**Neighborhood Watch Informational Meeting 2021**

What Neighborhood Watch Is:

* Neighbors having an active role in neighborhood safety and accountability
* Building new relationships and bonds with neighbors and Urbana Police Officers
* Call in suspicious behavior-someone trying door handles, going into backyards
* Crime prevention-lock cars and homes, motion lights, etc
* Learning what is normal and not normal for neighborhood-vehicles, people
* Working with neighbors and other city services for neighborhood improvements

What Neighborhood Watch Isn’t:

* Not a vigilante group, does not do “patrols”

UPD involvement:

* Officer assigned to each group that will check in with NW captain/leader quarterly
* NW group is responsible for coordinating communication and meetings between members. Officers are available to make presentations or answer questions when asked by group

How to start:

* Form a small planning committee of neighbors to discuss physical area of group (how many blocks/neighborhood) and choose a captain
* Contact UPD with information on group location and captain
* Plan a meeting and invite UPD officer-publicize meeting for neighborhood
* At meeting discuss neighborhood issues and establish communication line for neighbors

Tips for Success:

* Hold regular meetings or social events
* Stay in communication via email/social media group/etc
* Involve all neighbors
* Sponsor area clean-ups, encourage neighbors to beautify the area

