## What is Community Watch?

A program involving the joint efforts of the police department and the community, designed to enhance neighborhood security, **heighten the community's power of observation**, and to encourage mutual assistance and concern among neighbors.

### Goals of Community Watch

The main objective of Community Watch is to reduce the incidence of crime by:

- Increasing citizen's awareness of burglary and other neighborhood crimes.
- Training citizens in the means of better property security and assist them in making their property more secure. (Security Surveys, Operation Identification, and Speakers Bureau)
- Developing a community action program (**Community Watch**) where neighbors help watch each other's property and report suspicious persons and activities to police
- Encouraging all citizens to cooperate with law enforcement agencies in reporting crime

### Benefits of Community Watch

- Contacts
- Communications
- Awareness

# What is the Role of the Police Department in Community Watch?

The Police Department will assist in getting your Community Watch group started, will attend meetings when invited and will provide criminal statistics for your neighborhood. We also sent out police "alerts" through the block captains to be distributed to the neighborhoods in the event there is a crime or other information that we feel needs to be relayed to citizens. Most neighborhoods already have an informal system in place.

#### CHAPEL HILL POLICE DEPARTMENT

**Community Services Unit** 

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