



What is Neighbourhood Watch?

Neighbourhood Watch is simple: keep your eyes open around your neighbourhood and, if you see anything suspicious - people, vehicles or activities - call the Police by dialling 911.

Neighbourhood Watch is neighbours helping neighbours, by watching out for them to discourage and prevent crime from occurring. The “Golden Rule” of Neighbourhood Watch: You watch out for your neighbours and your neighbours watch out for you. Neighbourhood Watch is also neighbours helping the Toronto Police Services, by being their extra “eyes and ears on the street” to report crime and practice crime prevention.

If you see something that is either (a) a crime taking place, or (b) out-of-the-ordinary and suspicious: Call 911.

Neighbourhood Watch is only as active as you are.

| When to call 911 | Less Urgent Calls to Police |
|---|--|
| <p>Call 911 only when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It's urgent and important: a crime may be in progress and police, ambulance or fire assistance is needed right away. • Someone's health or safety is at risk. | <p>If you don't need urgent help but need to call the police to give them information or ask questions, call Toronto Police Services at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 416-808-2222 and ask to be transferred to your local Toronto Police Services Division Office. |

What to do to organize your neighbours into a Neighbourhood Watch Group

To Get Started, it's simple:

1. Reach out to your neighbours:
 - a. drop off or email them a copy of this info sheet to let them know what's involved;
 - b. if you don't already have them, find out their names and phone numbers (if listed) by looking them up using the reverse address listings provided by: <http://www.canada411.ca/search/address.html>
2. Exchange contact information:
 - a. exchange phone numbers and email addresses so you can easily communicate with your group;
 - b. create a group email chain or private Facebook page for your immediate neighbours;

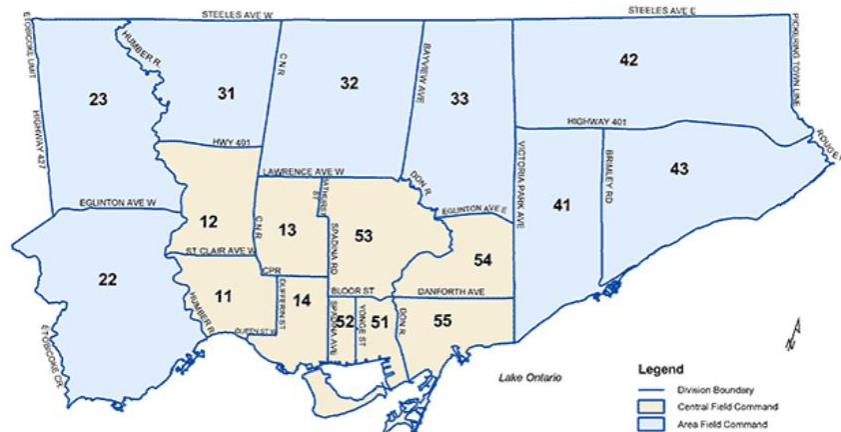
c. create a “map” of the homes around yours by filling in the table below:

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| Neighbour: | Across the Street Neighbour: | Neighbour: |
| Your street | | |
| Next Door Neighbour: | Your house | Next Door Neighbour: |
| Neighbour: | Backyard Neighbour: | Neighbour: |

3. Find out what Toronto Police Services (“TPS”) Division you live in and contact the Crime Prevention Officer(s) in your area:

a. check the [Toronto Police Services Divisions map](#):

Command and Divisional Boundaries



b. when you learn your Division, go to the [TPS map webpage](#) and click on the link for that Division. You will be taken to a page that gives the contact info for the Crime Prevention Officer(s) in your Division.

c. Your Crime Prevention Officer can give you information on:

- i. crime issues in your neighbourhood and how to respond to them;
- ii. who is your neighbourhood's representative on the **Community Police Liaison Committee (CPLC)** in your Division. Your CPLC is a committee with members drawn from various residents', tenants', community and business associations. They meet every few months with Toronto Police Services Officers in your Division to provide feedback on community policing and crime prevention. If your neighbourhood or community association does not yet have a representative, consider getting appointed to be their representative.

Once you are up and running:

1. Get and share information about crime statistics in your neighbourhood.
 - d. Toronto Police Services collects statistics on crime activities across Toronto. Those statistics are available through the webpage and app: [Toronto Police Service Crime App \(Year to Date\)](#);
 - e. Consider subscribing to Toronto Police Services Community Alert Crime Prevention Bulletins:
 - i. first: [sign up](#); and then
 - ii. manage your subscription by subscribing to the bulletin from your TPS Division.
2. Homes are often at risk because of the way the building and its surroundings were designed. That design can be changed to be safer by adding lighting, reducing blind spots or using other architectural tricks to solve security problems. Ask your Crime Prevention Officer about having Toronto Police Services do a **CPTED audit** of your home or business. CPTED is Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design¹ and can offer suggestions as to how to make your home and its immediate surroundings not only be safer but also feel safer.
2. Get and share information about what you can do to prevent crime in your neighbourhood. Please see the resources on our website at [CrimePreventionTO.org](#)
3. If you have one, let your local residents', ratepayers', condo or tenants' association know that you're participating in Neighbourhood Watch. They may be of help to get others in your neighbourhood involved.
4. Let us know about your group and your activities.
 - a. Let us know what you are doing by emailing Info@CrimePreventionTO.org.
 - b. In 2018, we're going to try to map every Neighbourhood Watch Group in Toronto – stay tuned to our website for updates;

¹ For more information on CPTED, visit <http://cptedontario.ca/>

- c. Consider joining our [Neighbourhood Watch Toronto](#) Facebook group.
5. Keep watching out for one another!

Words of Wisdom from Jane Jacobs

from "The Death and Life of Great American Cities", 1961

"...there must be eyes upon the street, eyes belonging to those we might call the natural proprietors of the street."