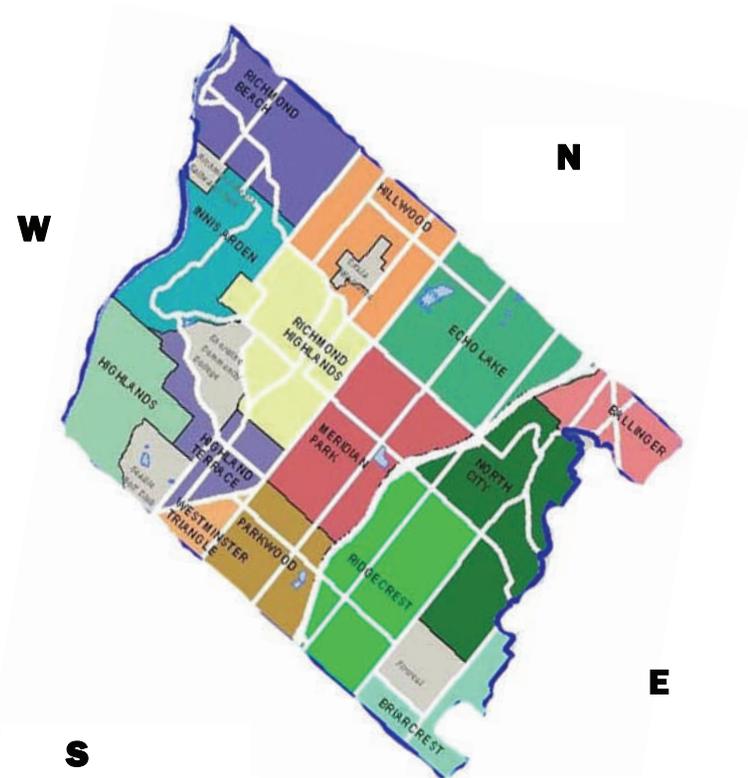


**SHORELINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**BLOCK WATCH  
PROGRAM**



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WEST POLICE NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER  
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# WHAT IS A BLOCK WATCH?

A *Block Watch* meeting is the single most important feature that will help you reduce crime in your neighborhood. A *Block Watch* is formed by a group of neighbors who are interested in mutual protection against burglary and other neighborhood crime. These neighbors agree to watch out for one another's homes and report unusual incidents to the police.



Since 1974, many residents have been actively and successfully working to reduce burglary in their neighborhoods. The many hundreds of *Neighborhood Block Watch Groups* have worked together to prevent the increasing crimes of burglary, auto theft and prowls and vandalism.

A Shoreline Community Police Officer will speak at your meeting about how to better secure your homes and property. Neighbors will be encouraged to inventory and engrave their property. Engravers can be checked out at either of the Police Neighborhood Centers. Once 60% of participants have completed an inventory of their property, stickers showing the operation ID emblem will be provided and these can be placed in windows. In addition, Block Watch signs can be purchased at cost. These signs will alert everyone to the fact that "*This is a Block Watch Protected Neighborhood*".

## PREPARATION BEFORE A BLOCK WATCH MEETING



- ◆ **First, decide if you will host the *Block Watch* meeting in your home or ask a neighbor to host the meeting. The meeting should include neighbors living on both sides of the street.**
- ◆ **Contact your Shoreline Community Police Officer to schedule a meeting- typically in the evening- Monday through Thursday, that is convenient for you and the Community Police Officer. Usual starting time for a meeting is between 6 and 7 PM. The meetings last approximately one and a half hours.**
- ◆ **Invitations to the meeting should be delivered 5 to 7 days prior to the meeting. At the time the invitations are delivered, record a list of names, addresses and phone numbers of all neighbors.**
- ◆ **On the day before the *Block Watch* meeting, call and remind neighbors of the meeting.**