

## What is the Purpose of Neighborhood Block Watch?

- Neighborhood Block Watch is volunteer citizens coming together to communicate with each other and the Lucas County Sheriff's Office to reduce and prevent crime in their neighborhood.

## Why Should I Join?

- When citizens work together, crime goes down.
- You will learn ways to better protect yourself and your property.
- Make your neighborhood a safer place for you and your family to live.

## How does it work?

- Report suspicious persons and activities to the Sheriff's Office.
- Attend regular monthly Block Watch meetings.
- Network information with other members of the Block Watch.
- Know what is happening in your neighborhood.
- Notice habits and activities of neighbors so that if something is out of the ordinary, you can spot it and report it to authorities.

## Goals for Block Watch:

- Help coordinate the efforts of members representing law enforcement, local government, and citizens into a cohesive effective force, dedicated to building safer communities.
- Serve as a catalyst to challenge neighborhood residents to accept their share of the responsibility for the overall quality of the life in their respective neighborhoods.
- Work in partnership with the community to identify and address concerns perceived as affecting the integrity and well being of their neighborhoods.

## How do I get started with Block Watch?

- Organize a group of neighbors who are interested in making their neighborhood safer.
- Develop an agenda for concerns in your community.
- Arrange and attend an informational meeting with your committee and the Lucas County Sheriff's Office.
- Develop a flyer for your residents as to when and where the meeting will be held.
- Invite the District Patrol Officer to your meeting.

Lucas County Sheriff's Office  
Neighborhood Block Watch Coordinator  
Major John Tharp (419) 213-4147



**James A. Telb, PhD**  
Lucas County Sheriff

## LUCAS COUNTY NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK WATCH PROGRAM

The mission of Neighborhood Watch is to form a partnership with neighborhood volunteers to make safer and more wholesome neighborhoods and improve the public safety health of our communities.



Currently there are many thousands of Block Watchers, and the number keeps growing. This is the result of ordinary people doing extraordinary things. Block Watch has empowered citizens with training on crime prevention, how to work with the Lucas County Sheriff's Office, and how to get results from County Services.

Block Watchers are your neighbors. They spend a lot of time in this pursuit; it is a difficult task, occasionally risky, and often thankless. They have stepped forward to be the eyes and ears of the local law enforcement on the streets of our neighborhoods. Sheriff Telb knows law enforcement can never know your neighborhood as well as you do, and he welcomes Block Watcher help and information. At the same time The Sheriff's Office will instruct Block Watchers about safety in their cooperative effort with their law enforcement officers.

Block Watch volunteers are a very real presence in our community, and they bear the very real burdens of their stand against crime and decay in our community. They do it with determination and quiet dignity.



## Benefits of Block Watch

A Block Watch program in your neighborhood, whether it is high crime or not, will have many rewards for you, your family and neighbors.

Block Watch programs are known to instill a greater sense of security and well being in a neighborhood and reduce the fear of crime. As well, they create a greater sense of community and put the "neighbor" back in neighborhood. Block Watch programs also bring law enforcement and the community together as a team to reduce crime.

### Some other benefits of the Block Watch program are:

- **Reducing the risk of being a crime victim.** The risk is reduced because participants are taught how to take preventative measures that substantially decrease the likelihood of becoming a crime victim.
- **Being better prepared to respond to suspicious activity.** Part of the Block Watch program is educating members in how to accurately and promptly report suspicious activity to law enforcement.

- **Greater access to criminal activity information.** Block Watch programs are designed to keep participants informed about crime trends and patterns so they are better prepared to spot criminal activity and stop it in their neighborhood.
- **Posting of block watch signs.** Criminals know that if a neighborhood has Block Watch signs posted, that neighborhood is not an easy target; the residents have taken the necessary steps to deter crime in their area and are on the lookout for crooks. Convicted burglars have reported avoiding neighborhoods that have a Block Watch.
- **Knowing your neighbors.** Block Watch promotes getting to know your neighbors and their regular patterns so you will be able to recognize any activity that is out of the ordinary. This means that when you are away, you can feel secure that your property is being watched over by your neighbors.

### Sheriff James A. Telb believes:

- Involvement is empowerment
- There is strength in numbers
- The squeaky wheel gets the grease

**GET INVOLVED TODAY!!!**