

# Community Safety Committee

## Community Safety Focus: 2005-06

The HOA board has formed the Community Safety Committee to address several issues facing the neighborhood, especially the rise in vandalism and the issue of speeding through neighborhood streets. Throughout the remainder of 2005, the Committee will focus on accomplishing the following objectives.

- Implement the Neighborhood Watch program (see below)
- Build a relationship with the Montgomery County Police that results timely alerts to the HOA board of serious events that have occurred in the neighborhood. The HOA board will in turn alert residents of these events via the Hollybrooke neighborhood email list.
- Provide a Community Safety Update in future newsletters discussing progress made toward goals and giving a summary of activity that has occurred in the neighborhood since the last newsletter.
- Engage the Montgomery County Police to reduce speeding in our neighborhood.
- Implement the Montgomery County “Community Speed Watch” program to both measure the extent of speeding in the neighborhood and increase community awareness
- Remove graffiti

### Neighborhood Watch

To create a successful neighborhood watch, the Board needs many volunteers to fill two types of positions:

**Block Captains** – Ideally, there should be 15-20 block captains, about 1 for every 10-15 homes. A block captain reports to the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator, coordinates watch schedules for the homes within his or her area of responsibility, and also serves as a block watcher.

**Block Watchers** – Block watchers serve as eyes and ears of the neighborhood. Ideally, every home should have a participating block watcher. Block watchers will be asked to serve occasional shifts during prime crime hours, including early morning hours, either watching specific areas or as part of patrols.

### Community Speed Watch

As part of the Speed Watch program, Montgomery County provides residents with a radar unit and the training to use it. The radar is used during prime daylight speeding hours to record speeding activity, which is then used by the Police Department to help assist the community in reducing speeds.

### Graffiti Removal

We thank the un-named residents who cleaned the benches, and now we need to help clean up the rest. Once we have enough volunteers we'll pick a day or two that best fits everyone's schedule. Ideas for cleaning spray paint off of concrete and road signs would be very helpful!

If you would like to volunteer for any of these activities, please contact Shawn Grammer at [shawnhoa@grammer.org](mailto:shawnhoa@grammer.org) or 240-994-2798.

