



YOUR Community, YOUR Neighbors
OUR RESPONSIBILITY
get involved today

Columbia Neighborhood Watch Neighborhood

July 2022

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A SUMMER WELCOME

FROM YOUR

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH BOARD

Hoping Your Summer is Off to a Great Start

Remember to:

Stay Hydrated

Lock Your Homes

Remove Items & Lock Your Vehicles

Report Suspicious Activity to 311

Have Fun and

Enjoy Your Summer Activities

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A special thanks to our members who serve as Captains and Co-Captains.

It is your dedication that makes Columbia Neighborhood Watch work.



Protect Your Car Protect Your Stuff Don't Be a Victim

Columbia has seen a tremendous increase in reported thefts from and motor vehicle thefts this past year. Columbia Police reminds everyone to lock up all of your valuables at night including your car. Try to park in well lit areas and preferably in your driveway if possible. Do not leave any items of value in plain view as this will increase the desire of those willing to cause damage to the vehicle to get inside.

CPD asks that if you have any home security footage of persons checking your car doors, please contact 311 to help them identify, investigate and prosecute these criminal acts.

Stolen firearms from motor vehicles has become and is continuing to be a major problem throughout our entire country and specifically in Columbia Missouri. Crime is usually the intended outcome from guns that are stolen.

After all, they're stolen by criminals; meaning that your gun could be used to hurt an innocent person.. Think about that next time you want to leave your gun in your car.

In fact, everything you can do to make a criminal's job harder, the better off you'll be. **Many studies have shown that the harder a target is, the easier it is for the criminal to walk away and look for an easier target.**

This means never leaving a firearm in either a locked or unlocked car. Every single thing you can do to make their lives harder, the better off you'll be in the long run because you won't be one of those statistics. Anything is better than leaving your gun in an unsecured car. Even if you think you live in a safe neighborhood, nothing is guaranteed.

You can't know who is coming through your town, looking for cars to burglarize. It's always better to be safe than sorry.

Crime Stoppers provides a way for the public to anonymously provide law enforcement agencies with information on crimes or suspects. Tipsters can give information without revealing their identity and may be eligible for a financial reward for the information they provide. For Columbia and Boone County call: (573) 875-8977.

Package theft is at an all time high. It is reported that about 30% of their customers have reported that their packages were stolen. To prevent this UPS and FedEx have programs that allow you to re-route packages to your office or another site for pickup. You can even have packages delivered to nearby stores. Another alternative is to have the package delivered to a trusted neighbor who is usually home.

Package theft prevention

Luckily, there are ways of keeping packages safe from theft. Including:

UPS:

UPS My Choice[®] and UPS Access Point[®] programs.

<https://www.ups.com/us/en/services/knowledge-center/article.page?name=how-to-keep-packages-safe-from-porch-pirates&kid=art16a45bd35dd>

FedEx:

FedEx Delivery Manager services help make sure your packages don't go missing.: <https://www.fedex.com/en-us/delivery-manager.html>

How to prevent stolen or missing packages:

<https://www.fedex.com/en-us/delivery-manager/how-to-prevent-stolen-missing->

Community Policing & Neighborhood Watch

Police and citizens often come into contact with each other for reasons other than criminal investigation. In addition to enforcing criminal law, police officers often engage in community service. Community service may include providing information and/or assistance to people in need, as well as offering youth education and coordinating community outreach efforts.

Columbia Neighborhood Watch serves as the liaison between the Police Department and the communities of Columbia. As a member you are an integral component of the Department's crime prevention and public safety mission.

Fund Raiser



Fund Raising Campaign

Help us build a stronger Columbia!

Giving through CoMoGives allows you to help strengthen our community. The 2022 campaign will run November 29th — December 31st. We will join 151 other central Missouri nonprofits in this annual year-end funding drive. We are asking for your help in meeting our drive goals and possibly win a \$1500 additional grant.

Put the dates on your calendar and watch for more information in our fall newsletter.

100% of all donations are used for the advancement of Neighborhood Watch in Columbia. We are an all volunteer Board, without staff, and no one receives any compensation for their time and work.

Columbia Neighborhood Watch is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that is funded solely by donations and grants from the community.

Nextdoor

Nextdoor permits communities to easily create private websites to help with communication amongst next-door neighbors and build more powerful neighborhoods. Nextdoor was created based on the idea that your community is among the most important and helpful communities in a person's life. Nextdoor's objective is to utilize technology to help neighbors construct more powerful and much safer neighborhoods.

The City of Columbia has initiated this program for its citizens. You may connect on the web at: <https://nextdoor.com/city/columbia-mo/>

Or download the app to your smart phone.

Facebook: Columbia Neighborhood Watch

internet: www.columbianeighborhoodwatch.org



Did you know that you can shop on Amazon and they will donate to Columbia Neighborhood Watch and it won't cost you anything at all?

1. Visit smile.amazon.com. (same site and products as Amazon)
2. Sign in with your Amazon username & password and Choose Your Charity - [Columbia Neighborhood Watch](#)
3. **Begin shopping!**

Once you've selected your charity everything else functions the same as with Amazon. Shop for your favorite products or the perfect gift. Most products are eligible on Amazon Smile—if not, you'll be notified. You can checkout normally as well. **No extra cost is passed onto you**—Amazon will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Columbia Neighborhood Watch!

Check out charities at www.give.org or www.charitynavigator.org before giving any money. Make donations directly to the organizations you know .



Citizen Corps and National Neighborhood Watch: Harnessing the Power of Every Individual

Building a resilient community involves multiple sectors and engagement from each corner of the community. As active members seeking to keep our neighborhoods safe and prepared, we know how instrumental volunteers can be. A great resource working with National Neighborhood Watch to strengthen volunteerism and community resilience is Citizen Corps.

Mission

The mission of Citizen Corps is to harness the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues, and disasters of all kinds through:

- Preparing the public for local risks with targeted outreach
- Engaging voluntary organizations to help augment resources for public safety, preparedness, and response capabilities

Integrating the whole community and integrates nontraditional resources to ensure disaster preparedness

The Citizen Corps program includes a national network of over 1,200 state, local, and tribal Citizen Corps Councils bring together local government, business, and community leaders who work to prepare their communities for disaster and to make them more resilient. Councils harnesses the power of every individual through education, training, and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to respond to the hazards and threats facing their community.

Citizen Corps asks you to embrace the personal responsibility to be prepared; to get training in first aid and emergency skills; and to volunteer to support local emergency responders, disaster relief, and community safety.

History of Citizen Corps

Following the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001, state and local government officials increased opportunities for citizens to become an integral part of protecting the homeland and supporting the local first responders.

In January 2002, the President of the United States launched Citizen Corps, to capture the spirit of service that emerged throughout our communities following the terrorist attacks.

Citizen Corps programs build on the successful efforts that are in place in many communities around the country to prevent crime and respond to emergencies. Programs that started through local innovation are the foundation for Citizen Corps and this national approach to citizen participation in community safety.

Citizen Corps is coordinated nationally by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency. In this capacity, FEMA works closely with other federal entities, state and local governments, first responders and emergency managers, the volunteer community, and the Corporation for National & Community Service.

Key Data Points

- There are more than 1,200 county, local, or tribal Citizen Corps Councils and 56 state or territory Councils.
- Councils support education and training in multiple locations with 72 percent delivering materials or training and demonstrations in neighborhoods, 71 percent in schools, 63 percent in workplaces and 53 percent in places of worship.
- Citizen Corps has six partners:

[Community Emergency Response Teams \(CERT\)](#)

[Fire Corps](#)

[National Neighborhood Watch](#)

[Medical Reserve Corps](#)

[Volunteers in Police Service](#)

[Corporation for National and Community Service \(CNCS\)](#)

Captain/Co-Captain Outreach

by

Dr. A.L. (Al) Barrier

Columbia Neighborhood Watch programs are designed to protect our citizens from theft and other crimes in their neighborhoods. We work with the Columbia Police Department, as additional eyes, and ears, to thwart criminal activity and increase public safety. We are always in need of more trained citizens in our neighborhoods.

We are very fortunate, and have been for many years, to have a system of Captains and Co-Captains in each section of our neighborhoods. These integral leaders form the basis from which the objectives of Neighborhood Watch can be achieved. These folks have been well trained, have passed tests to verify their understanding of the concepts of neighborhood protection, and are willing to interface and coordinate with their neighbors to help the entire neighborhood become better protected against crime.

When we look at crime statistics in each area, it is amazing to note that when Columbia Neighborhood Watch is active through their Captains and Co-Captains, encouraging their surrounding neighbors to utilize the concepts of Neighborhood Watch, crime rates drop 80 to 90% in that neighborhood.

Without our Captains and Co-Captains, the concept of Neighborhood Watch could not exist. Now that our Covid epidemic is much better, Columbia Neighborhood Watch is becoming active again in a very important way. We are instituting a series of four (4) Captain and Co-Captain meetings per year to share insights, and experiences, and to receive updates from the Columbia Police Department and Columbia Neighborhood Watch.

Because of the Covid epidemic many of our Captains and Co-Captains have lost contact with us and we are looking forward to re-establishing a vibrant system of Captains and Co-Captains. We want to thank all our Captains and Co-Captains, and we hope that they will assist us to recruit even more.

Finally, we hope that Columbia City Council members, city management, and staff will strongly support us in our efforts to grow and strengthen our Columbia Neighborhood Watch communities and truly prove that "Columbia is the best place for everyone to live, work, learn and play"!
