What are the benefits of a Neighborhood Watch Group?

- Potentially decrease crime in the area
- Signage designating Neighborhood Watch Area
- Increase immediate reporting of crime or suspicious activity
- Train residents to be observant and how to properly report what they see
- Bring the community together in a combined effort to positively affect their community

Over the last five years the Crime Prevention Unit helped establish 31 Neighborhood Watch Groups, making the Village one of the most active NWG municipalities in the county. Groups range in size from a few houses in a cul-de-sac to multiple houses across a few blocks.

The Crime Prevention Unit heads the program and schedules an initial meeting with neighbors interested in participating. Neighbors share information such as emails, phone numbers, and landscaper and pool servicer information. This information is placed in a spreadsheet and shared with the members of the group to help neighbors be more vigilant of each other’s houses. The Unit is led by Sergeants Michael Gorsline and Edison Cruz.

A block party hosted by the Village is held when a new group forms. Participating streets are blocked off and the Village contributes hamburgers, hotdogs, tables, chairs and canopies for the kick-off event. Neighbors are encouraged to participate by bringing drinks, desserts or their favorite side dishes. Past block parties have included bounce houses, spit-roasted pork and children’s games.