



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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General Release

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – AUGUST 2, 2011
THE CITY OF PORTAGE WILL JOIN CITIES NATIONWIDE FOR
“AMERICA’S NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME”

On Tuesday, August 2, 2011, neighborhoods throughout Portage are being invited to join forces with thousands of communities nationwide for the “28th Annual National Night Out” (NNO) crime and drug prevention event. National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, and co-sponsored locally by the Portage Department of Public Safety, will involve over 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases around the world. In all, over 37 million people are expected to participate in “America’s Night out Against Crime.” NNO is being supported in part by Target, a national corporate sponsor.

National Night Out is designed to: (1) heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime efforts; (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships; and, (4) send a message to criminals, letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

From 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on August 2, residents in neighborhoods throughout Portage and across the nation are being asked to lock their doors, turn on outside lights

and spend the evening outside with neighbors and police. Many neighborhoods throughout Portage will be hosting a variety of special events.

National Project Coordinator Matt Peskin said, “This is a night for America to stand together to promote awareness, safety, and neighborhood unity. National Night Out showcases vital importance of police – community partnerships and citizen involvement in our fight to build a safer nation. On NNO, we invite neighborhoods nationwide to join us in giving crime and drugs a going-away party.”

A special event is planned for August 2 between 4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Portage Target Store location. Local Police, Fire, and Parks units will be on scene, as well as representatives of Safe Kids of Kalamazoo County and Prevention Works. Target Stores will be providing refreshments and children’s games. Everyone is welcome to come out and participate in this local event.

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