

Fairway Villas Neighborhood Watch Frequently Asked Questions

Welcome to your home in Fairway Villas! We are happy to have you as our neighbors. We became a Neighborhood Watch Area within the Denver Police District #5 in June 2018. Following are the answers to common questions about our program.

What is Neighborhood Watch?

The Denver Police Dept includes these 5 descriptors:

- A partnership between the community and the Denver Police Department.
- The program is organized by concerned citizens to reduce crime in their community.
- Neighborhood Watch is one of the most effective and least costly ways to prevent crime.
- Through Neighborhood Watch Programs, the goal is for residents to gain a sense of ownership in making their community a safer place.
- Neighbors can prevent or break the cycle and build their community into a safer, friendlier, and more caring place to live.

You may have noticed the signs at different entrance points to our community that alerts the public that we are a NHWatch community.

What police district is Fairway Villas in within the Denver Police Dept?

Fairway Villas I & II are within District 5 of the DPD. The district is further divided into sectors. We are in Sector 523 Green Valley Ranch North. (See map)

Who Participates in Neighborhood Watch?

We invite all residents to be active neighbors getting to know one another and watching out for one another. There is no formal registration/participation.

What do I do as an active participant in Neighborhood Watch?

All we ask is that you be a thoughtful and watchful neighbor. Neighbors keep an eye and an ear open for each other. If you see something suspicious, you report it to the police. Talk to your neighbors about things you observe in the

neighborhood. Get to know your neighbors and their routines. Let each other know when you will be out of town so you can keep a watchful eye on homes. Alert a neighbor if you notice that they have left a garage door open. Check on them if you notice a newspaper that has not been picked up from the driveway and you know they are home. Talk to your neighbors about suspicious activity that you notice in your neighborhood.

Who can I contact with my specific questions about Neighborhood Watch in Fairway Villas?

The following are resident volunteers who serve as contacts with the community and the Denver Police Dept:

NHWatch Lead: Kathy Villere (FV I)
kvilslp@gmail.com

Points of Contact: John & Trudi Puffer (FV I)
jepuffer@comcast.net
tlpuffer@comcast.net

Gail Bell (FV I)
gaibel@msn.com

Rogene Howe (FV I)
roehowe@comcast.net

Bruce Shibles (FV II)
bnshibles@comcast.net

How do I learn more about Neighborhood Watch and safety in my home?

The Denver Police Dept has a website with general information regarding Crime Prevention for your **Home**, your **Vehicle**, your **Bicycle**, your **Personal Safety** online:

<https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Departments/Police-Department/Safety-and-Crime-Prevention/Neighborhood-Crime-Prevention>

How is Neighborhood Watch and safety information relayed to the community?

In accordance with Goodwin guidelines and policies, all communications from Neighborhood Watch is posted on TownSq. When the Fairway Villas website is established on TownSq, a page / folder will be designated for NHWatch where residents will be able to find notes from the monthly Commander's Meetings, safety and Neighborhood Watch information, tips from the police department, and notices of any incidences of crimes reported within the Fairway Villas community. Notices of upcoming monthly DPD Commander's meetings are also posted on TownSq so any resident who is interested can access the Zoom link and information for those meetings.

Are there routine meetings for Neighborhood Watch?

There are usually 1-2 meetings per year at either The Lodge or The Clubhouse where residents of Fairway Villas are invited to meet with our District 5 liaison officers and our sector lieutenant. Watch for notices of those meetings in the community newsletter on TownSq.

If I see something suspicious do I call 911 or another number?

For emergencies in progress call 911

To report suspicious behavior or crimes that have been committed but are no longer in progress call the DPD non-emergency number **720-913-2000**

Reporting Suspicious Behavior

The police ask that we remember that *behaviors are suspicious, people are not suspicious.*

When reporting suspicious behavior report as much detail as possible including:

- male / female

- physical features: height, weight, hair and skin color, tattoos or other body markings, clothing, other notable features

- make, model, color, license plates of car(s)

- how many people do you see

- what is happening (looking in car windows, trying door knobs, looking in windows, etc)

What do I do if a crime has been committed in my home?

As in any large metropolitan city in the US, there is crime in Denver and you will read and hear about it on the local tv news, in the local newspapers, and on social media. Most crimes involve theft of vehicles and property. However, Fairway Villas is the safest community within District 5 in the city of Denver. We have had very few actual incidences of crime. In the rare event that this does happen, call 911 if the incident is happening in the moment. For crimes after the fact, call the non-emergency number **720-913-2000**. Police need a record of any crime that has occurred in the city. An officer will come to your home to make a report.

You are also encouraged to report incidences of crime to a NHWatch volunteer contact person (listed above in the FAQs) after reporting them to the police. One of the ways that we can continue to keep crime mitigated in the Fairway Villas community is to share that information with our neighbors. The goals for sharing incidences of crime within our community are to increase awareness, to have lots of eyes and ears open, to report any information that residents may have about a crime, and to document new trends.

Do the police have standard safety suggestions that they recommend?

There are a few simple things that you can do to keep your home safe.

- Keep your doors and windows on the main floor locked, even if you are home.
- Keep your garage doors closed, even if you are in your side or back yard or inside your home. Thieves are opportunists and they act quickly.
- Keep lights on outside at night around your home. Criminals are deterred when they may be seen.
- Use a security camera or alarm system.
- Keep your vehicles locked. Do not leave valuables inside. Take your garage door opener inside with you. Lock your steering wheel with a “club.”
- Do not leave guns &/or ammunition in your car. Keep them safely locked at all times.

The Denver Police Dept has a home safety booklet filled with suggestions for home safety. A PDF copy is available online at

https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/720/documents/safetyandprevention/NW_Book_2018.pdf

Emergency Alerts

For information regarding Denver's emergency alert systems visit:

<https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Office-of-Emergency-Management/Alert-and-Warning>

For instructions on how to opt into weather alerts on your cell phone, visit:

https://www.fcc.gov/sites/default/files/weatest_opt-in_instructions.pdf

Next Door Social Media Site (If you wish to subscribe, the link is [nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com))

If you are active on social media, our DPD community resource officers post routinely on this social media site. There you can learn a lot about what is happening in our neighborhood, find safety tips, and learn when the police dept is sponsoring local events. We are in District 5 of the city of Denver. Even if you sign up just for the Fairway Villas neighborhood, you may see postings for other neighborhoods in the metro area. Don't be alarmed by things you see posted in other areas. Fairway Villas is quiet and has low crime due to our diligence and the nature of our neighbors.

For information about city services go to [denvergov.org](https://www.denvergov.org)

Here you will find information regarding
trash/recycling schedules
paying property taxes and storm water bills online
car registration and driver's licenses
voter registration and ballot drop box locations

For concerns regarding dogs off leash contact Urban Park Ranger:

Call 311 or 720-913-1311

Email: park.ranger@denvergov.org

Animal Protection (regulations, report dog bites, animal mistreatment, barking dogs, etc)

<https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Departments/Animal-Shelter/Animal-Protection>