

# Hello Neighbor!



This pamphlet offers resources for you to understand why protesters have taken to the streets in our neighborhoods, addressing police violence directly at the places they work and organize. We, like you, are deeply angered by the brutal police killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Patrick Kimmons, and countless others.

# Why we're out here

We are directly confronting the institutions and individuals responsible for police murders and police brutality. Each of us expends what privilege we have to work toward justice and a constellation of goals including defunding bloated police institutions, ending qualified immunity that protects police murderers, and redirecting taxpayer dollars towards resources (such as schools) that directly benefit oppressed communities.

## Black Lives Matter

The Black Lives Matter movement addresses the ways racism and racist violence permeate and historically form the structure of society and have specifically harmed Black people. The BLM movement seeks to expose and rectify this systemic racism. Black Lives Matter's Patrisse Kahn-Cullers has said, "Our argument is: 'If Black people get free, everybody else gets free'."

## What you might see tonight

Marching in the streets, chanting and waving signs, holding intersections, and demonstrating outside of police organizations are some of the tactics we employ to draw attention to ongoing injustices and violence against Black people.

- People taking over the streets is intentionally disruptive. Historically, disruptions of the "peace" have led to concessions from those in power. That is why we chant: "NO JUSTICE, NO PEACE!"
- Do not expect peace from the police, a fundamentally violent institution which functions to suppress effective social movements.
- There are many valid ways to protest. We value a diversity of tactics. We have chosen direct actions such as street demonstrations and mutual aid.
- We take responsibility for our own actions; we do not police other people's actions.
- Police react violently to trivial incidents (i.e. throwing a water bottle or touching a fence). Police escalation stems from a culture of force and is not the fault of protesters.

### ***It's okay if you're uncomfortable! This is scary for all of us!***

Directly confronting police brutality poses an inherent risk. Night after night, police respond with violent escalation regardless of protestors' actions. Despite this, protestors take care of each other.

***When we say “WE PROTECT US” this reflects the world we want to build and extends to our neighbors.***

## **What this means for you**

- The police regularly use tools like Long Range Acoustic Devices (LRAD) to give orders to protestors and flashbang grenades to force dispersals. These make your night very loud.
- The police may fire munitions like rubber bullets or “pepper balls” at the crowd. If they do, stay safe by remaining behind cover, and do NOT directly confront the police unless you are prepared for retaliatory violence.
- The police may deploy CS (tear) gas into the crowd. If they do, do not run from the gas - walk away to give your lungs a break. If the gas gets in your eyes, wash them out with clean water.
- There is a very real possibility that the police will damage your vehicles in pursuit of protestors.

If tensions at the protest escalate and you can hear police LRAD announcements from your home, take the following precautions to avoid exposing yourself, family, and pets to tear gas:

- Place rolled damp towels at the base of doors and seal window seams with masking tape.
- Close off all ACs/vents, tape doors to attics, crawl spaces, and fire places.
- Keep pets indoors!
- Cover any food-producing plants with plastic.
- Bear in mind that CS gas particles may activate if it rains or you water your garden in the days following a protest.
- Keep lots of water at hand to clean your eyes. When flushing your eyes, BLINK — DO NOT RUB!

# How you can help

On the ground: You could leave water bottles out for protesters. You can provide verbal support from your homes. Most importantly, you could join us on the streets! There is strength in numbers.

Community support organizations also need your assistance:

- **Portland Mutual Aid** ([@portlandmutualaid](https://portlandmutualaid.org)) – Providing ongoing mutual aid for Portland’s houseless community with food, supplies, and temporary shelter. Venmo: [@portlandmutualaidnetwork](https://portlandmutualaidnetwork.com).
- **Don’t Shoot Portland** ([dontshootpdx.org](https://dontshootpdx.org) / [@dontshootpdx](https://dontshootpdx.org)) – A social justice nonprofit 501c3 that promotes art, education and civic participation to create social change.
- **Care Not Cops** ([@carenotcops](https://carenotcops.org)) – A grassroots campaign to abolish policing and shift our reliance and resources to self-determined community care.
- **The Witches** ([@bitchwitch420](https://twitter.com/bitchwitch420) on twitter) – A collective and coven in offering free supplies, first aid, food, drinks and support to the community.
- **Portland Action Medics / Rose Hip Medics** ([rosehipmedics.org](https://rosehipmedics.org) / [@portlandactionmedics](https://portlandactionmedics.org)) – loose network of 20+ hour trained street medics in the Portland area. Venmo: [@Rosehip-medics](https://rosehip-medics.com).
- **Free Lunch Collective** ([@freelunchcollective](https://freelunchcollective.com)) – A collective of autonomous individuals organizing around food access for all and a hub for mutual aid. Venmo: [@freelunchcollective](https://freelunchcollective.com).

<https://blacklivesmatters.carrd.co/>

## For more information:

<https://www.pdx-blm-events.com/>

[@safePDXprotest](https://twitter.com/safePDXprotest)

Local Telegram information channel: <https://t.me/PDXuprising>

