**NWACA Neighborhood Watch Information**

To start a Watch on your street, send email to [info@nwaca.org](mailto:nwacainfo@gmail.com)

**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**

|  |
| --- |
|  |

**General Approach**

* Neighbors notify NWACA of an interest in setting up a Neighborhood Watch
  + email to [info@nwaca.org](mailto:nwacainfo@gmail.com) 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**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 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 |
| 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) |
| 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/> |
| 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> |
| 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> |