

**Redford Township Police**  
**Neighborhood Watch: Communications**

**January 2012**

Happy New Year Neighbors!!!

As we begin 2012, I'd like to take a look back at our year in the Watch program. In January of 2011, the Watch program consisted of about 5 groups, a small dedicated group of citizens in Building a Better Redford, and a vision of a better, safer Redford. It was understood, that a community starts with the people, and it is our responsibility to make our neighborhoods what we want them to be. With the assistance of unending energy and ideas of the Jefferson Neighborhood Association leaders, the guidance of community policing veterans like Sgt. Gregg, and the full support of Chief Gillman and Supervisor Kobylarz, we have put together a program that's working! Starting with that first informational meeting at the Redford Library in February and ending with Kick Off meetings into the second week of December, Redford's Neighborhood Watch is now 93 Watch groups strong, and still growing!! We have added monthly newsletters, an interactive members-only website, interaction with Team Policing officers at meetings, multiple speakers and presentations for meetings, and even a successful Neighborhood Watch Picnic! As you have read in each monthly newsletter, the Watch members have assisted with multiple successful arrests of everything from petty thieves, to burglars, to drug dealers! We've begun to meet and talk to people that we've lived next to for years, and hopefully, made a few new friends. Let's build on the successes of 2011 and make the goal of 2012 to double our membership!

And now, onto business... As you take a look at your crime stats, you will notice that we are having a rash of vehicle tire thefts. If you drive a Ford Fusion, Ford Edge, or Chevy Impala, please pay special attention to this information. The above listed vehicles are the most popular targets of thieves at the moment. The most common M.O. (modus operandi) of these bad guys is to push your vehicle several blocks away, jack the car up, borrow your neighbor's landscaping blocks, and make off with your tires. These guys are fast. There are NASCAR pit crews that could use their assistance. What can you do to help protect your vehicle? Park in your garage if possible. If you don't have a garage, opt for your driveway instead of the street, preferably with another vehicle parked behind the target car. LOTS of lights, especially motion lights. Remember: bad guys hate the attention that those lights popping on bring. Protection devices including a club, locking lugnuts, car alarm, and even a driveway alarm, can help deter criminals. Keep an eye out in the early morning hours, as these guys like to "go to work" between 4 am and 5:30 am. Pay attention to slow moving vehicles, especially vans, with multiple occupants cruising your streets at night. Call police when you see the suspicious vehicle, not 20 minutes later when you have convinced yourself that it's ok to call. We need your assistance in putting an end to these criminals' "enterprise!"

Watch group meetings have begun for the new year, and captains are getting creative with their topics. At your request, we now have an Identity Theft presentation, a Burglary Prevention presentation, and

the Redford Township Building Department is headed out to a meeting to discuss Township Ordinances.  
Keep those ideas coming!!

Jennifer Mansfield

Police Officer

K-9 Unit, Police Explorers, Neighborhood Watch

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