

Neighbourhood Watch

July 2019 Bulletin

The Value of a Bonded Community



What is your relationship like with your neighbours? How has that relationship affected your feelings of safety and well-being?

This is a question I recently posed among my colleagues. We all live on a street where we know our neighbours by name, and who we knew were collectively looking out for one another. Upon reflection, we realized our own gratitude. It dawned on me...."how could I possibly walk down my street and *not* be familiar with my neighbours?"

I've lived in my Mississauga neighbourhood the majority of my life. Every day, I experience first-hand the value my family has gained from years of ongoing interactions with our neighbours. As a child, I recall numerous instances of bike riding until dusk, pool parties, and neighbourhood fireworks where all families got involved. We'd also have competitions of who could build the fastest race car, which of course, was really just a battle of who's parent(s) had the perfect combination of craftsmanship, and physics knowledge.

Years later, I still enjoy a sense of community with neighbours who assist any way they can. Whether its mowing the lawn while my family is away, a chat on a summer evening, or assisting with landscaping, the feeling of safety I have in my neighbourhood is truly unmatched. It is a huge reason why I'm such a proprietor of the Neighbourhood Watch Program. It all starts with a "Hello".



Promote Neighbourhood Safety Through Your Environment

A safe neighbourhood promotes principles of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design - better known as CPTED. Safe City Mississauga always conduct audits for neighbourhoods starting new watches. These are some of the things we look for:

- Clear sight lines from each house - This mean that every resident has a direct view of the street and surrounding area through their window, and no area is left unseen or neglected.
- Well-illuminated streets, walkways, parking lots, mailboxes, bus stops, playgrounds, phone kiosks etc. This maximizes visibility and ensures the safety of pedestrians and bikers.
- Well-trimmed hedges to maintain clear visibility of roads and walkways. Additionally, high trees and branches are kept away from windows, doors, and balconies to prevent opportunities for break-in.
- Well-kept and maintained homes. It is important to clean up graffiti and garbage in a timely manner. A clean space gives others the impression that there is order in the neighbourhood, and homes are cared for.



Peel Regional Police's Online Reporting Tool

You can access this online tool to report incidents

Use this online feature to report non-emergency incidents or property offences. Examples include:



Damage to Property



Theft

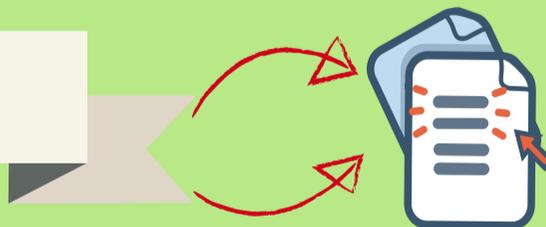


Damage to Vehicle
Theft From a Vehicle



Lost Property

Or, ADD INFORMATION to an existing report!



Check out the Online Reporting Tool here!

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One benefit of a Neighbourhood Watch is that your neighbours may witness things that help solve incidents that have affected you. For example, if you believe someone stole something from your car during the night, another neighbour might happen to have surveillance footage of the incident taking place. In a Neighbourhood Watch, neighbours communicate, and can share information that helps each other!
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Host a Great Block Party and Win an Award!

View our 7-Step Guide to Planning a Block Party here

Contact us! www.safecitymississauga.on.ca | 905-615-4155 x4479