



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**CHATHAM TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE LAUNCHES
NEW NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM**

- *Seeks to Increase Community Participation and Awareness of Township-wide Crime Prevention Efforts*
- *Committee to Host Public Meeting on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 to Educate Residents on The New Program*

CHATHAM TOWNSHIP, NJ – May 29, 2015 – [The Chatham Township Committee](#) today announced the launch a new community-wide Neighborhood Watch Program aimed at educating residents on how they can help prevent crime while implementing home and personal security strategies. The Committee announced that the Chatham Township Police Department will host a public meeting to introduce the program on Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at 7:30 PM at the Chatham Township Municipal Building at 58 Meyersville Road. Residents who are unable to attend can view a replay of the meeting on the Township website, www.chathamtownship-nj.gov, or contact Officer Michael Bloom at 973-377-0100 to learn more.

In addition, the Chatham Township Police Department will install Neighborhood Watch signs throughout the community to increase awareness and visibility of the program.

Speaking on behalf of the Chatham Township Committee, [Mayor Kevin Sullivan](#) said, “Chatham Township prides itself on being a safe and secure town, and was recently recognized as the 14th safest town in the country. However, we are not immune to crime. This nation-wide program has been proven to deter crime and FBI research has shown that there is 43% less crime in areas that

have Neighborhood Watch programs. I encourage residents who have an interest in learning more about the Neighborhood Watch program to attend our public meeting. By working together as a community we can make a difference. I also remind our residents to take the necessary precautions in properly securing their home by following three simple steps, 'Hide it, Set it, and Lock it!' and to always keep a watchful eye in your neighborhoods.”

[Chatham Township Chief of Police Steven Hennelly](#) said, “The launch of this Neighborhood Watch Program is a great opportunity to further advance our community policing efforts with Township residents who remain the eyes and ears of law enforcement. This Program with help to foster a stronger partnership between the Police Department and the community as we work to educate and involve residents in crime awareness and crime prevention skills.”

Neighborhood Watch

National Neighborhood Watch was created by the National Sheriffs' Association, in conjunction with several well-known federal agencies, to advance this cause by encouraging the initiation and/or revitalization of Neighborhood Watch programs throughout the country. One of the oldest and best known crime prevention concepts in history, Neighborhood Watch was created to unite law enforcement agencies, private organizations, and individual citizens in a massive effort to reduce residential crime.

Resident Home Security Tips

Burglaries are typically quick strikes. Burglars enter and quickly grab any valuables lying around and exit. Residents are encouraged to contact the Chatham Township Police Department at 973-377-0100 if they have questions about the security of their homes and are reminded to follow these basic crime prevention tips:

1. Secure your valuables before you leave.
2. Relocate your jewelry from your master bedroom.
3. Make sure all your doors and windows are securely locked.

4. Leave an outside light on.
5. Purchase light timers for your home.
6. Set your alarm if you have one.
7. Call the police in advance to inform them that you will be away.
8. If you see something, say something.

The Chatham Township Committee consists of Mayor Sullivan, Deputy Mayor Curt Ritter, Robert Gallop, Mike Kelly and Karen Swartz. The Chatham Township Committee typically meets the second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7:30 PM at the Township Municipal Building located at 58 Meyersville Road. Committee meetings are also broadcast live on Comcast channel 29 and FiOS channel 26. Individuals can view meeting agendas with hyperlinks to draft ordinances and resolutions under discussion, as well as videos of prior meetings [here](#).

Editor's Note:

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About Chatham Township

Chatham Township is located in Morris County New Jersey. It has approximately 11,000 residents and nearly 4,000 households. Learn more at chathamtownship-nj.gov

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