



KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS

It's important to all of us to keep our neighborhoods clean, safe and friendly. One of the easiest ways of achieving this goal is to get out and meet your neighbors. Many people create lifelong friendships by simply acquainting themselves with the people next door. You, too, could help keep your neighborhood a friendly and safe place.

There are many benefits of knowing your neighbors such as:

1. Make new friends
2. Help each other out
3. Create a safer community

Ideas to help you get started:

1. Join your neighborhood or homeowners association. If one doesn't exist, help create one.
2. Take walks in your neighborhood! Not only is it good exercise you are certain to meet a few people along the way.
3. When you see your neighbors outside, don't hesitate to walk over and have a casual conversation— just a few minutes of dialogue can begin a new relationship.
4. Welcome new residents to the neighborhood.
5. If one does not already exist, start a Neighborhood Crime Watch. If one already exists, consider volunteering for patrols.
6. Offer to share yard work or lawn equipment with neighbors. You could take turns mowing each other's lawns.
7. Help a charitable organization as a neighborhood team. Sign up to serve the homeless, or gather donations (clothes, blankets, food etc.) for your favorite charity.
8. Pull together your neighbors and participate in the Volunteer Assistance Program. To learn more about the program or to apply please contact Community Services at 972-744-4180.
9. Meet once a month for dinner (or dessert). Pick one night a month (like the 1st Monday) and rotate the host home. If 12 homes participate, you only have to host once a year. You might also consider meeting at a large restaurant or ice cream parlor.
10. Host a neighborhood party – It can be something as simple as a BBQ or it can be as big and creative as a block party.

Remember, it doesn't take much to meet your neighbors but the effort could enrich your life while helping to strengthen your neighborhood. Engaging with other residents in your neighborhood will help create a more friendly and safe environment for all to enjoy.