

How-to Checklist for Plymouth's Night to Unite, Tuesday, August 6, 2013 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 9, 7-8 p.m. and June 6, 7-8 p.m.
Attendance is optional.
Location: Public Safety Building, Second Floor
Training Room, 3400 Plymouth Blvd.
- July 25, 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 6, 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 25, 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 or email 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? We will make colored copies of your flyer for free! E-mail flyer to: scwayna@plymouthmn.gov.
- ☐ Should we do a reminder invitation?

- ☐ Download camera ready "NIGHT TO UNITE" graphics at www.plymouthmn.gov.
- ☐ 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 Interfaith Outreach 1605 County Road 101 N, or the Public Works Department, Aug 7-9 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., 14900 23rd Ave. No.

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

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.

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

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

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

- ☐ Help with tear down/clean up.

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

- ☐ Make posters, banners, or help with flyers.

- ☐ Drop off flyers door to door.



- ☐ 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.

- ☐ 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.
- ☐ See Something Say Something! 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. Other ideas, your personal touch:

"Working Together We Make a Difference"



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
- Best dressed pet contest
- Bicycle parade



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.

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-Notify Network and Interactive Crime Map (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

Car Seat Check Up Program

The Plymouth Fire and Police Departments provides car seat check-ups for Plymouth residents by

appointment. Appointments are \$20.

Contact 763-509-5198 more information or to schedule an appointment.

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. The workshops help 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. 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.

