

# NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME EVENTS

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Presented by: Building Stronger  
Neighborhoods Committee



# National Night Out Against Crime Events

- National Night Out (NNO) is an evening event the first Tuesday of every August that brings together communities in an effort to fight crime.
- Drawing from the statistic that crime decreases when neighbors know and look out for each other, NNO parties encourage the sharing of food and conversation, and often include entertainment. With hundreds of NNO parties popping up all over Spokane on and around the first Tuesday of every August, it's no wonder this event has been as successful as it has for 34 years and continues to grow every year.

# Planning an NNO party

- Talk to your Block Watch, Neighborhood Council, and neighbors to generate interest. Begin discussing where and how big you want the party. Common sites include someone's home or a shared site in your apartment complex, in a local park or church, or at a business site. Decide how you will orchestrate food for your party. You could organize a barbeque (the most popular choice), a potluck picnic, act as a host for delivered food, or invite food trucks (food trucks often require a minimum amt. of sales). You could also talk to local restaurants about donations.
- Consider adding entertainment as a way to draw more folks in. Some ideas include sidewalk art, water balloon fights, face painting, scavenger hunts, games and sports, races, or talent contests. Create a mini award show for the "Neighbor of the Year" or to recognize those who have made your neighborhood a safer place. In the past, bigger parties have even included moon bounces and outdoor movie showings as part of their entertainment. Be creative!

# Register Your NNO

- Register your NNO party at [www.spokanecops.org/national-night-out-registration](http://www.spokanecops.org/national-night-out-registration) before **July 31st**. Consider who you want to invite. Each REGISTERED party can request their Neighborhood Resource Officer (NRO), police chief, other law enforcement personnel, Mayor, City Council, Code Enforcement, Fire Department, and/or Spokane C.O.P.S.' Mounted Patrol Unit to make an appearance at their party.
- Advertise, advertise, advertise. Send emails or paper invites to those you hope to see. Post on social media. Talk to your Block Watch or Neighborhood Council about including your party in their newsletter or on their website. Neighborhood Services can share it in the Friday Update newsletter.

# PARTY Time!

- After planning is complete: PARTY! Engage your neighbors in conversation about recent events, crime prevention techniques, or things you might have seen on [nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com). Update your Block List with neighbor's and their pet's names. Welcome new neighbors and any outsiders. Encourage children and youth to be a part of the conversation.
- Whatever you do, do it in the name of safety and comradery, and have fun!