/form.asp>

Traffic Circles 684-0817 or <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/trafficcircles.htm>

Engineering 684-5283

Street Use Permits, Street Closure for Block Party (permit not needed for Annual Night Out Against Crime as long as you register your event)