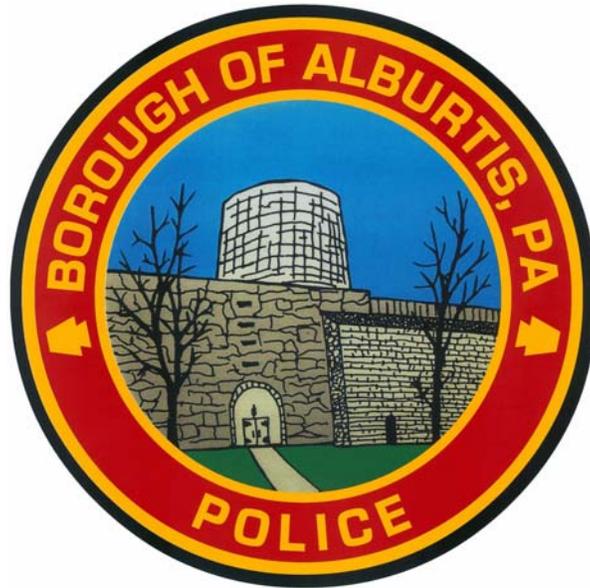


# **ALBURTIS BOROUGH TOWN WATCH**



**Alburdis Police Department**  
**260 Franklin Street**  
**PO Box 435**  
**Alburdis, PA 18011-0435**  
**(610)966-4778 Headquarters**  
**(610)965-5517 FAX**

**Robert Palmer**  
**Chief of Police**

# **What Is A Town Watch?**

## **Neighbors looking out for each other!**

The program is designed to create a network between neighbors, concerned citizens and the Alburdis Police Department regarding crime and issues that affect our quality of life. Residents and concerned citizens become the eyes and ears of the police department by becoming more aware and alert to the activity in your neighborhood and around your property and reporting the activity to police.

As residents go about their daily routines, we have the opportunity to observe things around our neighborhood. Some of these observations such as, suspicious persons, dangerous situations, and suspicious vehicles are a few examples of what we see. These types of incidents can have the potential for criminal activity. By taking an active role in crime prevention we can make it difficult for criminals to operate in our community.

The Town Watch program is one of the most effective means available for keeping crime out of our neighborhoods. It relies on the best crime fighting tool ever invented — a good neighbor. Fortunately, good neighbors are found throughout the Borough of Alburdis.

When neighbors work together with law enforcement, it creates the best crime fighting team around. Be a good neighbor and make your community safer from criminals by supporting the Town Watch program. Remember, the battle against crime will not be won by people acting on their own.

Town Watch is only a beginning. It can be the basis for an ongoing dialogue and cooperative relationship between the officers of the Alburdis Police Department and the residents we proudly serve.

## **Why Town Watch?**

Sense of security. Peace of mind. No police department can effectively protect life and property without the support of the Citizens we proudly serve. Criminals will check the area and strike when the opportunity is ideal for them. Let's make it difficult for any potential crime to occur.

You and your neighbors are the ones who really know what is going on in your community. By cooperating with each other and the Alburdis Police Department, people can help fight crime in their community in the most effective way — before it begins! We will educate you through crime prevention meetings and materials to keep your families safe.

## How Do I Start A Town Watch Program?

***You have already started the process! Now we have to keep the program going and growing.***

### ***Talk to your neighbors.***

- ◆ Explain to your neighbors that you want the program to succeed and ask for their active participation.
- ◆ Canvas your neighborhood for interested residents.
- ◆ Briefly explain the value of the Town Watch program.
- ◆ Participate in Town Watch meetings.

### ***Be sure to mention that:***

- ◆ Town Watch does not require frequent meetings.
- ◆ It does not ask that anyone take any personal risks to prevent crime.
- ◆ Neighborhood Watch leaves the responsibility for apprehending criminals where it belongs — with the **ALBURTIS POLICE DEPARTMENT**.

## Watch Program

- ◆ Be alert to unusual or suspicious behavior in your neighborhood. Call the police if warranted. Write down descriptions of the person(s) and license numbers of any vehicles involved. (See sample forms)
- ◆ Tell a trusted neighbor if your house will be unoccupied for an extended period. Tell him or her how to reach you in an emergency.
- ◆ Look after your neighbors' homes when they are away, and ask them to look after yours. This includes picking up mail or newspapers and putting back the garbage cans or recycling bins. Don't leave signals that say "no one is home."
- ◆ Attend Town Watch meetings. The Alburdis Police Department's Community Police Officer will teach you about local crime trends and what you can do about them.
- ◆ Above all, get involved. It is the most effective way to reduce or prevent crime and make your neighborhood safe.
- ◆ Remember, your job is to report crime. The responsibility for apprehending criminals belongs to the police.

**\*Town watch programs DO NOT give implied consent or grant any kind of police powers.\***

## **Program Activities**

The key to keeping a Town Watch group active is maintaining interest over time. By getting everyone involved you will create a feeling of pride and the atmosphere of a small town. Town Watch can easily be adapted to meet your needs — wherever you live.

Active apartment or multi-family dwelling groups can make changes by working closely with their landlords or building managers. They can work together to improve lighting and security of individual units as well as communal areas and develop new policies or practices to improve building or property security.

Make belonging to your Town Watch group fun. Remember, people will most likely become involved and remain interested if the programs are fun as well as meaningful. Use your imagination. Schedule events of interest, organize clean-up campaigns or hold block parties.

# What Can I Learn From A Town Watch Program?

Members learn how to make their families safe and homes more secure through crime prevention materials provided by different agencies in and around our community. These materials are distributed by the Alburty Police Department and made available to members of the Town Watch.

Some of the topics will include;

- ✓ Home Security
  - Security surveys
  - Effective door and window locks
  - Adequate exterior lighting
  - Security habits
  - Landscaping
- ✓ Apartment & Multi-Unit Dwelling Security
  - Security devices and practices
  - Door and window locks
  - Laundry and terrace area security
  - Visitors, deliveries, service and salespersons
- ✓ Crime Awareness
  - Personal safety tips and the prevention of;
    - Robbery
    - Assaults
    - Rape
    - Dating violence
  - Bicycle and auto theft prevention
  - Gangs
  - Child abuse (recognition and prevention)
  - Alcohol and drug abuse
  - School safety
  - Senior safety
  - Id theft
  - Internet security
  - Fraud

## IF A CRIME OCCURS — REPORT IT!

Sound easy? Unfortunately, only about half of all crimes are ever reported. Eyewitness information is the key to solving many crimes. Learn what information should be provided to police officers when a crime has occurred.

Don't hesitate! Follow this rule:

*If you see something suspicious, call law enforcement— fast —so they can act — fast. The longer you wait, the harder it is to catch the criminal.*

***Once You Have Reported The Crime, Stick With It.***

- ◆ **It pays to prosecute. The majority of criminals who are arrested for property crimes are convicted.**

This is a guide for many of the things a Neighborhood Watch is about. Be involved, encourage your neighbors to participate and most importantly BE ALIVE.

The Alburdis Police Department is committed to protecting the residents we serve. Never put your life or others around you in danger. We don't have many residents but we want to keep the ones we have and we want to keep them safe.

## ALBURDIS POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

EMERGENCY	911
NON-EMERGENCY	610-437-5252
ADMINISTRATION	610-966-4778

### WEBSITES

[www.alburdis.org](http://www.alburdis.org)  
[www.alburdispd.org](http://www.alburdispd.org)

CHIEF ROBERT PALMER  
[police@alburdis.org](mailto:police@alburdis.org)

OFFICER CHRISTOPHER LUBENETSKI  
[CLubenetski@alburdispd.org](mailto:CLubenetski@alburdispd.org)