FAQs

1.) How much territory should I try to represent?

Some neighborhoods have logical boundaries that are easy to recognize, while others require more judgment on the part of the Block Leader. In general, established Block Leaders have told us to target about 20-30 homes and hope for 5-10 initial responses. As block leaders become more established, they may choose to expand their area, but the number of people and area you coordinate is always up to you.

2.) How do I get people interested and motivated to participate?

There are probably as many answers to this question as there are Block Leaders! One of the first things you can do is ask yourself why you were motivated to become a Block Leader. It may well be that many of the same reasons that engaged you will be the same ones that will motivate your neighbors.

You might want to begin your initial introduction to your neighbors by letting them know why you have chosen to become a Block Leader and the benefits of an active neighborhood.

3.) What is the first event I should host?

This depends on whether your neighborhood has already begun to work on a common issue. Most experienced block leaders report that a block party is the most casual way to get neighbors together since they're most likely held on a blocked-off city street. You may also choose to begin gathering your neighbors through the GreenBlocks program.

4.) What should I do if only a few people respond?

If you have a few people respond, congratulate yourself on your efforts because this means you are on your way! Getting started is always the hardest part and once you have a few neighbors interested, they can help you get the ball rolling and help to energize you as you continue to connect with more neighbors.

5.) What tools can I use to show neighbors that I am a Block Leader?

You may also ask your neighbor to contact the City (Marta Drown, Community Relations Coordinator at 408-777-3408, or MartaD@cupertino.org) to confirm your affiliation with Cupertino. Block Leaders are not deputized by, or representatives of, the City of Cupertino and are instead private citizens who have taken the initiative to build a sense of community and keep their neighbors informed.

6.) What assistance can I expect from the City?
Block Leaders gather quarterly to learn about City Programs and activities that help to improve safety, communications, and quality of life in the neighborhoods. If you have questions, suggestions, or concerns about the Block Leader Program, or general city operations, Marta can direct you to appropriate staff and follow-up on your input. The Program has grown exponentially from Block Leader feedback, and we look forward to hearing from you!

Community Resources
City
Cupertino 311
Cupertino Scene (City Newsletter)
For questions about emergency training email oes@cupertino.org
E-Notification Signup - register for emails about City news, events, and more
New Resident Services
Resources for Teens
Resources for Seniors
County
AlertSCC is the County of Santa Clara's official emergency alert and warning system. AlertSCC is free for everyone and will send alerts directly to your mobile device, landline and/or email.
Sheriff's Office (non emergency) 408-868-6600
Request Patrol Check
Fire Marshall (non emergency) 408-378-4010 OR infor@sccfd.org
Animal Care & Control (Domestic Animals) 408-21-0660

[Santa Clara County Library](#)
[Library Blog](#) with news about latest library resources and events
[Borrow a State Parks Pass](#)
[Regional](#)
Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley 408-929-9453
Humane Society Silicon Valley (Domestic Animals) 408-384-8694
[State](#)
[California Drought Resources](#)
[California State Agencies](#)

Have a resource to add to this list? Email Marta Drown at MartaD@cupertino.org