

July 15, 2014

Sally Ellertson
Public Information Officer
141 West Renfro
Burleson, Texas 76028-4261
817-426-9622
F: 817-426-9390
sellertson@burlesontx.com
www.burlesontx.com

Do you know a simple way to prevent crime? Get to know your neighbors.

There will be picnics, cookouts, bounce houses, and more, in neighborhoods citywide, on Tuesday, Aug. 5, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., as Burleson celebrates National Night Out with the rest of the nation. This is National Night Out's 31st year. Last year the City went with the Texas National Night Out (first Tuesday in October), but since some like the August date, Burleson honors both groups by celebrating the national date one year and the Texas date the next.

Community Resource Officer David Wardlaw as well as the police department's command staff, bicycle officers, Citizens On Patrol, Burleson Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association, fire department, fire marshal's office, neighborhood services (animal control, code enforcement, environmental services), the library, and City leaders are slated to visit as many National Night Out get-togethers as possible in three hours. The deadline to sign up to request a visit from the City is Tuesday, July 29.

Any neighborhoods requesting closures for their National Night Out get-togethers will need to contact Rey Gonzales, assistant director of public works, at 817-426-9838 or email rgonzales@burlesontx.com for barricades. The National Night Out neighborhood organizers will not be charged for the barricades but they will need the consent of the neighbors for the closure. The police department and fire departments will need to be aware of any closures and must have public safety access.

Target is the national sponsor for National Night Out. Also on board again this year is 7-11. Joining the group is ADT Security (also a national sponsor) and the Texas Department of Insurance.

Apartment communities and neighborhoods join in the National Night Out effort to raise awareness about organizing and fighting back against crime. National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support and participation in anticrime programs; strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and to let criminals know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

National Night Out, "America's Night Out Against Crime," was introduced by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) in 1984. The program was the brainchild of NATW Executive Director Matt A. Peskin. NATW is a non-profit, crime prevention organization which works in cooperation with thousands of crime watch groups and law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Since 1981, NATW has been dedicated to the development, growth and maintenance of crime and drug prevention programs nationwide, including more than 6,500 crime, drug and violence prevention organizations.

To get involved, email Officer David Wardlaw at dwardlaw@burlesontx.com or call 817-426-9958.