



National Night Out (Tuesday – August 3rd, 2004)

National Night Out (NNO) is an annual event, sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, which takes place on the first Tuesday in August. The National Night Out campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, US territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. National Night Out is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Events, to be held at **2741 Hale Court**, from **6-9pm**, will include:

- Volleyball and Sack Races
- Door prizes
- Coloring contest (ages 4-12)
- Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, and Sodas (Pot Luck Sides and Desserts are requested)

Please RSVP NLT 31 July and let us know what dish you plan to bring (reduces the chance of too many Scrapple Casseroles!) to contact: **Janet Allen (240-412-4579)**.



Neighborhood Watch Program

Neighborhood watch is one of the most effective ways to prevent crime, attend to home and personal security, address the safety of our children and the elderly and reduce fear and isolation. Civic involvement, collaborative problem solving and mutual commitment have helped cities and neighborhoods reduce crime by significant numbers. Today, neighborhood watch is the nation's largest single organized crime prevention project.

BENEFITS OF NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH:

- Deters criminal activity;
- Creates a greater sense of security and reduces fear of crime;
- Builds bonds with neighbors; people look out for one another; stimulates neighborhood awareness;
- Reduces the risk of becoming a crime victim; reduces the physical, financial and psychological costs of crime;
- Instructs residents on how to observe and report suspicious activities in your community; and
- Addresses quality of life issues and mutual interests in your community.

The Charles County Sheriff's Office recently issued two separate, and unrelated, warnings about the rise of residential burglaries in the Waldorf area. Already in July, eight known incidents have occurred in the Billingsley Road and Bensville Road area, with crimes occurring between 10am and 3pm on weekdays. Four of these crimes occurred on July 16th alone! They also issued a warning to residents of Hampshire, Dorchester, and *Lancaster* neighborhoods. **Eighteen** incidents have been reported since the end of May. Weekdays between 9am and 3pm are the favorite times for these criminals.

To find more about starting a Neighborhood Watch program, please attend the National Night Out activities on Aug 3rd. Additional information can be obtained from **Angela Wilkins (2736 Hale Court)**.

For more information on community activities reported by the Charles County Sheriff's Department, visit their web site at: <http://ccso.us/vcrimesb.htm>.

HOPE TO SEE YOU ON THE THIRD!