



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

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What Neighborhood Watch is: A crime prevention program that encourages Neighbors to get to know each other and their routines so that any out of place activities can be observed and recognized for what they are, then reported and investigated if necessary.

What Neighborhood Watch is not A program designed for Participants to undertake personal risks to deter crime.

Key Sheriff's Phone Numbers

Emergency:

911

24-hour Non-Emergency:

(503) 655-8211

Business Number:

(503) 655-8218

Sheriff's Office Website:

www.clackamas.or.us/sheriff

A Safety Tip from your Sheriff's Office:

During the winter months, it gets darker earlier at night and stays dark later in the morning. December 21/22 is the Winter solstice. It has the shortest day time and the longest night of any day of the year. Being we are in the dark a lot during the winter months, we need to be even more aware of burglars and thieves. They are creatures of stealth, preying on the weak and unaware. They do not want to be seen, heard or caught. If they see a house they want to burglarize or steal from, it is easier during this time of year for them to tell if anyone is home. So keep your timers on your lights going, keep a TV or stereo on, use your alarms, get exterior motion lights, lock everything up in the house, garage or shed. Get your neighbors to keep an eye on your place and you watch theirs. It won't be long till the daylight comes back!

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- ✂ Ski & Snowboard Theft Prevention
- ✂ Plan for your Annual Neighborhood Watch Get Together!

The NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS is presented to you quarterly by the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office Citizen Volunteer Auxiliary/Neighborhood Watch Program. To learn more about volunteering for the Sheriff's Office, go to www.volunteerhere.com and look up the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

If you are a current Neighborhood Watch Captain and would like copies for your community, you can go to the Sheriff's Office Website, www.co.clackamas.or.us/sheriff, and print off a copy or you can call the Neighborhood Watch News Info Line at **(503) 722-6750**.

To receive further information or to join the Neighborhood Watch program contact:

Deputy Sheriff Mark Koberstein
Community Safety Action Team
(503) 722-6754
markkob@co.clackamas.or.us

AFTER HOLIDAY HOME AND ID THEFT

Thanksgiving has come and gone, followed immediately by the holiday shopping feeding frenzy. Christmas has just passed and we are all thinking about the New Years resolutions, such as losing all the weight we've just gained! During the shopping season, we've all learned from the media or our own experiences how vulnerable we are to being ripped off, either by theft, burglary or ID theft.

Now is not the time to let your guard down! The bad guys don't do taxes and don't have a real job to go back to. Ripping you off IS their real job and they are looking for ways to get you.

There are some little things you can do to help yourself. When you have lots of boxes to go out to the garbage can, don't leave them just lying about. Those are like billboards to the bad guys for what everyone in that house got for Christmas. The piles of molded foam/plastic packing just add to the bad guys' curiosity. Once they know that you now have some really cool new expensive stuff in your house, they will watch to see if anyone is home. They will watch to see if your neighbors are looking at them. If it's dark and there are no internal or exterior lights, they are in business.

So cut up your cardboard or turn it inside out. Put smaller pieces of cardboard in paper bags for the recycler. Put the white packing stuff in black plastic bags.

Now is also the time to mark all those new possession with your ODL number and record all the brands, models, and serial numbers in a safe place.

If any of this is just way too inconvenient for you, check out what your deductible on your house insurance plan is, cuz you'll need it!

PLAN YOUR ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GET TOGETHER!

It is only a few more months till it starts getting warm again! Now is the time to start planning your spring or summer Neighborhood Watch Annual Get Together. This can be in a neighborhood park, a large back yard or anywhere that folks can get together. Get ahold of Deputy Mark Koberstein to schedule a time to discuss Crime Statistics in your area and talk about the status or your Watch.

SKI & SNOWBOARD THEFT PREVENTION

Hey! That snowboard looks just like mine...

Skis and snowboards are popular targets for thieves, especially at busy hills where people continually drop off and pick up their equipment. Your skis and snowboards become even easier targets when they are left unattended or unlocked while you are warming up in the lodge.

The Clackamas County Sheriff's Office offers the following tips to help prevent the theft of your skis and snowboards:

Mark it

- ? Make sure your equipment is clearly identified with your driver's license number, initials or another mark to help police identify you as the owner

Record it

- ? Record the make, model and serial number of all of your equipment. You will need this information to report to the police if your equipment is missing or stolen.

Lock it

- ? Lock up your equipment whenever possible. Many locations at Mt Hood and other ski areas offer lockable racks at the ski lodges or other facilities .

Leave it

- ? Bring only what you need to the hill. Leave other items at home or locked and out of view in your vehicle.

Report it

- ? Make sure you tell the police about any identifying marks on your skis or snowboard. If your equipment is found, these marks will help police identify you as the owner. Secure your valuables in the lockers or check-in services provided.

If you lose it

- ? If your equipment is lost or stolen, report it to a security officer, ski area manager and the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office as soon as possible. The sooner you report it, the better the chances of finding your equipment



To help prevent ski and snowboard theft, record your equipment's brand name, model and serial number.