**NWACA Neighborhood Watch Information**

 To start a Watch on your street, send email to info@nwaca.org

**Key Players**

* NWACA Crime and Safety Committee
* Neighborhood Watch Block Captains – each captain watches over a block of homes (block = street, portion of a street, more than one street, as appropriate)
* Neighbors – residents on a street within a Neighborhood Watch block
* Austin Police Department (APD) – Region 1, Baker sector covers NWACA
	+ Baker Sector District Representative: Officer Darrell Grayson, 512-974-5242, darrell.grayson@austintexas.gov
	+ Baker Sector Commander: Andrew Michael, **512-974-5340**

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**General Approach**

* Neighbors notify NWACA of an interest in setting up a Neighborhood Watch
	+ email to info@nwaca.org or
	+ complete the Neighborhood Watch request form online at [www.nwaca.org](http://www.nwaca.org)
* NWACA Crime and Safety Committee
	+ Solicits block captains and other interested leaders
	+ Trains Block Captains in groups, providing them a set of materials for their role
	+ Assists with training for a block gathering of neighbors
	+ Provides a Neighborhood Watch sign for each block which has completed its training, as well as assistance with putting up the sign
	+ Maintains a collection of references and resources on the NWACA web site
	+ Attends quarterly APD Commander Forums for both areas in NWACA
	+ Communicates regularly with Block Captains
* Block Captain
	+ Attends training for block captains
	+ Creates a list of their block neighbors
	+ Calls a meeting of the neighbors, at which NWACA Crime and Safety Committee provides training, along with a set of materials for each neighbor
	+ Continuously monitors the block and passes information to neighbors, police, other block captains, Crime and Safety Committee, and surrounding neighborhoods as appropriate
	+ Attends “Coffee with a Cop” sessions in the NWACA area
* Each neighbor (perhaps with help of the Block Captain)
	+ Conducts a safety check of their home, using the provided checklist
	+ Does their Five – getting to know the 5 nearby neighbors
	+ Continuously monitors the block and reports any issues to the block captain and others

**Some Useful References on Neighborhood Watch**

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| NWACA Web Site info on Neighborhood Watch | * [www.nwaca.org](http://www.nwaca.org)
* Use the Resources tab on the home page; go to Library, then select Neighborhood Watch from the menu at the right side of the page
* Resources include: Block Captain Guidebook, Neighbor Guidebook, and many supporting files
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| Web sites and online resources about Neighborhood Watch  | * Neighborhood Watch – Austin Police Department – general advice (check with neighborhood association or APD District Rep)
	+ <http://www.austintexas.gov/faq/how-do-i-start-neighborhood-watch>
* National Night Out – Austin – description and registration information for doing a NNO event for your neighborhood; enables you to get City personnel – firemen, police, EMS, Code Compliance – as well as packets of information
	+ <http://austintexas.gov/nno>
* National Night Out – national site – has materials for sale, runs annual contest for those who register their event, newsletter, membership available $35/yr. [very slow web site]
	+ <https://natw.org/>
* National Neighborhood Watch Institute – has brochures about organizing a neighborhood watch, signs and posters, and other materials for sale; very little information available online – focus is on materials for sale
	+ [www.nnwi.org](http://www.nnwi.org)
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| Resources online | * Austin Police Department Neighborhood Watch Manual – 25 page collection of advice, including materials from several sources outside of Austin
	+ <http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/police/downloads/neighborhoodwatchmanual.pdf>
* Next Door – Private social network for a given neighborhood; used for building community and for reporting and hearing about neighborhood issues such as crimes; often used by City of Austin departments to put out announcements
	+ <https://nextdoor.com/>
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| Crime Information websites | * Krimelabb – viewer for data and statistics about crimes in Austin; uses APD database of crime reports
	+ <http://krimelabb.com/>
* Spotcrime –information about specific crimes, to get email alerts about crimes
	+ <http://spotcrime.com/tx/austin>
* APD site for alerts on crime and for reporting crime activities – Citizen Observer
	+ <https://www.citizenobserver.com/people/sign_up>
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| Property owner information | * Travis Central Appraisal District database (TCAD) – information about who owns the property at a given address, history of changes of ownership, and tax details; can search by owner name, street, specific address.
	+ <http://propaccess.traviscad.org/clientdb/?cid=1>
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