

Please, If you do nothing else today, read this.



What is Block Watch?

Block Watch is neighbors looking out for neighbors on their street, and agreeing to call the authorities or law enforcement if they see suspicious or criminal activity. This is a volunteer effort, and an important opportunity for us to engage with those closest to us in Roselawn. The Block Watch program fights the isolation and separation that crime creates and feeds upon. It forges bonds among area residents and businesses, helps reduce burglaries and other crime, and improves relations between the police and the community they serve.



Why do we need it?

Stopping crime is the number one priority for our residents. Just about everyone has heard a story of someone in our community being victimized by burglary, robbery, or another form of physical violence. We can shrug our shoulders and say “Roselawn is sure going downhill.” OR we can work together, empower ourselves, and directly influence the level of safety in our neighborhood. Please join us!

Working together, we can

- ✓ Increase our personal safety
- ✓ Increase crime awareness
- ✓ Increase reporting of suspicious activity
- ✓ Increase cohesiveness & community spirit
- ✓ Protect Personal Property
- ✓ Reduce Crime Rates
- ✓ Reduce Fear of Crime

How do we get started?

The Law and Safety Committee of the RCC is ready to help.

To get started, we need one or two people from each street in Roselawn to step up and volunteer to be a street captain or co-captain.

Captains will distribute flyers to street residents and call a get-acquainted meeting. Attending residents will meet in a friendly setting, and learn more about what Blockwatch has to offer.

Safety information will be freely shared: What to look for – and What to do about it. This includes information about

- ✓ Personal Safety,
- ✓ Senior Safety, Child Safety
- ✓ Home Security
- ✓ Automobile Safety
- ✓ How to Spot a Drug House
- ✓ Identify Theft
- ✓ Graffiti and Vandalism
- ✓ Benefits of Marking and engraving
- ✓ Home Inventory Lists



How much time is involved?

Street captains may have a total of up to 2-3 hours per month, depending on the activity on the street.

But the real time commitment is ongoing – for each committed block member to keep their eyes and ears open, report problems promptly to law enforcement and keep their block captain informed.

Block residents can decide for themselves how often to meet. In extreme cases, people may initially want to meet weekly or monthly. The block captain is instrumental in spreading the word to others – and can do this by him/herself or through a network created for the street. This option spreads out the work, so no one is burdened, but everyone can benefit. Options for spreading the word can be something like a phone tree, email group, or knocking on a neighbor’s door.



What is your next step?

- Decide if you can volunteer to be a block captain, or a Block Watch member for your street.
- Pick up the phone and call 821-8918. Identify yourself as a potential captain, co-captain or member. Or, email **roselawnblockwatch@gmail.com** and identify yourself as a participant.
- The RCC will help you with information about setting a start-up meeting at a close location. This could be the home of someone on your street, a meeting room at the Bond Hill Library at Jordan Crossing, a local restaurant like Dukester or Song Long, Roselawn Lutheran or other neighborhood church.
- The RCC will provide start up materials for you to use in establishing your Block Watch and help set up the initial meeting with District 4 Training Officer who will provide overview training.

What Block Watch is NOT

- Block Watch is NOT the same thing as Citizens on Patrol – which is a separate volunteer activity, where residents walk their neighborhood in a group and act as a physical presence. Citizens on Patrol receive highly specialized training from the Police Department.
- It is not a forum for airing small or personal grievances about neighbors.
- It is not a social club, however, neighbors may elect to host social-based gatherings throughout the year to enhance a spirit of community (for example a summer Block Watch street party).



What Streets Need Block Watch Captains and Members?

Beaverton
Blackstone
Bluefield
Brookcrest
Castleton
Colmar
Corvallis
Crest Hill
Dawn
Debonair
Don Rich
Eastlawn
Elmshade
Glen Orchard
Glendon
Greenbriar
Greenland
Lakeland
Larchwood
Losantiville
Kenova
Miramar
New Bedford
Northwood
Parkdale
Pelham Place
Reading Road
Robinwood
Scottwood
Section
Shenandoah
Sparkle
Stillwell
Summit
Sunfield
Sunnybrook
Wynnewood
Yorkshire

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