

Hello Neighbor!

The Delaware County Sheriff **Block Watch** is a simple program involving neighbors who become the “eyes and ears” of the Sheriff’s Office to help protect one another. Communication is the #1 benefit.

- 1) Communication among neighbors, which helps add a layer of security in the neighborhood; and
- 2) Two-way communication between neighbors and the Delaware County Sheriff’s Office.

WHO IS BLOCK WATCH FOR?

Everyone! The main role of a block watch is for residents *to report anything suspicious*. Who is best qualified to decide what is unusual in your neighborhood? Those who live there! When in doubt, give us a call. We do not mind if it turns out to be nothing – the old adage “better safe than sorry” couldn’t be more appropriate!

DO BLOCK WATCHES WORK?

In the early 1980’s, Detroit, the “motor” city became the “murder” city. Three similar neighborhoods were chosen to conduct an experiment. The 1st program doubled car patrols, the 2nd instituted 24-hour foot patrols, and the 3rd began a neighborhood block watch. The 1st and 2nd groups showed no significant change in crime except for increased arrests in the 2nd. The neighborhood with the Block Watch showed a 52% drop in crime!

WHAT DO WE DO AS A BLOCK WATCH MEMBER?

- 1) Get to know your neighbors. You don’t have to become best friends, but be aware of when they are out of town, have repair workers coming, etc.
- 2) Report any suspicious behavior you observe to the Delaware County Sheriff’s Office: **(740-833-2800)**.
NEVER take matters into your own hands! Please do not approach suspects, criminals, etc.
- 3) Display a small window sticker (“**Sheriff’s Block Watch**”) on your home and/or car window (we provide these). This helps publicize the Block Watch and could serve as a deterrent to criminals.
- 4) Invite the Sheriff’s Office to your neighborhood gatherings! We’re happy to come share safety tips, answer questions, show off our k-9 or mounted units, etc.

