



# Neighborhood Watch

## Alarm Registration

Whether you live within the Montgomery or Harris County boundaries of The Woodlands Township, each county has specific alarm ordinances. If you own an alarm system you are required to complete an agreement (for the county that your alarmed residence is in) and submit it for a permit.

### Montgomery County Alarm Ordinance

Submit completed agreement and permit with payment to Montgomery County Alarm Detail, PO Box 2178, Conroe, Texas, 77305. There is a \$20 annual fee.

All alarms monitored or not, must have a permit. Permit applications are available at these locations:

- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Alarm Prevention & Administration Site
  - Online at <http://mcsocalarm.mctx.org>
- Montgomery County Alarm Detail, 1 Criminal Justice Drive, Conroe, Texas, 77301

Montgomery County residents are allowed five false alarms per calendar year. After the fifth false alarm, the homeowner will be billed \$75 per false alarm. Failure to pay these fees within the designated time may result in a Class C misdemeanor. For more information about the Montgomery County alarm ordinance, please call 936-760-5830. Notify your alarm company to call 936-442-7797 if your alarm goes off.

### Harris County Alarm Ordinance

There is a \$35 new permit fee and a \$10 annual renewal fee. Permit fees are not for government offices and residential permit holders who are at least 65 years of age; permit is required.

All alarms monitored or not, must have a permit. Permit applications are available at these locations:

- HCSO Alarm Administration Site
  - Online at [www.hcsoalarmpermit.com](http://www.hcsoalarmpermit.com)
- Harris County Alarm Detail, 9418 Jensen Drive, Suite A, Houston, Texas, 77093

Harris County residents are allowed three false alarms per calendar year. After the third false alarm, the homeowner will be billed \$75 per false alarm. For more information about the Harris County alarm ordinance, please call 713-755-4600. Notify your alarm company to call 281-376-3472 if your alarm goes off.

### Our Community Goal

To eliminate false alarms so law enforcement agencies can provide better assistance to residents for true emergencies.

- Basic Safety Tips:
  - Join The Woodlands Township Neighborhood Watch.
  - Lock your windows and doors.
  - Close and lock your garage doors.
  - Use your alarm at all times.
  - Report suspicious activity to law enforcement immediately.



# Neighborhood Watch

## How to Prevent False Alarms

### How to Prevent False Alarms

- Notice any irregular conditions with your security system and report them to your security company. A service call now may prevent an unnecessary dispatch later.
- Check that all protected doors and windows are locked before you turn your system on. They could accidentally blow open and cause a false alarm.
- Check that nothing is blocking motion sensors. Dogs and cats roaming in the house, or balloons and decorations moving with air currents may activate the detectors.
- Turn off the security system as soon as you enter, and leave the premises quickly when you turn your system on. If you need more time to exit or enter, ask your security company to adjust the entry/exit delay of your alarm system.
- Know how to use your keypad properly. If you make a mistake entering your code, some keypads require you to wait 3-5 seconds before trying to enter it again, or it may send a silent alarm signal.
- Tell your security company if there are any changes in your emergency contact list. Changes would include new phone numbers, password, or new people to be added.
- Test your alarm system monthly. Be sure to call your security monitoring company first, to eliminate a dispatched emergency response!
- Everyone who has a key to your premises must know how to operate the security system. This includes the real estate agent, maids, babysitters, relatives, and any key holders.
- Tell your security company if you are doing any remodeling. Dust and paint fumes may also affect the alarm equipment.
- Be sure to receive information on the use of your system as it is being installed. Make sure you understand all of its functions, including silent alarms, panic alarms and back-up batteries.