

Westcreek Neighborhood ASSOCIATION

July, 2001 — Special Crime Prevention Edition

http://www.geocities.com/westcreek_na/

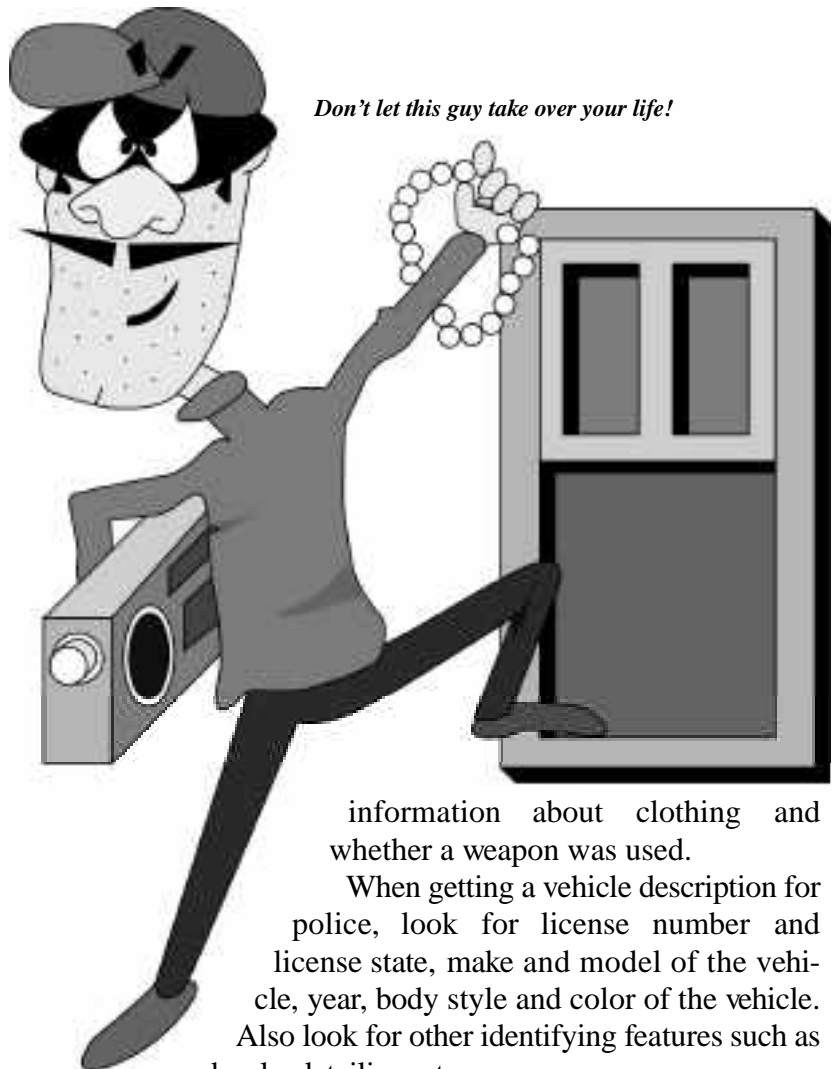
Help catch criminals by paying attention

We've all become more aware of the crime here in Westcreek. But what can one person do? Your attention to suspicious activity and suspicious people plays a major role in helping police solve crimes, according to law enforcement officials. Pay attention to the activity around you, and if a crime occurs, report it to police immediately by dialing 911, no matter how minor you think the incident may be.

Try to tell the police as much as you can. Here are some of the things you should observe:

- What happened?
- When did this occur?
- Where did this occur?
- How many suspects were there?
- What did they do?
- What did they say?
- What did they take?
- Which way did they go?
- Were there any other witnesses?
- Can you describe the suspect?
- Can you describe their vehicle(s)?

In compiling a description, police will ask for the sex of the suspect, race, age, height, weight, hair color, length of hair, type hair style, sideburns, eye color, glasses, facial features, facial hair, whether a mask was used and other physical attributes such as tattoos, amputation and scars. They will also want



information about clothing and whether a weapon was used.

When getting a vehicle description for police, look for license number and license state, make and model of the vehicle, year, body style and color of the vehicle. Also look for other identifying features such as decals, detailing, etc.

Keep Crime Down in Westcreek — Volunteer for Citizens on Patrol

The Westcreek Neighborhood Association is seeking volunteers to patrol our neighborhood as part of our Traffic and Safety Committee effort. Neighbors currently participating in this program report a positive and rewarding experience. The program is designed for neighbors to patrol the neighborhood at variable times as augmentation to the police department. If you are interested in making Westcreek a safer and better place to live, please call **Jim Stutsman at 891-9345**. Jim's email address is jstuts@inetport.com.

Free Automobile Window Etching This Saturday!

The Austin Police Department, through the Auto Theft Interdiction Project, will provide free Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) etching for your vehicle at Patton Elementary School on Saturday, July 28th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The etching is a permanent theft deterrent device applied to all the window glass of your vehicle, and may result in 15% reduction in automobile insurance.

Once the VIN number etchings are on, thieves will see the etched windows and will think twice about stealing your vehicle. As a result of the etching, thieves will have to replace every piece of glass on your vehicle before illegally selling it. This costs the thieves extra time and money, enough to make them move on to easier targets. Permanently etching the VIN into the major windows of your vehicle makes it worthless to professional thieves. Etching works 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and unlike an alarm, it will never malfunction. **For more information on APD window etching, call 891-6633.**

This event is sponsored by the Austin Police Department and Westcreek neighbor Carl Floto of Re/Max Realty.

Large item pickup starting August 6th

City trucks will be moving through Westcreek within the next few days to pick up bulky items too large for regular garbage pickup. The bulky item collection is scheduled to begin Monday, August 6th and may continue as long as a week, depending on the number of items to be picked up.

Have your large items at the curb by 7:30 on August 6th. Place them at least five feet from your garbage cart and separate into three piles for collection: Metal, Tires and Other. Metal items include water heaters, rolled fencing, appliances and mowers. Gas and oil should be removed from the mowers, and doors should be removed from appliances. The City will take up to eight passenger tires, with rims removed. Items for



“Other” category include furniture, carpeting, nail-free lumber, railroad ties and tree trunks eight inches in diameter or larger.

THE DO’s & DONT’s: Bulk item collection does not include brush or limbs. Also, do not set out construction or remodeling debris, plastic garbage bags, cardboard, household garbage or hazardous household chemicals (such as paints, solvents or pool chemicals).

Do not block your mailbox or cover your water meter, stack or lean items against a fence or telephone connection box. No parked cars should be blocking access to bulky items.

For more information, call the City of Austin Solid Waste Services department at 494-9400 or check their website at www.austinrecycles.com.

Get Ready to Party — And Prevent Crime

Make sure to attend one of the National Night Out block parties in our area on **Tuesday, August 7th from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m., rain or shine**, scheduled for the following locations:

- **Adel Cove (off Yellow Rose Trail)**
- **Myra Court (off Yellow Rose Trail)**
- **Yellow Rose Cove (cul-de-sac off Yellow Rose Trail)**
- **White Elm and Summerset (from Brush Country to Brush Country)**
- **9500 block of White Elm**
- **5000 block of Wing Road**
- **5200 block of Summerset Trail**

Remember, National Night Out is a great opportunity for citizens and law enforcement to join forces to promote **crime prevention and drug prevention awareness** and to strengthen the police-community partnership. The police and the neighborhood association encourage everyone to come out in force, show community bonding and strength and tell the criminal element that we as a society are not going to just sit back and let crime occur in our neighborhoods without doing something about it. So on August 7th, turn on your porch lights, lock your doors and spend the evening outside with your neighbors, police officers and fire fighters. And enjoy some good food as well!

