

Neighborhood Watch Planning for September Gates Outage

When Falls Run Neighborhood Watch personnel learned of the scheduled replacement of all four entrance gates to the community in September 2018, we immediately began considering what measures we could reasonably take to continue to safeguard the security of Falls Run during the period when we had no means to control vehicular access to the community. Our position was hampered by the fact we would have no method of identifying whether a vehicle driving through one of the entrances was a resident or otherwise had legitimate access to the community.

After consideration of our viable options, we decided to take the following actions to increase visible patrolling of the community:

1. Our driving patrol coordinator instructed all vehicular patrols scheduled to operate during the month of September to include a loop outside the community by driving out one of the unguarded entrances, continuing down Plantation to the next entrance, and then returning to their regular patrol route within Falls Run. Because all patrol vehicles bear red-on-white "Falls Run Neighborhood Watch" magnetic signs on both sides of the car, we judged this action would alert traffic on Plantation that we were paying particular attention to our entrances.
 2. Our liaison officer to the Stafford County Sheriff's office arranged to have deputies patrolling along Plantation pay particular attention to vehicular activity at the four entrances to Falls Run. Deputy patrols will also make occasional runs through our community, again to indicate increased attention to our ungated status.
 3. We will ask all Neighborhood Watch zone captains to instruct the walking patrols in their zone to always wear a Neighborhood Watch reflective vest and to be especially alert for any unusual activity during their patrol period.
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Please share this information with neighbors that may not have received it.
