

Paws on Patrol

Grab your dogs and friends for a stroll around the neighborhood while keeping an eye out for any suspicious activity, promoting community safety and camaraderie. Host one walk, or start a regular patrol club!



Budget

\$200

Difficulty Level

Easy

Location Suggestions

Meeting points

- Front yard
- Park
- Community center

Designated walking route

- Cover the whole neighborhood and any areas of concern identified by residents, such as alleyways

City Support

[Mini-Grant funding](#) is available!

Material List | Estimated Cost

- **Dog Supplies**
 - Dog leashes and harnesses – Brought by neighbors
 - Waste bags | \$15
 - Dog treats | \$20
 - Water and bowl | \$15
- **Neighborhood watch informational flyers and pamphlets** | \$10 to print
- **Flashlights or reflective gear** | \$40
- **Optional:**
 - Rented tables and seats | \$60
 - Refreshments | \$40
 - Block Party Permit

Step by Step | How to Plan this Event

1-2 Months Before Event

1 Set a Time & Location

- Choose a **time** for the walk that works for participants and ensures visibility, like early evening
- Arrange a **meeting point** in the neighborhood and the **best walking route**.
- **Consider passing by** any places where suspicious activity has been reported by neighbors. You can ask your neighbors, or check the police crime map.



2 Make A Map

Use Google Maps to create a walking route to share. Using a free Google account, make a map at www.google.com/maps/d/uu/0/.

3 Weeks Before Event

3 Gather Supplies

Buy or gather any supplies you want to give out at the event. You can also ask your neighbors to bring their own supplies!

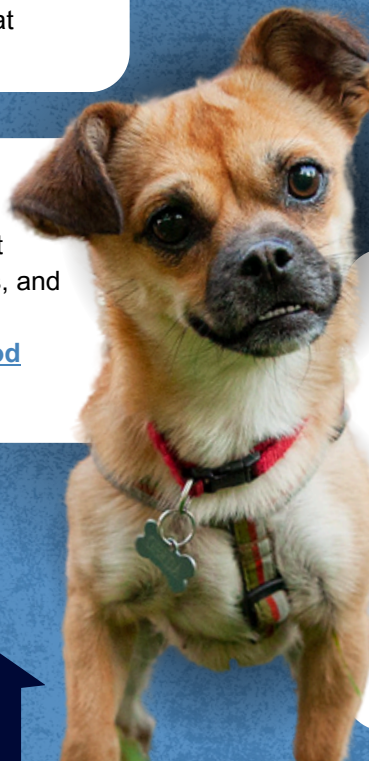
4 Prepare Informational Material

- Create or print out informational material about **neighborhood watch procedures**, safety tips, and contact information for local authorities.
- A good resource is the [National Neighborhood Watch website](#).

5 Invite Dog Owners

Extend invitations to dog owners in the neighborhood! Share the map route.

- **At Least 2-3 Weeks Before | Social Media and Email:** Post on Nextdoor, Facebook, and/or Instagram. Email if you can.
- **1 Week Before | Flyers:** Go door-to-door. Design colorful flyers, postcards, or personal invitations.
- **1 Day Before | Reminder:** Send out a reminder message on social media or by email.



6 Set-Up Meeting Point

- Prepare your meeting point with any signage and informational materials.
- If you're hosting a social event after the walk, set up any table or chairs.



7 Begin with a Dog Mixer

For the first 10 minutes, have your dogs meet and socialize!

8 Give Safety Brief

Provide a brief overview of the event, safety guidelines, and expectations before starting the walk. Share what suspicious behavior to look for:

Individuals



- Wandering with no destination or with a sense of urgency
- Walking between parked cars or towards the back of a property
- Trespassing
- Canvassing
- Removing a package from a front door and walking away

Parked Car



- In an unusual location
- That is unoccupied and idling
- With a visible business transaction taking place inside
- Containing suspicious or illegal materials

Other Observations



- Car traveling at a low or high speed, without lights on, in the evening or early morning
- Loud sounds like glass breaking, screaming, or glass breaking

9 Lead the Walk

- Lead participants around the neighborhood, keeping an eye out for any signs of suspicious activity.
- Encourage participants to socialize and build connections with each other during the walk!



10 Know Who to Call



If you see **suspicious behavior**, do not engage. Report to the authorities:

- Call 911 from a safe location. Know your location, including
 - the county you're in
 - the street you're on
 - any landmarks.
- Explain clearly and calmly what the situation is. Provide a detailed description of any suspicious individuals.

11 Debrief

Gather participants for a debriefing session to discuss any observations or concerns. If you want to continue hosting walks, gather contact information.

12 Optional: Host a Social Event

At the end of the walk, offer refreshments for participants to enjoy!

13 Follow-Up

Share any relevant information or updates with participants following the event, and make the patrols a regular event!