

IT'S BLOCK PARTY TIME IN WATERTOWN

"Let's Get Together!"

GUIDELINES AND SUGGESTIONS

KEEP IT SIMPLE!

YOU CAN HAVE IT IN YOUR BACK YARD OR AT A NEIGHORHOOD PARK,
OR BLOCK OFF YOUR STREET

ASK YOUR NEIGHBORS TO BRING FOLDING CHAIRS, BLANKETS, ETC

YOUR BLOCK PARTY CAN BE AS BIG OR AS SMALL AS YOU WANT
IT TO BE, BUT MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS INCLUDED

INVITE FRIENDS/CO-WORKERS WHO LIVE OUTSIDE OF YOUR "NEIGHBORHOOD"

USE FLYERS, PHONE, E-MAIL TO GET THE WORD OUT TO EVERYONE, HAVE YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD KIDS DO THE INVITING

CASSEROLES, DESSERTS, SALADS, ARE EASY ITEMS
FOR NEIGHBORS TO BRING

IF YOU GET INVITED TO MORE THAN 1 BLOCK PARTY?
GO OR COMBINE THE PARTIES!

THINK ABOUT HAVING A THEME OR PUTTING UP DECORATIONS
(crazy hats or favorite movies are good conversation starters!)

THINK ABOUT HAVING ENTERTAINMENT OR GAMES,
AND WILL IT BE CROSS-GENERATIONAL? HAVE PRIZES!
(Twister, cards, board games, volleyball, horse shoes, music, bike parade)

TO KICK THINGS OFF YOU MIGHT WANT TO ASK EVERYONE
TO BRING A PICTURE OF THEIR FAMILY AND
MAP OUT WHERE EVERYONE LIVES

ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY
TO HAVE BLOCK PARTIES ALSO!

KEEP THEM ALCOHOL FREE

MAKE YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD A SAFE AND CARING PLACE
FOR YOUTH AND ADULTS!

Simple refreshment ideas:

- Watermelon
- Potluck - bring your speciality or have those whose addresses are odd numbers bring appetizer or a dessert, even number households bring side dish or salad
- Lemonade and cookies (bars)
- Coffee, tea and dessert
- Ice cream cones or popsicles; rootbeer float or make your own sundaes
- Make your own sundaes
- Pretzels and chips
- Fruit and cheese plates
- Pizza
- Hamburgers
- Hotdogs
- Chicken
- Salads
- Pop, iced tea, punch

Group conversations/mixers:

- Photos from past block parties
- Games - "Find a person who..." or "Human Bingo" with prizes;
- Awards for oldest, longest, newest residents

Activities for youth (and all ages too):

- 3-legged race and other relay races
- Animal balloons
- Bike parade
- Bike safety
- Board games
- Bubbles
- Celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, etc
- Coloring contest
- Dance revolution or guitar hero competition
- Disposable cameras - photo contests
- Facepainting
- Football, baseball, basketball, volleyball, etc
- Frisbee competition
- Funniest hat contest
- Have swap tables of outgrown toys, books, videos, and clothes
- Horse shoes
- Hula hoop contest
- Inflatables
- Jump rope contest
- Karaoke

- Limbo
- Magic show
- Make a banner
- Marbles, checkers, jacks
- Movies - outdoor movie night
- Obstacle course
- Petting zoo with farm animals/baby animals
- Piñata
- Pony/horse rides
- Roller blade
- Sack races
- Sandy beach party
- Scavenger hunt
- Self-defense demonstration
- Sidewalk chalk art
- Sing-alongs, or have music - ask neighborhood musicians (young or old) to play
- Skateboarding
- Skits
- Storytelling (fiction or truth)
- Street carnival
- Street hockey
- Visits from police, fire departments
- Water balloons
- Welcome new neighbors
- Youth parade with a theme

Contribute to the community:

- Collect for the Salvation Army
- Beautify a common area (park, curb, empty lot)
- Plan a fall/spring clean up or bulb planting
- Recruit additional neighborhood watch leaders and block captains
- Discuss neighborhood concerns, problems
- Distribute a neighborhood block list, phone numbers, etc
- Discuss outdoor lighting/safety in the area