



*Citizens working
together to improve
communities*

Happy Spring!



Alpha Block Watch News

BLOCK WATCH UPDATES

In recent weeks, there have been a couple of breakins into our neighbors' homes.

A few items were stolen and some recovered. Which is more disturbing: missing some items, or feeling violated when you know an intruder has been in your private dwelling?

City-wide, breakins are occurring more during daytime hours. If you happen to be home during the day, please be extra vigilant in keeping an eye out for any suspicious activity. Thanks to watchful neighbors, one breakin was cut short when reported to police, who responded quickly.

What is "suspicious activity"? It might be when you see cars circling the block that are not familiar to you; it might be someone who keeps walking in the area and tends to look at the same house over and over; it might be kids who are dressed for school but not IN school during school hours. When something is out of place, we have to pay attention.

What you can do

Whenever you see something suspicious - anything - call the police at 574-7111. You do not have to give your name or phone number, just tell the police dispatcher what you see (someone looking into cars; someone sleeping on a porch; drug activity; etc.) Be sure to provide good details (color of clothing, type of clothing, hat, jacket, car description, tag numbers, etc.).

Of course, if there is an emergency - violent crime in progress or someone's life is in danger, call 911.

Please be good neighbors. If you want someone to keep an eye out on your car and your house, be willing to do the same for them.

Thanks for your help!

MEET YOUR INSPECTOR

We would like to take the opportunity to welcome James Galligan as our new IPL inspector. James will be in the area checking for property maintenance issues. He has worked with IPL in other areas of west Louisville and will be an asset to our efforts to continue to make progress in keeping our neighborhood clean.

We are glad to have James keeping an eye on property maintenance issues for us; he is very responsive to area concerns. He was instrumental in helping to get the dangerous house at 311 N. 40th demolished recently; thank goodness that eyesore is gone!

These are all things that make a neighborhood look bad, and when things look bad, crime tends to creep in. That's why a good relationship with IPL is so important, because their inspectors are allies with us and LMPD in keeping our neighborhood clean AND safe.

If you see any property maintenance issues that need to be addressed, **call 311** and you can report it - anonymously, of course.

Reminder - Due to budget issues, our junk pickups have been cut to only two per year. The next junk pickup will be **March 30-April 1**. Properties seen with junk left out prior to March 29 or after the junk is picked up in early April will be immediately reported to the city and are subject to citations and/or fines. Please help keep the curbs & alleys clean!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

Some people think that the noise ordinance is only for nighttime noise.

Not true.

Metro Ordinance 99 defines what is considered unacceptable noise levels. Some things, like tornado sirens, sanitation trucks and construction are exempted. However, car horns, motorcycles or cars with defective or modified mufflers, music from cars, TVs, stereos, etc. can all create noise that violates the ordinance, which means if it can be heard more than 50 feet from its source, ANY time of day, you could be cited.

Fines for first time offenders can range from \$100-\$250; if you are cited a second time within two years, the fine increases to \$250-\$500, and a third offense can cost you \$1,000.

There are families with young children and babies here, and folks who work third shift. They need their sleep! Please keep the noise down in this area and make sure your guests do the same. If there are noise violations, day or night, police **WILL** be called. Thanks for your cooperation!

KEEPING YOUR CAR SAFE

It's not that cold lately, but don't take any chances by leaving your motor running, or you might find yourself without a car. Not just here at home, but at the store, too! Please don't leave keys in the ignition, and especially not with the motor running unattended. Likewise, do not leave valuables in your car where they can be plainly seen - take them with you or lock them in your trunk. Common sense goes a long way toward keeping your car and belongings safe!

HOW SAFE IS YOUR HOUSE?

How are you keeping your house safe from intruders?

Some things you can do are to make sure you have GOOD deadbolt locks - if you have questions about what a good lock is, you can call 574-2478 and ask to speak to the District Resource Officer.

Thieves do not want to be seen or heard, so if you're concerned about burglaries, install lighting at a safe height. Use motion detectors. You could have an alarm system installed. Consider getting a dog - barking dogs are good alarms!

BRIGHTSIDE CLEANUP APR. 14

This spring, Brightside Cleanup will be scheduled to coincide with the Give a Day, Mayor's Week of Service. Our neighborhood will participate in a cleanup on Saturday, April 14 beginning at 9 a.m. Wayne and I have faithfully done each cleanup - usually by ourselves - for the past four years except this past October due to a funeral, and we welcome more helpers. T-shirts, gloves and trash bags provided. We should be done around 9:30 or 10 a.m. if we have 4-5 people helping. Call 772-0277 to volunteer. Coffee provided!

COMMUNITY POLICING TIPS

Every month the LMPD 2nd Division will host training sessions for the community to provide tips to keep from being a victim. The first training was last Saturday, February 25th at 10:30am at the 2nd Police Division substation, 3419 Bohne Avenue. This is an ongoing series; please contact the Division office for future dates. Please contact Officer Randall Moore for more information and if you are able to attend. His phone is (502) 574-2478.

Coming up:

- 1.) Break-In's (Prevention)
- 2.) Taking Ownership in your Neighborhood
- 3.) Making your home less of a Target
- 4.) Making yourself less of a Target
- 5.) How to be a better witness

Take this opportunity to learn some safety tips from those who patrol our streets every day. They can help us if we help them!

Sick of the litter??? Next time you see someone throw litter from a car, call 311. Get a good description of the vehicle & tag numbers. Let's stop folks from emptying out their cars on our streets & sidewalks, & make sure your guests use consideration in our neighborhood, too. Thanks!!!