

Neighborhood Watch

Fountain Valley Police Department
10200 Slater Avenue, Fountain Valley CA 92708
Paul A. Sorrell, Chief of Police

Police Phone Numbers

Non-Emergency: 714-593-4485 / 714-593-4486
Watch Commander: 714-593-4487
Crime Prevention Office: 714-593-4526
Crime in Progress: 9-1-1

Neighborhood Watch

Office: 714-593-4488
Neighborhood Watch Advisor: Lt. Mike Simko
Report Graffiti: 714-593-4604

Summer 2010 Issue

Hello Neighbors:

As the weather has warmed up, it is now time to really get to know your neighbors. When was the last time you stopped by to say "Hi," wave at a neighbor or just go in and have a cup of coffee or soda and visit?

Below is a list of suggested information for emergency purposes that you might want to get from your trusted neighbor so you can be watching out for each other.



Name: _____

Address: _____

Home and Cell Phone numbers: _____

Work information: Company name, address and phone number _____

Emergency contact number and information: _____

Email address: _____

I have most of my neighbors' phone numbers and it has come in handy with suspicious activity in the past. I encourage you to get to know your neighbor. You don't know when you will need them or they will need you! Be aware, be alert and be safe.

Thanks,

Patty Keith

Neighborhood Watch Volunteer Coordinator

KEEPING YOUR HOME SAFE AND SECURE

With warmer weather approaching, it is tempting to leave doors and windows open when away. DON'T!! Burglars are opportunistic. They look for unlocked or open doors and windows to access your home. The easiest and fastest way for a burglar to break into your home and steal your valuables is through an unlocked or open door or window. Locking your doors and windows when you leave makes it more difficult for a criminal to break into your home. Locking your home is only a start in crime prevention. Installing a monitored alarm, locking rear yard gates and displaying a Neighborhood Watch sticker will educate the criminal that you have taken extra steps to keep them out. Displaying the sticker indicates neighbors look out for each other by reporting suspicious persons immediately to the Police Department. We will provide a Neighborhood Watch sticker for your windows free of charge. You may pick up a sticker at the Fountain Valley Police Department's Crime Prevention/Neighborhood Watch office. You may also want to take time to mark your property (Operation I.D.) for quick identification. The Police Department will lend you an electric engraver. Engraving your property takes minutes. Please visit the Neighborhood Watch section of our website at www.fvdpd.org for additional burglary prevention tips.

COMMUNITY POLICING If you have a concern regarding crime trends or are seeking assistance in solving neighborhood issues, please contact the Watch Commander at 714-593-4487.

Neighborhood Watch



GOING ON VACATION?

The Fountain Valley Police Department offers a great service to our residents...VACATION HOUSE CHECKS. The Retired Senior Volunteers (RSVP) will check on your home while you are on vacation. You may register for this service at the Police Department or on our website at www.fvdpd.org

TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME[®]

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO “MOVE IT OR LOSE IT”

Don't be surprised if you see a Police Officer or Retired Senior Volunteer placing a “**Move It or Lose It**” burglary prevention notice on your windshield.

Burglars are selective as to which vehicles to break into. They typically look into vehicles for valuables such as a GPS device, cell phone or MP3 player left in plain sight. When they see these types of valuables, they break the window, grab the item and flee the area. These crimes take seconds to commit.

The “**Move It or Lose It**” notice contains tips intended to help you safeguard your property. By taking the time to read this notice and follow these tips, you can help reduce crime.

We ask you to follow these simple tips.

DO	DO NOT
Always lock your car.	Leave engine running when you are away.
Keep your windows rolled up.	Leave items in plain view.
Lock valuables in your trunk.	Keep original ownership papers in vehicles.
Park in well-lit areas.	Leave garage door openers in your vehicle.
Pay attention to your surroundings.	

Fountain Valley Residents

Are you aware that Neighborhood Watch In-Home meetings are happening all around you? It's a great way to meet your neighbors and learn about crime prevention tips to keep your community safe.

Contact the Neighborhood Watch office if you would like to host a meeting. We will come to your home or can host the meeting for your neighborhood at the Police Department. A police officer and Crime Prevention specialist will update you on the happenings in your neighborhood. Please call the Neighborhood Watch office at 714-593-4488 or the Crime Prevention office at 714-593-4526 to schedule a meeting.

For more information on protecting yourself from crime, call the Fountain Valley Police Department Crime Prevention office or visit our website at www.fvdpd.org. If you are interested in joining the Fountain Valley Neighborhood Watch team, contact Crime Prevention Specialist Sherri Larner at 714-593-4526 or sherri.larner@fountainvalley.org.

Neighborhood Watch

The Fountain Valley Police Department and Recreation & Community Services Division are working together to present:

The 27th NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2010 and MOVIE IN THE PARK FEATURING: KUNG FU PANDA

Fountain Valley Recreation Center and Sports Park
16400 Brookhurst Street, Fountain Valley
Tuesday, August 3, 2010 starting at 5:00p.m.
(The movie will begin at approximately 7:30p.m.)

“National Night Out”

A program designed to:

Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness

Generate participation in local crime prevention programs

Strengthen police-community partnerships

Send a message to criminals that neighbors are fighting back

Neighborhood Watch personnel will be available to discuss crime prevention. We will have Fountain Valley Fire and Police personnel available including West County SWAT, Motorcycle Officers and a K9 demonstration. Police Explorers will provide free child fingerprinting. McGruff, the crime fighting dog, will be in attendance and there will be clowns, face painting and games for the children. You are encouraged to bring chairs and blankets for the movie. Popcorn and hotdogs provided free until we run out. Visit www.NATW.org for further details.



Workout Safety

Do crooks get more from your workout than you do? Do not make it easy for thieves to make you their next theft victim. “Harden the target” by following these simple steps:

- Never take purses or wallets or large sums of cash to the gym.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight in your vehicle.
- If you are unable to leave valuables at home, store them in your vehicle’s trunk.
- Place valuables in your trunk before arriving at the gym, never in the parking lot.
- Make sure you lock your vehicle.
- If possible, take only your workout gear and driver’s license to the gym.
- Secure your car keys in a locker while you work out or keep them in your pocket. Do not place them on the floor while working out in the gym (We have had thieves steal the keys as the owners were working out).



Neighborhood Watch



TAKE A BITE OUT OF
CRIME[®]

What to Do Before an Earthquake

Earthquakes strike suddenly, violently and without warning. Identifying potential hazards ahead of time and advance planning can reduce the dangers of serious injury or loss of life from an earthquake. Repairing deep plaster cracks in ceilings and foundations, anchoring overhead lighting fixtures to the ceiling, and following local seismic building standards will help reduce the impact of earthquakes.

Six Ways to Plan Ahead

1. Check for Hazards in the Home

- Fasten shelves securely to walls.
- Place large or heavy objects on lower shelves.
- Store breakable items in low, closed cabinets with latches.
- Hang heavy items away from beds, couches, and anywhere people sit.
- Brace overhead light fixtures.
- Strap water heaters to wall studs and bolt it to the floor.
- Repair any deep cracks in ceilings or foundations.
- Store hazardous chemicals in closed cabinets and on bottom shelves.

2. Identify Safe Places Indoors and Outdoors

- Under sturdy furniture such as a heavy desk or table.
- Against an inside wall.
- Away from glass, windows, mirrors, pictures, or heavy items.
- In the open, away from buildings, trees, utility lines or overpasses.

3. Educate Yourself and Family Members

- Contact your local emergency management office or American Red Cross chapter for more information on earthquakes.
- Teach children how and when to call 9-1-1, police, or fire.
- Teach all family members how to turn off gas, electricity, and water.

4. Have Disaster Supplies on Hand

- Flashlight and extra batteries.
- Portable battery-operated radio and extra batteries.
- First-aid kit and manual.
- Emergency food and water.
- Non-electric can opener.
- Essential medicines.
- Cash and credit cards.
- Sturdy shoes.

5. Develop an Emergency Communication Plan

- Develop a plan for reuniting after the disaster.
- Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to serve as the "family contact." After a disaster, it's often easier to call long distance.

6. Help Your Community Get Ready

- Publish emergency information on earthquakes in your local newspaper. Localize the information by printing the phone numbers of local emergency services offices, the American Red Cross, and hospitals.
- Conduct a week-long series on locating hazards in the home.
- Work with local government and American Red Cross officials to prepare reports for people with disabilities on what to do during an earthquake.
- Provide tips on conducting earthquake drills in the home.
- Interview utility company representatives about shutting off utilities.

Work together in your community to apply your knowledge to building codes, retrofitting programs, hazard hunts, and neighborhood and family emergency plans.