

Euclid Police Department
Community Policing Unit

Neighborhood Watch



Purpose and Benefits of Neighborhood Watch

Employs proactive crime prevention

- Increase surveillance
- Improves crime reporting

Strives to improve community safety

- Reduces fear
- Unites community

Creates partnership with EPD

- Gives residents a voice
- Provide communication and transparency

Improves the quality of life



Neighborhood Watch is NOT



- Law enforcement
- Security
- Vigilante

Your safety comes first!

A Commitment

- - - What You Need

Several residents who agree to commit and facilitate the program.
Neighborhood Watch is resident-led



Common interest to promote
safety and crime prevention in the neighborhood.

A list of issues that need to be addresses in your community.
Survey your neighbors



A shared philosophy that
suspicious activity will be reported to the EPD at 216-731-1234.

A means of communicating with residents.



A commitment to **meet on a regular basis**, every other a month, one time a year, etc.

Getting Started

- - - Holding a Meeting

Find a meeting location:

Someone's home or yard,
library, church, school,
restaurant, etc.



Pick a **day and time** to hold the meeting

Create a meeting agenda **listing the issues** to be addressed from your neighborhood survey

Promote the meeting through flyer distribution and word of mouth



At the meeting, put out a sign-in sheet to gather:

names, addresses, phone numbers, and email addresses

Distribute duties among the residents; divide big jobs into smaller ones



Contact the Community Policing Unit to assist with your first meeting

Be Successful

- - -Maintaining your Group

Keep meetings **brief** (one hour or less) and keep them **focused**



Tackle one problem at a time

Divide responsibilities so everyone is involved

Allow some socialization time afterwards

Provide refreshments



Invite a **variety of speakers** from government and other organizations to address a topic

Close off your street in the summer and have a block party



Create a **street map** listing everyone's names and addresses

Send out regular newsletters; or use nextdoor.com

**THE NEXT TEN SLIDES COVER
CALLING THE POLICE**

Calling the Police

Why and When

The battle against crime is one demanding the combined efforts of police and citizens. Because police cannot be all places at all times, the EPD is dependent on citizen cooperation.

Many crimes could be prevented if more citizens would be alert for suspicious activity and take appropriate measures to call police.



If you observe suspicious activity, even though you may not be the only witness, take the initiative and call the police. Do not rely on someone else to act—this may never happen. You could be the only caller, and crimes are often deterred by police questioning the individuals.

Calling the Police

9-1-1 or 731-1234



Dial **9-1-1** for emergencies such as:

- Crimes in progress
- Fire
- Car crash with injuries
- Serious, life threatening medical issues

Dial **216-731-1234** for suspicious activities such as:

- Out of place activities
- Strangers around houses or vehicles
- Screams
- Breaking glass
- Door to door sales without permit
- Persons carrying expensive equipment
- Trespassing
- Odd vehicle parked for a long time

Calling the Police

What to Report

Remember your safety is the first priority. Always protect yourself and **stay safe by keeping your distance from the criminal activity** you are reporting.

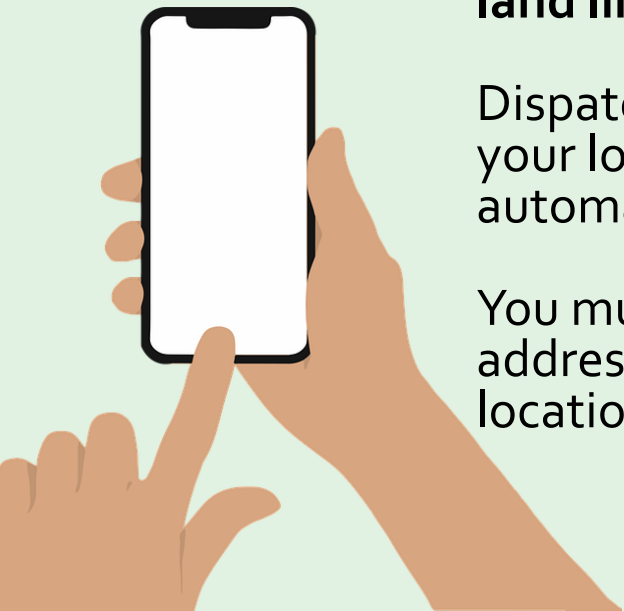
Cell phones are not land lines!

Dispatch **will not have** your location automatically.

You must give an address for your location.

Although you can always remain anonymous be prepared to give

- Your name
- Location address and street
- Nature of reason you are calling
- Your phone number
- Details
- Description of person
- Description of vehicle
- Direction of vehicle travel
- Weapons seen
- Injuries
- Witness information



Chagrin Valley Dispatch

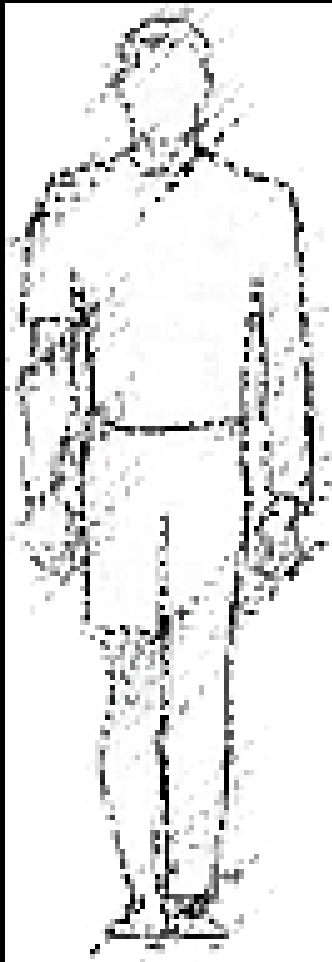
88 Center Road, Bedford OH 44146
440-247-7321

For questions or complaints about how a call was handled by a dispatcher, contact CVD directly.



Calling the Police

Suspect Description



Sex/Age/Race or Ethnicity

Height/Weight/Estimated Age

Hair/Facial Hair

Glasses or Jewelry

Hat/Tie/Scarf

Shirt/Pants/Coat/Shoes

Complexion/Scars/Marks/Tattoos

Did the suspect say something?

Did the suspect have an accent?

Did the suspect brandish a weapon?

Calling the Police

Details of Suspect

Race

White
Black
Asian
Hispanic

Complexion

Light
Medium
Dark
Olive
Pock marks
Freckles
Pimples
Scars

Eyes

Color
Crossed
Bulging
Squinty
Blinking
Afflicted
Glasses

Facial Oddities

Protruding ears
Flat nose
Hook nose
Harelip
Protruding chin
Receding chin

Hair Color

Brown
Black
Blonde
Red
Gray
White

Hairstyle

Long
Medium
Short
Balding
Straight
Curly
Afro

Facial Hair

Full Beard
Goatee
Mustache
Unshaven
Sideburns

Teeth

Missing
Protruding
Decayed
Very white
Stained
Gold
Dentures
Broken



Build

Heavy
Medium
Light

Handedness

Right
Left

Tattoos

Arm
Legs
Where on body
Names
Initials
Words
Phrases
Picture
Design

Speech

Profane
Abusive
Soft/Polite
Apologetic
Accent
Stutter
Deep/Raspy
Effeminate
Lisp

Scars

Moles
Birthmarks
Forehead
Cheek
Nose
Arm
Hand

Appearance

Neat
Dirty
Unusual
Jewelry
Foul odor
Clothing colors
Designs
Logos

Extras

Hat style
Mask
Wig
Gloves
Make-up
Sun glasses
Bag

Calling the Police Vehicle Description



Make
Model
Color
Body Style: 2 or 4 Door
Year
License Plate/Tags
Direction of Travel



Damage/Rust
Loud Muffler
Wheel Covers
Hood Ornament
Window Tint
Bumper Stickers
Number of Occupants

Calling the Police

Weapon Description



<u>Weapon Type</u>	<u>Style</u>	<u>Color</u>
Handgun	Long	Black
Shotgun	Short	Brown
Rifle	Barrel	Silver
Knife		
Blunt Object		
Tools		

If you are unfamiliar with gun types or styles,
giving dispatch the color and size
is still very helpful

Calling the Police Priority Calls

To ensure rapid police response there is a priority call system. EPD officers are **dispatched to high priority calls first.**

Based on content of each call and the heavy volume of calls received dispatchers will prioritize calls.

Suspicion calls are not considered priority, however **officers do respond to every call** for which they are dispatched.



PRIORITY CALLS

Crimes in progress
Crimes of violence
Injured victims
Motor vehicle accidents with injuries
Weapon involved

Giving false information to give high priority to your call could result in charges being filed for this offense.

Reasons People Don't Call

Don't let any of these excuses stop you from reporting suspicious activity.

EXCUSE	REALITY
It's none of my business	You could be the next victim
Someone else will call	Maybe not
The police are busy	That is what police are here for
I'm afraid of retaliation	You can remain anonymous
That noise wasn't anything	Why did it attract your attention
The stranger is friendly	Burglars determine who is home
Maybe that's not a crime	Let the police determine that
I really don't care	Apathy breeds crime
It's the police officer's job	What you see and hear should be reported
Dispatchers are rude	The serious nature of the job requires dispatchers to get to the facts

**THE NEXT FOUR SLIDES COVER
INFORMATION ABOUT EPD**

Euclid Beats

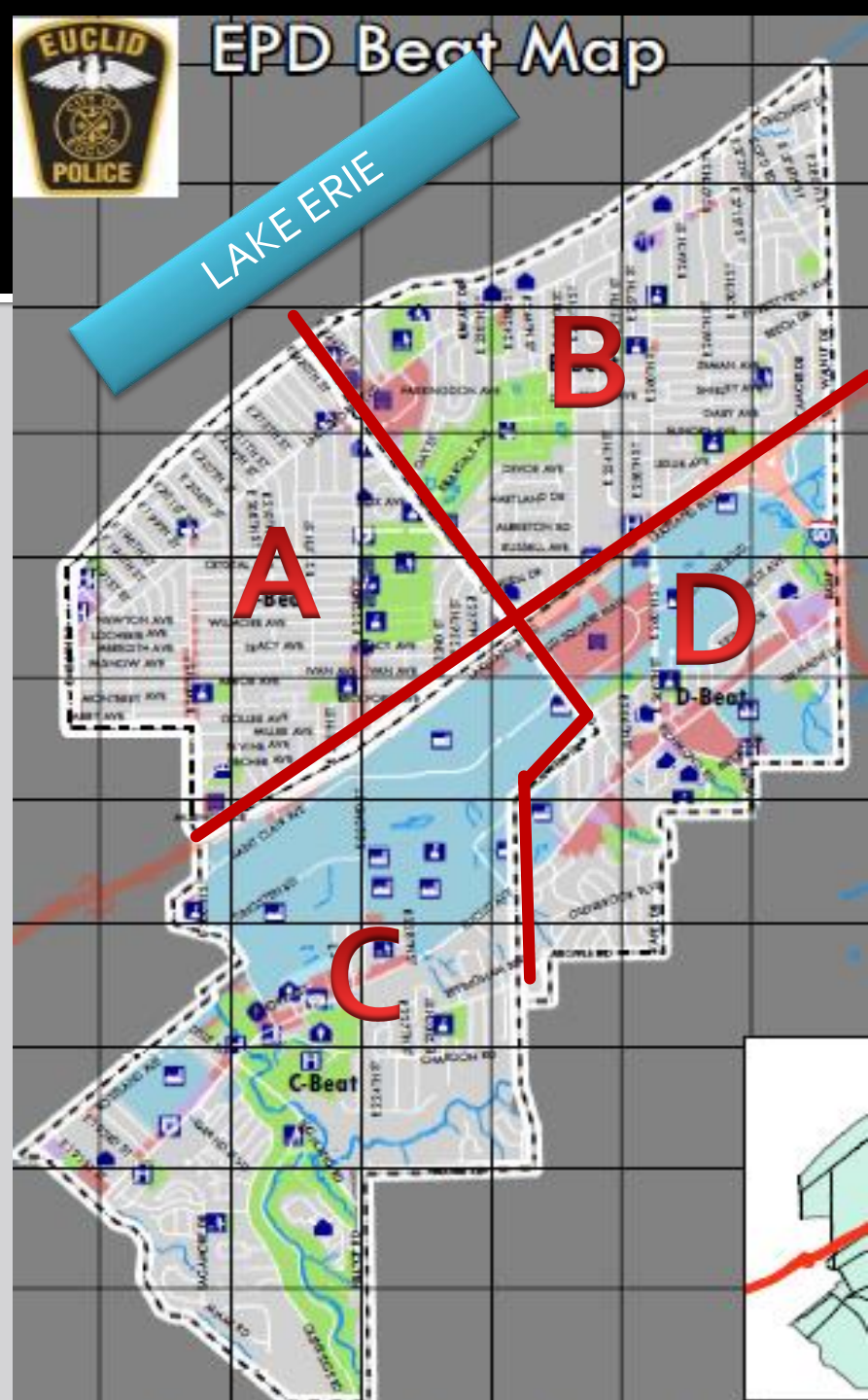
The freeway divides the city north and south.

Babbitt Road-Rockwell-Sherwood Boulevard divides the city east and west.

Normally, two police officers are scheduled to work in each beat on each shift, however adjustments may be made for manpower or special assignments.

Officers will assist in other beats when necessary.

The two shifts are 6 am-6 pm and 6 pm-6 am.



How To Obtain A Police Report

Euclid Police Department reports are public record and can be obtained by emailing the EPD Records Division.

A public record request is a process, reports are not ready for release the same day.

The process can take several business days, so allow yourself time if you need several reports.

Sometimes the Law Department must give approval before dissemination which extends the processing time.

It is helpful to give the following information to request a report:

1. The date of the incident
2. The location of the incident
3. The nature of the incident
4. Name(s) of people involved

**Contact the Record Room at
289-8474**

EPDRECORDS@CITYOFFEUCLID.COM



EPD Phone Numbers

You can contact departments directly rather than calling 216-731-1234.

Department	Number
Community Policing	216-289-8449
Record Division	216-289-8474
Traffic Unit	216-289-8445
Detective Bureau	216-289-8505
Juvenile Unit	216-289-8519
Narcotics & Vice	216-289-8512
Animal Control	216-289-2057
Warrants	216-289-8460

Important Numbers

Not all problems require police response.

Sometimes a direct call to the department or person who can address the issue is most effective to get results.

ISSUE	DEPARTMENT	PHONE
Dilapidated, vacant houses	Housing Dept.	216-289-8184
Streets, sewers street lights, sidewalks	Public Service	216-289-2701
Animal problems	Animal Control	216-289-2057
Parking, traffic problems	EPD Traffic	216-289-8445
Fire concerns	Fire Dept.	216-731-1212
Neighbor Trouble	Cleveland Mediation	216-629-1919
	Euclid Prosecutor	216-289-2760
Senior citizen in need	Senior & Adult Services	216-420-6700

**THE NEXT FIVE SLIDES COVER
INFORMATION ABOUT
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH
COORDINATION**

Responsibilities of the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Work with your existing association if it is active and be the liaison between your group and EPD. Invite neighbors to **join your effort to keep your street a great place to live.**

Keep the residents of your street informed by sharing information:

- Design and deliver a newsletter.

- Read the EPD Weekly Crime Blotter and share crime prevention tips.

- Use Nextdoor.com, or set-up a phone calling list, or email.

Organize meetings:

- Pick location, dates and times; create agendas.

- Invite guest speakers to meetings.

- Keep to the agenda, don't let the meeting become a gripe session.



Find a Way for Communication

- - - Social Media

One example is Nextdoor.com. This social media site is for neighbors to communicate with each other. Euclid already has several neighborhoods using this as an effective method.

Although you can choose any social network site, Nextdoor allows the EPD to post crime prevention information to Euclid residents.



When neighbors start talking, good things happen.
Nextdoor makes it easy to communicate with your neighbors about the issues that matter most in your community.



Share recommendations about local services (e.g. babysitters, plumbers, dentists)



Organize neighborhood events (e.g. HOA, neighborhood watch, National Night Out)



Report suspicious activities, help prevent crime, and receive updates from local police



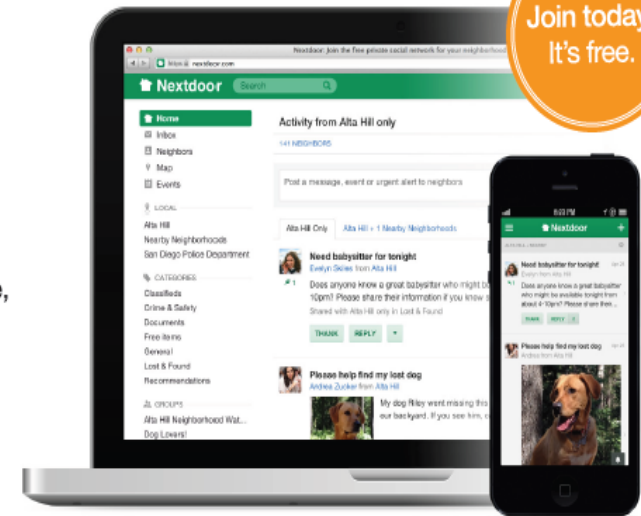
Connect with parents, pet owners, and other groups in your neighborhood



Get to know your fellow neighbors so you can finally call them by name

Join your Nextdoor neighborhood at:
nextdoor.com

Join today!
It's free.



Featured in

The New York Times

USA TODAY

Los Angeles Times

CNN

WALL STREET JOURNAL

parenting

WIRED

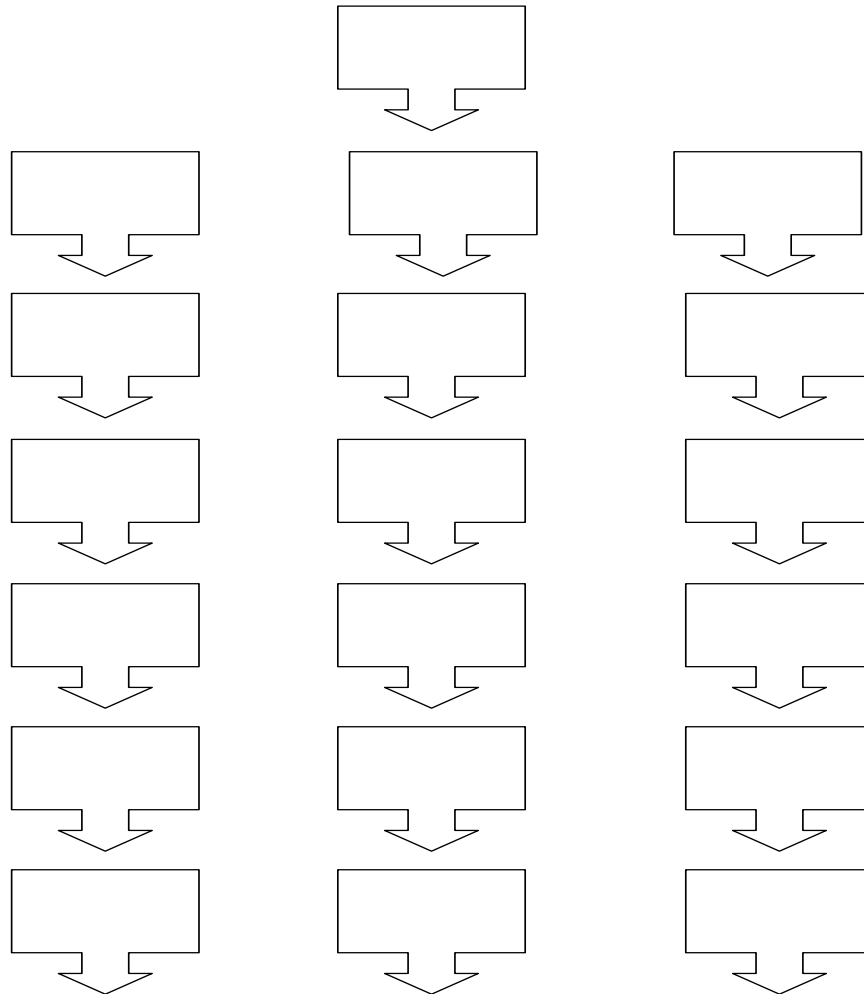
Find a Way for Communication

- - - Phone Tree, Email, & Flyers

A phone tree may be considered old fashion, but some people do not utilize computers, so you may want to think about how they will receive information.

Sending out emails from the list created at your meetings can also be effective, if that is how your group decides to communicate.

Delivering flyers door to door will reach everyone and is a task several neighbors can share.



Choose Creative Meeting Topics & Speakers

Fire Prevention

Senior Services

First Aid

Domestic Violence

Vehicle Safety/Traffic

Crime Prevention

Home Security

Scams

Child & Family Services

Sex Offenders SORN Unit

Council Person

Housing Inspector

Economic Dev. Director

Service Dept. Director

Animal Control

Mediation Professional

Library Representative

School Board Representative

Police Officer

Cuyahoga County SCAM Squad

From your neighborhood survey or initial meeting, you can determine agenda topics for future meetings and then contact appropriate speakers to address those concerns.

Find a Place to Meet

Decide how often your group should meet (i.e., every other month, four times per year, once a year, etc.)

If using your own home or back yard is not the best solution to hold a neighborhood watch meeting, **call and schedule** at one of the following:

Euclid Public Library, call 216-261-5300 for **FREE** room reservations

Public schools, call the Board of Education 216-261-2900 for **FREE** rooms

Churches, call the church office

Restaurants, call the manager

Memorial Park or any public park during warm weather

Some successful neighborhood groups use backyards of different neighbors throughout the warm months, bringing refreshments for socialization afterwards.

**THE LAST ELEVEN SLIDES
PROVIDE RESOURCES FOR
EVERYONE**

Street Map Template

When calling the police, it is helpful to know the addresses of the neighbors around you. Use a street map template to identify your property and write down addresses next to you, across from you, and behind your house.

The form is enclosed in a light blue border and contains the following elements:

- Three horizontal dashed lines at the top, representing the street layout.
- A row of ten empty rectangular boxes for recording addresses.
- A central horizontal box containing the text "Street Name:".
- A second row of ten empty rectangular boxes for recording addresses.
- Three horizontal dashed lines at the bottom, representing the street layout.

Utilize Strong Neighborhood Strategies

1. Talk to your neighbors
2. Turn porch lights on at dusk
3. Daily or nightly strolls with neighbors; group walks
4. Sit on front porches or stoops to visit
5. Regular newsletter offering crime prevention tips or highlighting Euclid ordinances; utilize Nextdoor.com
6. Obtain a permit for a street party
7. Hold regular meetings
8. Ask seniors or home caregivers to be window watchers
9. Encourage neighbors to beautify their yards and homes
10. Clean-up vacant properties
11. Celebrate accomplishments
12. Youth led projects with neighborhood children
13. Neighborhood events: pot luck, BBQ, front yard picnics

Our neighbor is making our lives miserable!

Utilize proactive solutions before involving law enforcement

Certain behaviors and actions by our neighbors can be annoying, but often are not criminal.

Sometimes new neighbors or renters are not aware of Euclid's ordinances.

Contacting the police as a first choice may only escalate problems.

Consider some of the proactive alternatives before calling the police department.

Talk to your neighbors

They may be unaware what they are doing is effecting you
Leave anger at home and have pleasant conversation

Contact your association or the landlord

Neighborhood associations can send a friendly newsletter with information about neighborhood expectations and city ordinances, or discuss using SARA to help
Landlord can inform tenants

Contact housing department 216-289-8184 for landlord information

Contact mediation if you feel you cannot talk with your neighbor

Call 216-629-1919 to speak with Cleveland mediation

Mediation also through Euclid Prosecutor's officer at 216-289-2760.

Annoyance, Intolerance & Nuisance

The yapping dog, car stereo in the driveway, or kids hanging out on the front lawn can be annoying but not against the law.

These are the times residents have to think about intolerance and apply logic to the situation. We may not like some things we see or hear, but does it require police intervention to deal with the problem?

Police can't solve neighborhood problems, but working together we can try to reduce or eliminate the problems.

Drug deals, long term noise disturbances, juveniles breaking the law and other criminal infractions are considered nuisance activities.

If several incidents of criminal activity are verified by a Euclid Officer, then the property where this activity occurs will be reviewed for nuisance abatement.

Home owners of declared nuisance properties will be fined for each police verified nuisance activity.

Community Problem Solving: SARA

- Scanning
- Analysis
- Response
- Assessment

The problem-solving process developed through Community Policing is widely practiced by law enforcement and other government agencies and can be used by community members as well.

In this process a “problem” is defined as two or more incidents which are similar in nature, that cause harm or have the potential to cause harm. Similarities among incidents include: person, location, behavior and time.

Scanning

Determine problems through:

A personal experience with location, activity or behavior that has come to the police or the community's attention.

Communication with residents, businesses or other public or private agencies.

Analysis

Researching the problem to:

Learn everything possible about those affected by the problem (stakeholders), and the incidents and actions already taken to deal with the problem. Analysis should be as **thorough, creative and innovative** as possible.

To assist the problem solvers, questions regarding the problem should revolve around: location, suspect/offenders and victims/complainants.

Response

Based on careful analysis, develop a goal which can be reached using your custom-made response. Solutions can be designed to:

- Eliminate the problem

- Reduce the problem

- Reduce the harm created by the problem

- Better deal with the problem

Assessment

Evaluate effectiveness.

Assessment allows the problem solvers to determine what effect the response had on the problem. If the response had little or no effect, more analysis can be done, so that a more appropriate response can be applied. If the response had an impact on reducing or eliminating the problem, celebrate your success!

If you're ready to make the commitment, please contact
Community Policing at 216-289-8449

**Thank you for starting
Neighborhood Watch!**
