

How can forming a block club help you?

The objective of any neighborhood organization should be to improve living conditions for all neighbors and the community as a whole. A block club can work to:

- *Improve the physical and safety environment of the neighborhood;*
- *Eliminate negative influences in the neighborhood;*
- *Improve health, safety, physical, and economic standards of residents, through work with government departments and other agencies;*
- *Develop a spirit of cooperation and social interaction among residents.*



A block club working together to cleanup their street during *Dumpster Day*.

Ready to Start a Block Club?

Let us know how we can help.



VECA

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Vollintine Evergreen
Community Association



Time to Start a Block Club

You Are Invited....

VECA is inviting Vollintine Evergreen residents to start block clubs in our neighborhood. We are excited to help support you in your efforts to build community and neighborhood engagement.

What is a block club?

A block club is composed of neighbors that come together to discuss the conditions of the block and potential problem areas. It is also an opportunity to develop relationships and hold social events. Other purposes of block clubs include neighborhood safety and problem solving.

How do we form a block club?

It only takes 1-2 people to talk with other neighbors. Someone needs to send out flyers for a meeting, and someone should conduct the meeting. From there, the neighbors will discuss what they want to do.

Where does a block club meet?

The VECA Welcome Center would be happy to host the meetings and can provide amenities and speakers. There will need to be someone to lead the meeting and someone to take minutes. Let VECA know what you need—maps of the block properties, ownership information, or information about a problem property. VECA can also print flyers to announce the meeting.

How many people need to come to the meeting?

It would be great for 5-6 people to attend, but 2-3 is okay. It does not have to be a large group, but everyone on the block should be invited.

Do we need a name for our block club?

A name will give your block club a presence. It can be as simple as naming it after your street, or a more creative name can be decided upon.



What kinds of projects can be done by the block club?

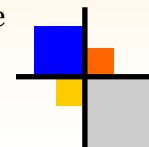
Projects can include (but are not limited to): Compiling a contact list of residents and owners on the block; cleaning up a problem property; creating a community garden or flower garden; having a block picnic for residents; delivering newsletters and other information; having the police speak to the group, or building a neighborhood sign.

Is funding available?

Block clubs that have good ideas and take strong interest in their efforts can apply for project funding through VECA.

Block club successes:

- Sponsoring *Dumpster Day*, a multi-street cleanup
- Trimming and maintaining overgrown trees to increase pedestrian safety
- Creating and preserving a public flower garden
- Working with police to identify problem properties
- Compiling a street phone list



Does this have to be a “real” club?

Your club can be as formal or informal as you want. It just gives the neighbors a chance to get together and talk.

Why should we work with VECA?

VECA can help by providing a place to have meetings, resources such as manuals and contact information, and a liaison who can work closely with your block club. Also, working with the Welcome Center will give your block club the opportunity to meet and work with other block club groups. It feels great to be a part of a larger movement.

Is there someone at VECA who can help us?

Yes. VECA has a block club liaison that can work with you to begin or expand your block club. Contact the VECA Welcome Center at 276-1782.