

Neighborhood Watch

We discussed the NPBD neighborhood watch meeting, some recent burglaries, sex offenders and cameras.

NPBD Neighborhood Watch Meeting Notes from 11/2

75% of property crime from unlocked homes or vehicles

96% of crime in Newport is property crime

In 2017 to date:

Theft up 5.4% (722)

Vehicle burglary up 5% (604)

Residential burglary up 2.5% (163)

Auto theft down 10.8% (116)

Dover Shores Area Commander Lieutenant Joe Cartwright

Area 2 crime down 21%

Must bolt safes down - burglars are stealing entire safes

Fire safes are tempting to steal - burglar doesn't know that it doesn't contain valuables

Most residential burglaries occur between 10AM - 3PM.

13% of residential burglaries cleared (solved)

Presentation on cameras:

Burglars prefer to avoid houses with cameras

Consider locking your breaker box to avoid power shutoff

Popular models (unmonitored) : Nest, Ring, Netgear

Burglaries

So far as I can tell there have been at least 3 burglaries in our neighborhood over the last week on Polaris, Antigua and Santiago. Michele Ayres attended the meeting and described the burglary at her house. Thieves broke in a 2nd story window and started ransacking their master bedroom but ran off when her husband came home and heard them. This is a familiar pattern described at length by Andi Querry at the NPBD. Thieves smash windows, often on upper stories to avoid setting off alarms

and focus on the master bedroom looking for jewelry. She recommends installing a motion sensor in your master bedroom and enabling it every time you leave the house. That's what we do. We close the bedroom door to keep our dog from setting off the alarm.

Sex Offenders

NBPD has a link on their web site to the state [Megan's law web site](#) that provides a map of where all sex offenders live in your area. There are none currently in Dover Shores but several in nearby Costa Mesa and a few on the east side of the bay.

Cameras

We discussed using motion sensitive cameras on the outside of your house to discourage thieves before they break in. We have Ring cameras on the front and back that alert us by cell phone if there is any activity. I showed off some images from the high resolution camera that I installed on my garage to monitor Galaxy. This records 24/7.

Run Hide Fight Review

In light of the recent shootings we went over [Run, Hide, Fight](#) again, FEMA's recommendation on how to best protect yourself during a shooting incident. The instructions are still basically the same with an additional reminder to make sure your hands are empty and visible when law enforcement arrives. The original, somewhat lurid, video made by Houston is [here](#).

CERT

We discussed some lessons from Puerto Rico, solar lighting and our budget.

Lessons from Hurricane Maria

The lessons from Puerto Rico are basically familiar to anyone who has gone through the CERT training:

- You need your own water - 1 gallon/person/day for several days
- You need several days of food
- Gasoline will be hard to obtain
- Cell phone and electricity will be disrupted for an extended period
- Cash is king - no ATMs will be available.

What might be new and depressing is how long it takes to recover. FEMA has a regularly updated chart on the Puerto Rico response [here](#). As of 11/6, 45 days after the event, only 41% of PR has electricity. 83% has potable water and 92% has cell phone service. This could be us after a major earthquake. How would you deal with 7 weeks without electricity?

The attached presentation includes a chart showing the impact of going without electricity including some you might not have considered such as mental health issues. Studies show a 5-15% increase in mental health problems after a disaster.

Solar Lanterns

Even if you have your own generator gasoline may be difficult to obtain. Solar lighting provides an alternative that you can use indefinitely. The attached notes show several models that cover a range of capabilities. All include some form of mobile phone charging.

2018 Budget

We budgeted \$2000 in 2017 and are likely to spend about \$1300 for the year. We plan to keep the budget the same for next year. For this year, we decided to go ahead and purchase a wheel-chair/stretcher device to help us evacuate people who can't walk, particularly if we need to navigate stairs. We have some hand stretchers already that are basically blankets with handles but these would be really difficult to use on stairs.