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## BNN Block Activity Ideas

**Get Acquainted** – At your first meeting, you'll want to allow lots of time for neighbors to get to know one another. You can introduce the idea of capturing basic contact info in a Neighborhood Directory and can discuss whether you wish to have other meetings or an annual Block Party. Burlingame Neighborhood Network leaders are happy to send a representative to your meeting to introduce neighbors to free information and free training classes offered by the city.

**Block Party** – A Block Party can be simple (bring your lawn chair and whatever you wish to drink) or more elaborate (ice cream social, barbecue, potluck).

**Fourth of July or Labor Day Barbecue** – To make it easy, invite each family to bring their own meat or main course to grill and one side dish to share. Or have an ice cream social.

**Participate in National Night Out on the first Tuesday in August**, from 6 to 9 p.m., when neighborhoods across the country are asked to turn on outside lights and spend the evening with neighbors.

**Block Group Meeting** – Discuss gas and electrical safety in the home. Invite CCFD to talk to neighbors about fire prevention or the Burlingame Police Department to present crime watch and security tips.

**Block Camp Trip** – This is a great annual tradition that fosters great relationships with block families. Explore the great outdoors together!

**Block Garage Sale** – Invite neighbors to hold a garage sale on the same day so you can share signage and attract more shoppers.

**Holiday Party** – This can be a progressive potluck gathering or a fun cookie exchange gathering. Get creative!

Here are a few “fun to organize” gathering ideas to help keep your block connected:

**Ice Cream Social**

**Friday Night Wine & Cheese Gathering**

**Food Truck Night**

**Outdoor Fire Pit & Beverage Gathering**

**Outdoor Popcorn & Movie Night**

**Music Night (featuring neighborhood youths)**

**Halloween Costume Contest**

**Get Ready Block Meeting** – Topics can be developed around different sections of the Get Ready manual offered by the Central County Fire Department, such as how to turn off utilities and basic supplies needed for an emergency kit.

**Annual Disaster Drill** – Burlingame Neighborhood Network leaders can help you simulate a disaster in your neighborhood and walk neighbors through the steps of assessing damage and injuries. Check the BNN website for the date of this year's drill at [BurlingameNetwork.org](http://BurlingameNetwork.org)

**Utility Shutoff** – Invite Pacific Gas & Electric to discuss gas and electrical hazards and demonstrate shutoff procedures.

**Create a Directory** – Some Neighborhood Networks like to create a Neighborhood Directory together. It's simple: Just provide each person with a grid of the homes in your Network and then invite each person to supply basic contact info, which all those at the meeting capture on their personal maps of the neighborhood.

**BNN Fliers** – Meeting topics can be organized around fliers that the Burlingame Neighborhood Network has developed, such as water access during emergencies and earthquake preparedness tips for families with children and pets.