

# How-to Checklist for Plymouth's Night to Unite, Tuesday, August 7, 2012 6:30-9:30 p.m.



## Attend a "MINNESOTA'S NIGHT TO UNITE" Coordinator Meeting to gather and share ideas

- Two identical meetings are offered:  
May 14, 7-8 p.m. and June 12, 7-8 p.m.  
Attendance is optional.  
Location: Public Safety Building, Second Floor  
Training Room, 3400 Plymouth Blvd.
- July 26, 7-8 p.m. \*One person from each party is  
required to attend.  
Location: Plymouth Creek Center  
14800 34th Ave. No.

## Night to Unite "Kick Off Open House" at the Plymouth Creek Center. Tuesday, August 7, 2:30-5 p.m.

## Police & Fire Neighborhood Visits



Plymouth police officers and firefighters are able to  
make a total of 100 visits on "NIGHT TO UNITE".  
This year fire visits will be scheduled on a lottery basis.  
At the July 26, NTU Organizer meeting 20  
neighborhoods will be drawn to  
receive a fire truck visit.

Police visits will be assigned  
based upon the order in which  
the registration forms were  
received.



We will call you to confirm that we've received  
your registration form. Any questions? Call the Plymouth  
Police and Fire Department at (763) 509-5198.

## Getting Started!

1. Begin by recruiting a  
neighbor to help you. It's  
much more fun when you  
work together.



2. Put together the basics.

- ☐ Where will we hold the party?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ In case of rain, will we cancel or where will we move the  
party?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ What types of treats and eats do we want to have?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Neighborhood grill outs, potluck dinners, pizza parties,  
submarine sandwiches, pig roasts, ice-cream socials, build  
a sundae, kabobs, dessert buffet, dinner from "around  
the world" (bring a dish from your heritage with copies  
of the recipe!), neighborhood salad bar (families bring a  
salad item and their favorite dressings.)

- ☐ What should neighbors bring?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ What other things will we need? Paper  
plates/silverware/napkins, tables, chairs, coolers, ice,  
extension cords, name tags, a sign in sheet, grills, a  
donation cup, etc.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Should we have a donation cup to help pay for  
miscellaneous party costs? \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ Call Public Works, 763-509-5950, to reserve a barricade  
to block off our cul-de-sac on "NIGHT TO UNITE".

☐ Make a flyer to invite neighbors? Police and Fire will make colored copies of your flyer for free! E-mail flyer to [scwayna@ci.plymouth.mn.us](mailto:scwayna@ci.plymouth.mn.us).

☐ Should we do a reminder invitation?

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☐ Download camera ready "NIGHT TO UNITE" graphics at [www.ci.plymouth.mn.us](http://www.ci.plymouth.mn.us).

☐ Do we want to participate in the back to school supply/food drive? If so, who can we ask to drop off our donations at the Public Works Department, Aug 8-10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 14900 23<sup>rd</sup> Ave. No.

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☐ Do we want to invite council members or elected officials?

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### 3. Who can we recruit to help us with special tasks? Let's set deadlines for them!

☐ Plan activities, games, ice-breakers events: bingo, a treasure hunt, neighborhood trivia, water balloon toss, bike decorating.

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☐ Do we want to solicit door prizes? How, who, and where?

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☐ Set up grills, tables, chairs, garbage cans , etc.

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☐ Grab a couple of "Chefs" to cook and serve food.

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☐ Help with tear down/clean up.

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### 4. What can kids & teens do to help us? *(Remember, once we've booked the kids, we've got their parents too!)*

☐ Make posters, banners, or help with flyers.

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☐ Drop off flyers door to door.

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☐ Teenagers love to put together games for kids. Assign them the task of designing the games, races, and scavenger hunts etc.

☐ Have kids play their instruments together. Create a band.

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☐ Think of fun activities for kids on NIGHT TO UNITE. Plan them & run them!

- ☐ scavenger hunts, fish ponds and face painting
- ☐ Best tasting cookie contest
- ☐ Kid's parade: decorate bikes, pets, wagons etc.
- ☐ Water balloon toss, adult and child games
- ☐ Three legged races, wagon races, kids pull adults in wagons
- ☐ Basic first aid learning stations for children
- ☐ Tricycle races for adults, bocce ball, badminton
- ☐ Live music, karaoke, disc jockeys, limbo, polka etc. contests
- ☐ Neighborhood trivia challenges: match the dog to the owner, name the dog challenge, guess maiden names, guess middle names of parents

### 5. Use NIGHT TO UNITE to promote neighborhood safety!

☐ Create a neighborhood phone directory or e-mail tree using your sign up sheet.

☐ Encourage neighbors to lock up. Eighty percent of all residential burglaries involve a no force entry.

☐ Light up the block. Use motion sensitive lights and light timers. Make homes look occupied.

☐ Reinforce locks on garage service doors. Door at minimum must have a single cylinder dead bolt lock. Frost garage windows or use curtains.

☐ Remove personal property from vehicles.

☐ Report suspicious activity. Dial 9-1-1

### 6. What have other neighborhoods done to have fun and get to know one another?

☐ Develop a fun quiz using neighborhood trivia. Kids are great at surveying neighbors to gather information.

- What's the most interesting thing a family has done?
- What was "Mrs. Y's" first job?
- How did spouses meet one another?
- Guess how many states each family has lived in?
- What is the best "cute neighborhood" kid" story?
- What was the most embarrassing neighborhood moment?
- Match pets' names to the owners.
- Have someone take digital pictures of the houses on the block and ask families to try to match each family with their house.

### 7. Find a neighbor to be your NIGHT TO UNITE photographer.

### 8. Sign up for the smoke detector or garage service door challenge!



On NIGHT TO UNITE, firefighters will make random visits parties. They'll ask one family at each party if they can test their smoke detectors. **If the detectors work, they'll award the family with a NIGHT TO UNITE t-shirt, right on the spot!** If the detectors are not working, firefighters will provide the family with new batteries and/or new detectors.



Also on NIGHT TO UNITE, police officers will make random visits to parties.

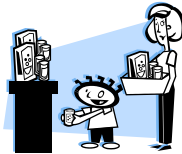


They'll ask one family per party if they can test the lock on their garage service door. If the door is secured, they'll award the family with a NIGHT TO UNITE t-shirt. If the door is not secured, they'll provide information on how to secure this door.

#### 9. Be a part of the back to school and non-perishable food drive!

Each year NIGHT TO UNITE supports the donation of non-perishable food items or back-to-school supplies for Interfaith Outreach and Prism.

Ask one neighbor to drop off your collected donations at the Plymouth Public Works Department, 14900 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue No., between Aug. 8-10, 7:00 a.m.-3: 30 p.m.



If no one is available, please call Sara, at 763-509-5198 to set up a special pick-up for you.

#### 10. Other ideas, your personal touch:

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#### 50 FUN Activities

- ☐ Show movies
- ☐ Chalk art
- ☐ Exchange plants
- ☐ Play kickball
- ☐ Play croquet
- ☐ Tell block stories
- ☐ Exchange cookies
- ☐ Play BINGO
- ☐ Invite a speaker
- ☐ Make a banner
- ☐ Serve watermelon
- ☐ Have a seed spitting contest
- ☐ Jump rope
- ☐ Roller skate
- ☐ Tell spooky stories
- ☐ Roller blade
- ☐ Play horseshoes
- ☐ Rummage sale
- ☐ Face paint
- ☐ Talent show
- ☐ Volleyball/badminton
- ☐ Collect for food shelf
- ☐ White elephant exchange
- ☐ Frisbee throw
- ☐ Decorate bikes
- ☐ Paint a mural
- ☐ Shoot free throws
- ☐ Play instruments
- ☐ Make/eat popcorn
- ☐ Pet contest
- ☐ Bicycle parade

**"Working Together We Make a Difference"**



Plymouth Police and Fire Departments, 3400 Plymouth Boulevard, Plymouth, MN 55447  
[www.plymouthmn.gov](http://www.plymouthmn.gov) 763-509-5160/763-509-5120



# Plymouth Police and Fire Departments' Crime, Fire, and Injury Prevention Programs



## Minnesota's Night to Unite

Every year, the first Tuesday in August is a chance for neighbors to turn on their lights, lock their doors, come together, and give crime and drugs a going away party. To be on the mailing list for Minnesota's Night to Unite or to register your party. Online registration is at [www.plymouthmn.gov/ntu](http://www.plymouthmn.gov/ntu).

## Neighborhood Watch Program

Find out how you can create a partnership between police and individual neighborhoods to help neighbors come together to watch out for each other, report suspicious activity to the police, and make their community safer. For information on starting a Neighborhood Watch, call 763-509-5198.

## E-mail Crime Alert Network and Interactive Crime Map ([www.plymouthmn.gov](http://www.plymouthmn.gov))

There are times when providing information to the community immediately is important. The Plymouth Police and Fire Department's E-mail Network is an effective way a quick and efficient way to do so. Alerts may be used to notify you of a crime pattern or trend, a missing person or criminal suspect, or a special program opportunity that is available to you. If a natural or other disaster would impact Plymouth, we will also use the E-mail Network to provide you with briefings on the situation.

## File of Life

The File of Life program is a card that contains important personal medical information that is easily accessible by police and ambulance personnel in the event of a medical emergency. Call 763-509-5147 to request free File of Life cards.

## Home and Business Premise Security Surveys

A Plymouth police officer will come out to your home or business, meet with you to discuss your safety concerns and security needs, and give you crime prevention recommendations customized to your

home or business. Call 763-509-5147 to schedule an appointment.

## Child Passenger Safety Program CHAD Program (Children Have an Identity)

Children usually do not carry identity information with them when they ride their bikes, skateboards, or rollerblades in the community. A CHAD sticker placed on the inside of the helmet provides police, fire, and EMS critical emergency

## Fire and Police Station Tours

The Plymouth Fire and Police Departments provides tour for youth and community groups. To schedule a fire

station tour, call 763-509-5198. To schedule police station tour, call 763-509-5135.

## Bike Helmet Program

Protect your loved ones as they have fun in the sun! New helmets are sold at Plymouth Fire Station III (3300 Dunkirk Ln.) The first and third Thursdays of the month, May-August from 6-8 p.m. Bike helmets are available for \$10, \$12 and multi-sport helmets are available for \$15, sizes youth to adult. Call 763-509-5198 for more information.

## Smokebuster's Home Fire Safety Program for Families and Seniors Program

Upon request firefighters will make home visits to help residents test their smoke detectors, replace batteries, discuss 9-1-1 and develop a home fire escape plan. Smokebusters is free of charge. To schedule a visit, call the Plymouth Fire Department at 763-509-5198.

## Home Alone Workshops

Many children let themselves in or out of empty houses and supervise themselves for an hour or more each day. Fire and Police sponsor Home Alone workshops throughout the year, for families with children in the Wayzata and Robbinsdale School Districts. The workshops helped parents evaluate if their child is ready to be home alone, prepare their homes so that they are safe and ready for a stay-at-home child, and create house rules to keep families safe and working together.

## Self Defense Classes

The self defense classes are geared towards females and address many traditional safety concerns through an open discussion and easy, hands-on defensive tactics techniques taught by Plymouth Police Officers. The class is appropriate for ages 13 and up. Bring your mother, sister, friends, and neighbors and learn how to stay safe. Check for class listings through Plymouth Parks and Recreation Department.

## iWATCH

iWATCH Plymouth is a community awareness program created to educate the public about behaviors and activities that may have a connection to terrorism. The goal of iWATCH is to help Plymouth stay safe from terrorist activities. It is an extension of the Neighborhood Watch program and the Department of Homeland Security's "[See Something, Say Something](#)" message.