



# Who's watching... Our Neighborhood Watch!

## REOPEN TO NEW MEMBERS! NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

*"Neighborhood Watch is a community crime prevention program that was launched by the National Sheriffs' Association in 1972 to encourage citizens to look out for each other, work on neighborhood problems, and make themselves safer."*

## How does it work?

The purpose of a Neighborhood Watch program is to create an alert neighborhood by using simple crime prevention methods.

The program works through mutual aid—neighbors watching the property of other neighbors. Neighbors tend to be familiar with the people and cars frequenting the neighborhood and can alert other neighbors or

police emergency/non-emergency lines when things don't look right to them.

The Marana Police Department currently utilizes volunteer police officers to help neighborhoods create and maintain a watch group. These officers are able to attend group meetings, provide information, (crime statistics, etc.) and provide training to the group.

### Benefits of a Neighborhood Watch Program

1. Neighborhood watch programs train you on how to observe and report suspicious activity occurring in your neighborhood.
2. Reduces the risk of being a crime victim through instruction on taking preventive measures for your residence.
3. The neighborhood has greater access to criminal activity information through an organized neighborhood watch program.
4. Neighborhood policing by you and your neighbors, together with police, creates a greater sense of security, well-being, and reduction of fear because you know your neighbors will look out for you.
5. Residents have the opportunity to receive on-going training on mutual interest issues and topics.



## What can I do to grow our program?

Neighborhood zones are detailed on the back side of this newsletter. You can help by volunteering to be a Zone Captain, which would require your participation on the Neighborhood Watch committee (must meet at least annually) as well as your leadership to talk to each owner in your zone, ensuring they know about the program, crime prevention methods, and how to actively be a part of the program.



# What are the next steps and how can I become a part of it?

*The community's next steps are to recruit leaders for each zone who will provide communication with owners who are willing to be a part of the program.*

Included within this newsletter mailing is a form to either "opt-in or opt-out" of the neighborhood watch program. "Opting in" means you would like to participate within your zone (shown below) to help watch out for suspicious activity. "Opting out" means you do not want to participate in the watch program. You may also volunteer to be a "Zone Captain" by signing up on the form. We will begin to formalize the program once the "Zone Captain" volunteers are in place.

Zone Captains will be responsible to come to the neighborhood watch committee meetings and to help implement the program in our community. All community members may attend meetings, but communication of pertinent program information will be the Zone Captain's job to share within their zone. Please consider serving as a Zone Captain!

**"Volunteers don't necessarily have the TIME, they just have the HEART"**

-Elizabeth Andrews

Neighborhood watch programs work. A few years ago, our neighbors called Marana Police reporting a suspicious car parked on one of the emergency exits. This call allowed for burglary suspects wanted for break-ins in Continental Ranch to be apprehended by the police. These suspects slipped the police and were hiding in our neighborhood overnight. Please get involved – return your "opt-in" form by **May 31** so we can formalize our program.

## COMPLIANCE CORNER: PARKING

Our public streets are narrow with little room for through traffic when others park on the street. Please be mindful and respectful of other neighbors when considering where you and your guests will park. Please do the following in our community:

- \* Use your garage for parking your vehicles as much as possible.
- \* Excepting guests, refrain from parking on the rocks of your yard when driveways are available.
- \* When street parking, please help your guests select parking spots that allow safe passage of cars & pedestrians on the roadway.
- \* Place utility trailers in your garage or behind fencing (out of site) immediately after use.

