

## **POSSIBLE ACTS OF NEIGHBORLINESS**

- Invite neighbor children over with their parents for a game night.
- Organize a simple parade in your neighborhood. Any theme can work.
- Soup potluck for neighbors in your driveway.
- Set up an outdoor picture-taking event for kids.
- Grill hamburgers and/or hot dogs in the front yard and include water.
- Put out chairs in the front yard, so neighbors can sit down and rest and drink something.
- Bring out a fire pit in your front yard to roast marshmallows or make s'mores.
- Offer a helping hand to rake a neighbor's lawn or cleaning rain or street gutters are great ways to show your neighbors you care.
- Send a text, an email, or a card to your neighbors thanking them for being such great neighbors. They will be surprised that you took the time to write a thoughtful note.
- Host neighbors for evening coffee and dessert.
- With the cooler weather and football season going strong, it is a great time to invite neighbors over to watch a game, eat your favorite snacks, and connect with them.
- Give thank you cards to those in your neighborhood who contribute.
- Invite your neighbors over for an open house.
- How about a potluck for neighbors?
- Mail or leave at the door a surprise affirmation note to neighbors.
- Use the element of surprise with a gift or act of service that would bless your neighbors.
- Get all the neighbors involved in a free car wash at your house or a neighbor's house.
- Organize a neighborhood ping pong or croquet tournament.
- Outdoor movie night: Project a movie onto a garage or outdoor screen.
- Offer to bring in the mail or newspaper when a neighbor is on vacation.
- If new neighbors have moved in, throw a welcome party. Ask everyone to bring an appetizer or a dessert. (Sunday from 4 - 6 pm is a good time.)
- Help with unkempt lawns or the elderly in the neighborhood.
- Take walks or bike rides with neighbors.
- Host a pancake breakfast, in the front yard if possible, to let neighbors see what is going on. How about Pancakes on the porch!
- A neighborhood scavenger hunt. (I have sample charts)
- Find out who the Vets are in your neighborhood and think of something you could do for them that would show you appreciate their service.

- “Sunday Sundae.” Neighbors gather for sundaes on Sunday.
- Donuts on the driveway (with coffee of course).
- Offer to walk your neighbor’s dog(s). They might welcome the break and you might have a chance to meet more neighbors.
- Bring cut flowers to a shut-in in your neighborhood.
- Start a neighborhood garden and bring the produce to your neighbors. You might want to put it in the front yard, so the neighbors watch the vegetables grow.
- Start a neighborhood lending library. You might want to build a book-box on a pole for the neighborhood or in a public place in your apartment building.
- Throw a Saturday breakfast for everyone in your apartment complex or one in your front yard. The smell of bacon catches everyone’s attention.
- Look for needs in the neighborhood and ask if you can lend a hand.
- Put on neighborhood progressive dinner.
- Invite your neighbors over for a barbeque. Arrange activities for the kids so they are included, like a bounce house, croquet, slip ‘in slide, etc.
- Neighborhood book club
- Go for a walk and bring a small trash bag to pick up trash along the sidewalk.
- Use sidewalk chalk to write an inspiring message on the sidewalk in front of your home.
- Ask an elderly neighbor or parent with young children if you can pick up items for them while you’re at the store.
- If you play a musical instrument, give invitations to your neighbors to attend an outdoor concert on the curb at a given time.
- Introduce yourself to a neighbor.
- Compliment a neighbor on a feature of their home or garden.
- Make yourself available by spending more time in the front yard.
- Host a garage sale with special discounts for your neighbors
- Offer to mow the lawn of a busy young family or older adult neighbor.
- Make a double batch of the cookies you’re baking and bring some to a neighbor.
- Know parents who could use a night out? Offer to babysit a neighbor’s child for free.
- Organize a blitz neighborhood cleanup.
- Make dinner for a neighbor who has just had a baby or surgery.
- Sit on your front porch or in your front yard, and smile at anyone you see outside.
- Buy a plant. Put it in a terracotta pot. Write positive words that describe a friend on the pot. Give it to that friend!

- Say hello or wave each time you see your neighbors.
- Write a message or draw a picture on neighbor's sidewalk with chalk.
- Bring in your neighbors' garbage can or offer to wash their car.
- Leave a bottle of bubbles, flowers or coloring book on neighbor's doorstep.
- Ask an neighbor if there's a chore you can help them do.
- Offer to walk your neighbor's dog, water their garden, rake leaves or shovel snow.
- Deliver a homemade card to your neighbor, or leave it in their door.
- Set up a reverse lemonade stand with free drinks for neighbors.
- Host a free car wash for neighbors on your driveway.
- Invite a few neighbors over for tea/coffee and conversation. This is an especially nice way to reach out to widows or others who may be overlooked at times.

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# Engaged Neighbor Network