



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

2026 NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PARTY GUIDE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 3 TO 6 P.M.

- Welcome Letter
- What Is National Night Out?
- Keeping It Simple
- Top 10 Reasons to Host a National Night Out Party
- FAQ
- Activity Ideas
- Early Bird Registration
- Packet Pick-Up
- Food Drive
- Military Drive
- Selfie With Public Safety
- Theme Party Contest
- Sidewalk Chalk Art Contest
- ID The Burglar Village Challenge
- Block Party Planning
- Photo/ Video Release Form
- Party Invitation



WELCOME LETTER

National Night Out is a great crime prevention tool. It encourages you and your neighbors to get together. When neighbors know each other and pay attention to their surroundings it helps law enforcement by recognizing and reporting suspicious people or vehicles. The more you know about your neighborhood, the more you can do to keep it safe.

We hope you have a National Night Out Party. You can register at <https://bit.ly/4tWH7ii>. If you are requesting a public safety visit, visits will be between 3 to 6 p.m.

After registering your party online please plan to pick up your party supplies at Packet Pick Up Day on Thursday, September 24, 2026, from 10 a.m.- 6 p.m. at The Woodlands Township (2801 Technology Forest Blvd.) Board Chambers entrance.

We are looking forward to sharing the fun with you!



WHAT IS NATIONAL NIGHT OUT?

National Night Out (NNO) began in 1984 in an effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie, and to send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and are fighting against crime. It is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), which is a non-profit organization dedicated to the development and promotion of various crime prevention programs including neighborhood watch groups, law enforcement agencies, state and regional crime prevention associations and businesses, individuals and civic groups devoted to safer communities. For more information about National Night Out, please visit <https://natw.org/about/>.



GETTING STARTED



Find out if there is enough interest among your neighborhood. Going door to door, speaking at community meetings, starting a group email, announcing on your Nextdoor site, or creating a private Facebook page are all great ways to determine if a National Night Out celebration is right for your neighborhood!

Gather a few interested neighbors/recruit volunteers to assist in planning your event. Getting neighbors on board, who can help plan your event.

Register your party with The Woodlands Township. If you are having a party or if you are just getting out and meeting your neighbors, please remember to register your party/get together at <https://bit.ly/4tWH7ii> or call 281-210-3800 to speak to the Program Specialist in your Village for more details on National Night Out.

Gather a few interested neighbors and recruit volunteers to assist in planning your event.

KEEP IT SIMPLE

We know many neighborhoods have an informal get together for National Night Out, which is an important first step in crime prevention.

Please register your National Night Out “get together” at <https://bit.ly/4tWH7ii> and check the box “No supplies or public safety visit required” on the registration form.

It’s important to us to have an accurate number of neighborhoods participating in National Night Out. We appreciate you registering your get together.



PARTY ACTIVITIES IDEAS



Simple Refreshments

- Bring your favorite snack
- Coffee, tea and dessert
- Cookie exchange
- Fruit and cheese plates
- Hot dogs and brats
- Ice cream cones/sundaes
- Lemonade and cookies
- Mini-donut stand
- Popcorn
- Potluck
- Pretzels and soda
- Root beer floats

Group Conversations/ Mixers

- “Neighbor of the Year” award
- Oldest resident award
- Longest resident award
- Have an ice breaker
- Neighbor trivia game
- Photos from past block parties
- Share ideas/accomplishments
- Skill swap
- Talk about area crime
- Update block list for people
- Update block contact list
- Welcome new residents

Activities For Youth

- Bicycle parade/rodeo
- Sidewalk chalk art
- Coloring/maze sheet
- Dime/penny guess
- Duck pond
- Face painting
- Games
- Kiddie jump (moonwalk)
- Make a banner or mural
- Piñata
- Scavenger hunt
- Skits or a talent show

All – Ages Activities

- Book exchange/book swap
- Cake walk
- Celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, graduations
- Dance/street dance
- Lawn mower beauty contest
- Live music
- Organize a book club
- Parade
- Plant exchange
- Prizes
- Races: cotton ball on spoon
- Ring toss contest
- Sing-a-long, karaoke
- Water balloon toss



EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION

The early bird gets the pizza! Register your National Night Out party by Friday, September 5, 2025, to have your name entered in a drawing for a chance to win free pizza and other prizes for your National Night Out party!

There are two fast and easy ways to register your National Night Out party:

- 1 Click here to register your National Night Out Party! <https://bit.ly/4tWH7ii>
- 2 Call The Woodlands Township at 281-210-3800 and ask for Neighborhood Services.

PACKET PICK UP DAY

After you have registered your party online, stop by to get everything you need for your National Night Out Party!

Thursday, September 24, 2026
Anytime between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The Woodlands Township
2801 Technology Forest Blvd.
(Board Chambers Entrance)

Items may include:

- Kid Activities
- Party Invitations
- T-Shirt for Party Coordinator
- National Night Out Balloons
- National Night Out Yard Signs
- Watch Member Sign-Up Sheets
- Other Requested Watch Supplies



FOOD DRIVE

Collect non-perishable food items at your National Night Out neighborhood party, benefiting Interfaith of The Woodlands Food Pantry. When dropping off at Interfaith, please mention National Night Out! A list of requested donation items will be included in your supply bag.

Drop off collected food items:

Interfaith of The Woodlands
4242 Interfaith Way

Monday through Friday

October 5 – 9, 2026

M-Th: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Friday: 9 a.m. to Noon



ACTIVE MILITARY DRIVE

Collect military care package items at your National Night Out neighborhood party, benefiting Boots for Troops. A list of requested care package items will be included in your supply bag.

Drop off collected items:

The Woodlands Township
2801 Technology Forest Blvd.

Attention: Cindy Strawn

Monday through Friday

October 5 – 9, 2026

8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



SELFIE WITH PUBLIC SAFETY

Contest Information:

Post your selfie to social media (Facebook and/or Instagram) with the hashtag, [#NationalNightOutTheWoodlands](#) during your National Night Out Party for a chance to win a prize! It's easy!

- Snap a selfie with public safety anytime during your National Night Out party
- Post your selfie on Facebook and/or Instagram with hashtag [#NationalNightOutTheWoodlands](#) on 10/6/26 by 11:59 p.m.
- Check back on The Woodlands Township's Facebook page on 10/8/26 to see if you won!



THEMED PARTY CONTEST

Your party will be judged by the photos you submit to cstrawn@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov by Monday, October 5, 2026 (one winner per Village).

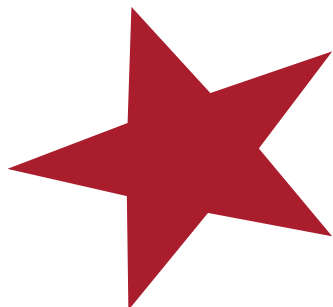
To enter into the contest please be sure to include your information on the Party Registration form. Winner will receive a Pizza Party for your neighborhood!

Theme Party Ideas:

- Mardi Gras
- Luau
- Carnival
- German Festival

Criteria:

- Use of Theme
- Creativity
- Neighborhood Involvement
- Crime Prevention Message/Education

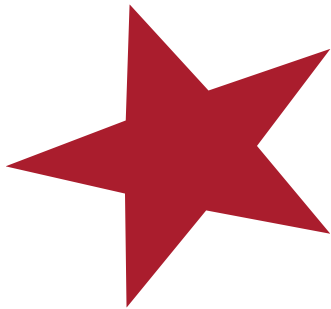


SIDEWALK CHALK ART CONTEST

Your sidewalk chalk art will be judged by the photos you submit to cstrawn@thewoodlandstowship-tx.gov by Monday, October 5, 2026 (one winner per Village).

Sidewalk Chalk Ideas:

- National Night Out
- Crime Prevention Message
- Public Safety Thank You
- Military Thank You
- Favorite Sports Team



ID THE BURGLAR CHALLENGE

A burglar, along with a “good guy”, will be escorted by a Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office deputy to your National Night Out neighborhood party. Your neighborhood must then work as a team to help identify the burglar!

The contest is designed to promote neighborhood cooperation, crime prevention awareness and test your neighborhood’s skill and accuracy in identifying a suspect.

All interested parties must register by Friday, September 18, 2026. Just let your Program Specialist know that you’d like to add your party to the drawing. One party per village will be chosen by a drawing. The chosen party will be notified and sent further information.

Official Rules:

A burglar will be sent to your National Night Out party with a “good guy” and escorted by a Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office deputy. Your party will be notified of the approximate time of arrival in advance. The burglar will visit one party per village (chosen by drawing).

- No cameras or videoing may be used. To do so will result in disqualification of the entire neighborhood.
- Participating residents may not approach or stop the burglar while they are making their way through the neighborhood.
- All official description must be made on the ID the Burglar description form (one form per neighborhood) and submitted by 5 p.m. on Monday, October 5, 2026, to The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Services, at 2801 Technology Forest Blvd. Operating hours are Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
- Judging will be based on the best (most accurate) description of the burglar.

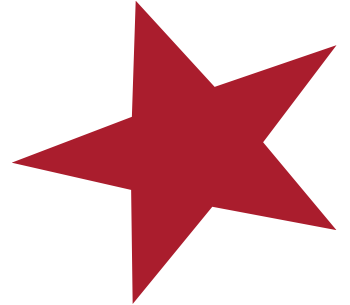


BLOCK PARTY PLANNING

We are glad you can join us for National Night Out on Sunday, October 4 from 3 to 6 p.m. at _____ !

We are asking each family to bring:

- Chairs
- Your own meal to grill
- A salad or dessert to share with _____ number people
- Your own beverages
- Your own plates and utensils
- Other: _____



Do you have any of the following that you could bring?

- Barbecue grill
- Table
- Cooler

Do you have a talent (like playing guitar or teaching country line dancing) or special equipment (like a karaoke machine or a bounce house) that you could share? Please describe below.

Please return this form by _____ to:

Coordinator name: _____

Coordinator phone: _____

Coordinator address: _____

Coordinator e-mail: _____



WAIVER AND RELEASE FORM

FOR PARENTS OF PARTICIPANTS UNDER THE AGE OF 18:

I affirm and acknowledge that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for the Participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided by the Waiver and Release herein.

MEDIA/PHOTO WAIVER:

I hereby authorize and give my full consent to The Woodlands Township and their agents and assigns to take, copyright and/or publish any and all photographs, videotapes and/or film (the "Media") in which I, or my child, may appear while participating in the program. I further authorize that The Woodlands Township to transfer, use or cause to be used, the Media in any exhibitions, public displays, publications, commercials, art and advertising purposes, without limitations or reservations.

Printed Name of Participant

Signature of Participant, Parent or Legal Guardian

Date





POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

YOU ARE INVITED TO A NATIONAL NIGHT OUT PARTY

Lock your doors, turn on your lights and come outside to meet your neighbors!

Date: _____

Time: _____

Location: _____

Contact: _____

Comments: _____

