



PARTY ON THE PORCH

YOUR VIRTUAL TOOLKIT!



Neighborhood communication list – Utilize the NextDoor website, invite your neighbors to share their contact info (phone, email). Include info on your pets –exchange pet names and photo so you can notify the neighbor if you see a loose pet before you call animal control. Compile the list and share with participants.



Neighborhood Scavenger Hunt: Ideal for a neighborhood with children, assign each neighbor a clue/task for a neighborhood wide scavenger hunt. With all neighbors being involved in the game, it provides for a safe space for children to interact with their neighbors and build stronger relationships.

Letters to Your Neighbor - we provide people with a downloadable PDF of a postcard (or a printed version in the office) which we encourage them to drop off in their neighbors mail box. Kids or adults can participate in writing letters to their neighbors. If it is a neighbor you already know, maybe write them a note wishing them a great week! Don't know your neighbors? Write them a letter introducing yourself!



Fence Tennis/Pickleball: Start tennis or pickleball games with your neighbor – all you need is a fence between you! Or we could create a Fence Tennis game with specific rules so that folks don't get hung up on the traditional rules of tennis or pickleball. You could have leagues within neighborhoods and a championship at the end of the month.

Neighborhood Beautification Day: Neighbors spend the day in their neighborhood helping each other clean up sidewalks, front yards, street, etc. to beautify their space. It's also a great way to give back to a senior neighbor who may not physically be able to keep up with the maintenance of their yard.



Around the World: A neighborhood block party that allows neighbors to celebrate their heritage. Participants can set up a table in front of their house or designate an area for everyone to be in and share things that are part of their heritage like food, drinks, a dance, an old photo book of their memories, etc.



Talent Show: A classic for neighbors who want to strut their stuff. Have neighborhoods throw a small talent show in a willing participant's front yard and assign maybe the more reserved neighbors to be the judges that way they still feel like they can participate without being in the spotlight.

Bake Off: Choose a night to have a neighborhood bake off! Create a sign-up list so that everyone can make something a little different and so you know who is participating. For extra fun, make it a competition! Decide on judges or let the whole neighborhood vote for their favorite baked goods.



Backyard/Alley parties: This would only work for the areas of town where people have an ally behind their property for utilities. We could encourage those neighborhoods to open their back gates and have a giant party on their block, neighbors could go from yard to yard through the allies so we don't have to block off streets or use any Town resources.

Neighborhood Gallery: Encourage neighbors to create art in their front yard – this could be sculptures from items at home, sidewalk chalk art, theatrical performances – and have a gallery or showcase night where everyone can walk around the neighborhood and enjoy



Chalk art: Create chalk art in your neighborhood! You can draw freehand or create templates with thick paper or cardboard. Write encouraging messages, create games with chalk, or just make fun and cheerful pictures for your neighbors to enjoy! Create your own art or work with your neighbors to make a collaborative piece. Neighbors could even have a friendly competition and vote on their favorite chalk art in the neighborhood.

Exchange Parties: A great ice breaker activity for a neighborhood. Neighbors exchange items with each other like their favorite recipe that they like to cook, homemade cookies, a book they enjoy reading, etc. Can be themed, like a garden exchange (get rid of that extra zucchini!) or art swap, or just a general exchange party. Neighbors could also have garage sale swaps or just participate in a neighborhood-wide yard sale.



Painted stones: Create beautiful rocks by painting images or words on them! Share them with neighbors or keep them in your own yard to bring cheer to people walking by. You can make "affirmation stones" by writing positive messages on your stones, share them with neighbors to let them know you're thinking of them!

Skill Sharing Bank - Are you tech savvy? Perhaps you can sew or like to tinker with cars. Your neighbors would love for you to share these skills with them, either by teaching them or just helping on a one-time basis.



Or make your own plans! Start a neighborhood bingo game on driveways, organize an ice cream social, have "Christmas in July" and request everyone to put up lights for the month, create theme weeks or weekends and talk to your neighbors about ways you can celebrate together. Be creative and have fun!