

Police Department Crime Prevention Bureau

280 W. 13 Mile Rd.
583-1424

The Police and Community Partnership

Although there are not organized Neighborhood Watch groups in every neighborhood within Madison Heights, all citizens are requested to BE AWARE and BE INFORMED about what WE can do to help prevent crime. One way of doing this is to attend Neighborhood Watch Meetings which are open to anyone interested in becoming educated in crime trends and what to do to help reduce the possibility of becoming a victim of crime.

The Police Department holds monthly Neighborhood Watch Meetings, excluding summer months. Past meetings have included speakers who have made very informative presentations such as; credit card and check fraud, fire safety, home security hardware, auto theft prevention, recognizing gang activity, domestic violence, and other subjects pertaining to crime prevention and safety.

Citizens can also participate in other police/community activities such as; "Citizens Police Academy," "National Night Out," Mothers Against Drunk Driving's Red Ribbon Campaign," or even become members of such volunteer units like the Police Reserves, Crisis Response Team, and Police Explorers.

For further information call the Crime Prevention Bureau at 583-1424.

***AN INFORMED CITIZEN IS LESS LIKELY TO
BECOME A VICTIM OF CRIME.***

Community Policing

Community Policing has received national attention and many police departments have been implementing some form of Community Policing within their departments. The Police Department has studied this concept and researched existing community policing programs. Having completed this research, the department has undertaken changes within the department to implement a unique method of community policing that began on September 16, 1995.

Community Policing is a concept through which law enforcement actively seeks to interact

with law abiding citizens to determine how law enforcement will be applied in the community.

While other law enforcement agencies have designated a few officers to be "Community Policing Officers," the entire Madison Heights Police Department has been trained in community policing methods.

Uniformed officers from each shift select the areas which they prefer to work. All officers in a specific area function as a twenty-four hour team. As a team, they will initiate contacts with persons within their selected area and identify unique needs for the area. They will determine short and long range goals to be accomplished and implement the action needed to accomplish the identified goals. These officers will be the most visible members of the department to the citizens.

Each team will have designated Sergeants and Lieutenants from whom they can seek guidance and assistance in securing resources to achieve the determined goals. In addition, Detectives will also be assigned to specific areas and handle cases within those areas.

During the day to day operations of the Police Department, uniform officers will handle most of the calls for service in their respective areas. For some minor calls, such as parking violations, there will be an increase in the amount of time before an officer responds to the call. For emergency and "crimes in progress" calls, any available officer will be dispatched. The area officer will also respond to these when the officer becomes available.

While the full effect of this major change in law enforcement will not be realized for an extended period of time, there were many noticeable effects even within the first six months of implementation.

The primary focus of community policing in Madison Heights will be improving the officer's knowledge of the assigned area and to establish a more productive partnership with the citizens who live or work within the city.