



Palestine Police Department
**NATIONAL NIGHT
OUT 2008**
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7,
2008
**NEW MONTH!!! NEW
DATE!!**



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT NNO 2008 will be held in OCTOBER (not August), along with NNO celebrations throughout the state of Texas.

National Night Out, sponsored by the [NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TOWN WATCH](#), is a neighborhood crime and drug prevention event that occurs annually on the first Tuesday in August (IN TEXAS NNO 2008 WILL BE IN OCTOBER) and is celebrated in every city, town and village in the US. In addition to increasing awareness of crime and drug prevention programs, NNO also strengthens neighborhood spirit and community-police partnerships, while sending a message to criminals that "neighborhoods are organized and fighting back against crime!"

The Palestine Police Department, along with most of the other police departments in the state of Texas, is participating in a National Night Out experiment this year.

The National Association of Town Watch has held National Night Out across the country traditionally on the first Tuesday in August, but this year it will be held Oct. 7.

"We support this change and we hope to get our numbers up because of the cooler weather in October rather than in August," said PPD spokesperson Donna Thornell.

Thornell also said that several groups have already asked the department to visit their block parties, even though they are still more than two months away.

The purpose of National Night Out is to get neighbors to come out of their houses and meet their neighbors. That has evolved into a night when Neighborhood Watch groups and homeowners' associations hold block parties. In many towns police officers and firefighters visit those block parties to promote neighbors getting to know each other and looking out for each other.

For the last few years southern states have been petitioning the town watch association to hold National Night Out in October because the heat is much less oppressive than in August. NATW made Oct. 7 an alternative date for National Night Out for police departments in Texas. If National Night Out in October works well this year in Texas, then other southern states will have the option of holding the event in August or October.

For information on forming a block party or a Neighborhood Watch group contact dsthornell@palestine-tx.org or call 903-731-8436 if you have any questions.

For information on National Night Out visit www.nationaltownwatch.org.