



City of Portland

Establishing Park Watch

Park Watch is a program designed to increase the feeling of safety and community in Portland Parks by involving individuals and their families in united crime prevention efforts through community organizing. When communities are able to take the time to build and maintain livable and cohesive social space and neighborhoods, those areas can become less vulnerable to crime. Park Watch is often formed when residents and park patrons notice chronic problems and/or an increase in crime and suspicious activities in their park and/or neighborhood. However, it is beneficial to organize as a proactive measure.

The primary purposes of a Park Watch are:

- To reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- To prompt effective reporting of crime and livability issues.
- To promote positive communication and relationships between community members and other public safety agencies.
- To increase positive and safe community activities in Parks.

Who can participate in Park Watch?

Park Watch refers to organizing community members, park patrons, and households, multi-family and single family, that have direct view of any city park. Park Watch may also include frequent park users who live outside of the park and or businesses who are affected by activities at a nearby park. Park Watch works in coordination with the City of Portland Parks & Recreation and Park Rangers.

Park Watch can be beneficial for parents, children, business owners, park staff, and surrounding community groups who may be affected by frequent and ongoing activities in Portland Parks.

NOTE: If you are unsure if Park Watch fits your community needs or for general information about Neighborhood, Business, and/or Park Watch, contact your Crime Prevention team online at portlandoregon.gov/civic/cp or call the main Crime Prevention line at 503.823.4064. Please read "Establishing Your Business Watch" and "Establishing Your Neighborhood Watch" available on Civic Life's handouts page: portlandoregon.gov/civic/cpadvice for more information.

Organizing your Park Watch

STEP 1: Connect with neighbors, park patrons, and frequent users of the park to determine if there is a community want/need to organize and connect (minimum of 5 participants required to establish a watch group).

STEP 2: Connect with your assigned Crime Prevention team at portlandoregon.gov/civic/cp or call the main line at 503.823.4064.

STEP 3: Communicate with potential watch group members to determine date and time options to attend/host a Park Watch training.

STEP 4: Provide potential watch group training dates and times to your Crime Prevention Coordinator and schedule a Park Watch training.

STEP 5: Determine your watch training location:

- Outdoors at a Portland Park (Crime Prevention Coordinators can assist in reserving the location to waive the fee).
- Community member residence or community centers.

STEP 6: Send out neighborhood invitations (social media, mail, email etc.).

STEP 7: Confirm attendance with your Crime Prevention Coordinator 48 hours before the training. (Cancellations and rescheduling can be arranged if needed.)

STEP 8: Attend the training provided by your Crime Prevention Coordinator.

STEP 9: Distribute your "Block Map" to the watch group. Block maps and member information is not to be shared with anyone outside of the organized watch group.

STEP 10: Stay active by meeting and updating your watch group information, minimum of once a year.

START A PARK WATCH:

Contact North Team: www.portlandoregon.gov/civic/70451

Contact Central Team: www.portlandoregon.gov/civic/70447

Contact East Team: www.portlandoregon.gov/civic/75622

Call the main Crime Prevention line: 503.823.4064

Park Watch Trainings

Park Watches begin with an initial meeting at which your Crime Prevention Coordinator provides the needed materials to get started. Watch members are provided a training agenda and supplemental materials. Once the training is complete the Watch Organizer(s) are responsible for continuing the active involvement of the group. If at any time post-training you are in need of additional help or trainings you can contact your Crime Prevention team for further assistance.



OFFICE OF
Community
& Civic Life

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portlandoregon.gov/civic

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Письменный или устный перевод
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City of Portland

Park Watch Training Agenda

Park Watch Training Goal

Our goal today is to equip and train the Park Watch Group with skills to organize and support community partnerships with Portland Parks and Recreation, Park Rangers, Portland Police, Crime Prevention Coordinators, and other City partners to prevent crime, the fear of crime, and increase community resiliency in emergency situations.

Welcome/Intros: Why are you here? What do you hope to learn?

Park Watch: Mission & goals

Office of Community & Civic Life: Crime Prevention & what we do

Crime Prevention Coordinators: Who they are & what they do

Fill out & collect Questionnaires

Park Rangers: Who they are & what they do

- What to do if you see a crime in a park
- Park Ranger partners & resources
- When to call Park Rangers, Police, or report online

Calling and reporting: Criminal & non-criminal

- Quick Resources Guide (Magnet)
- Bureau of Emergency Communications (BOEC)
 - Identify & report suspicious activity
 - Call-takers, call priority & dispatching
 - 7 Ws & CYMBOLS of reporting
- 9-1-1: When to call/text & how
- Non-Emergency: When to call & how
- Online Reporting: Crimes, livability & PDX Reporter
- Commendations & complaints

Questions/Break

Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED)

Vehicle Prowl/Theft Prevention: Do's & don't parking at the park

Bike Theft Prevention: Bike index & Project 529

Emergency Preparedness: Resources (Fire & BEECN)

Closing: Follow-ups & staying connected (call-tree)

Trainings will help build understanding and goals of your community watch group, as well as, what Crime Prevention does and their role in assisting Park Watch and the

Get a chance to meet and learn about your Park Rangers. Park Rangers serve as a key partnership in a successful Park Watch.

Subjects covered in trainings may go outside of the listed agenda items depending on the needs of every individual Watch group. During your training you will be provided with a supplemental resource training packet to follow along.

Watch Organizer duties include: Inviting and organizing block trainings/meetings, creating and distributing block maps, updating block maps (annually or quarterly recommended), and maintaining communications with the Crime Prevention Program.

Reporting Toolkit

Is it an immediate or life-threatening emergency?

YES

NO

Dial 911 - Be prepared to provide information (i.e. location, suspect details, involved persons). Do not hang up until instructed to do so.

Are you calling to report a crime or suspicious activity?

Does the incident involve any of the following:

- Known suspect(s)
- Domestic violence
- Firearms
- RX Medication
- Stolen vehicles
- Vehicular accidents
- Hit and runs
- Require police presence

YES

NO

NO

YES

Report online:
portlandoregon.gov/police/cor/

Call Portland Non-Emergency
at (503) 823-3333.

Are you reporting livability issues and violations (e.g. campsites, sidewalk hazards, potholes, illegal/abandoned

YES

NO

Go to pdxreporter.org and file a report (you will need a portlandoregon.gov account to login).

Are you reporting a non-emergency park-related problem, park user conflicts, code violations, or need to contact a Ranger?

YES

NO

Call the Park Rangers at 503-823-1637. Open 5 days a week 9am-5pm or report a park problem (24/7) via email at: rangercallcenter@portlandoregon.gov

Are you in need of reporting a Park Maintenance problem?

YES

NO

For park maintenance problems, call 503-823-1600.

Connect with your Crime Prevention Team (North, Central, East) for targeted trainings and resources at: www.portlandoregon.gov/civic/cp



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