

High Woodlands Homeowners Association

High Woodlands Herald

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT from the Kirkland Police Department about REVERSE 9-1-1 SYSTEM

The City of Kirkland is a participating member of NORCOM* which is a regional dispatch center located in Bellevue, Washington. NORCOM uses a software program called Community Telephone Emergency Notification System, sometimes called Reverse 9-1-1, to send urgent messages to selected phone numbers based on the geographic location of a resident's phone carrier billing address. The system allows for a city-wide notification or can target specific phone numbers in a designated area. Phone numbers (excluding unlisted numbers) are supplied by phone companies and updated annually. If you have an unlisted phone number, you can register at www.norcom.org.

The Benefits of a Reverse 9-1-1

This system has the potential to reach thousands of phone numbers within a fairly short period of time. The Kirkland Police Department has activated the system as a means to reach residents in cases where the public needs to be notified immediately of a situation or their help is needed urgently. A notification may be sent – even during inconvenient hours – to help find a missing adult or child who may have a serious health condition or is in serious danger. In the event of a major disaster and the phone system is working, important public safety messages can be sent out via this system that could advise residents of most damaged areas and evacuation information.

This system was utilized recently in an effort to get the public's help in locating a missing elderly male who suffered from dementia. With the temperatures dropping, the system was activated so that every tool available to the police department was utilized. The gentleman was safely returned later that evening.

What You May See and Hear on Your Phone

The system pushes out a pre-recorded message giving emergency instructions to whoever receives the message. All outbound recorded messages will be brief and to the point. A message will be from thirty (30) to sixty (60) seconds in length and will begin with the statement: "This is the Kirkland Police Department with a recorded message." All outbound messages will include a phone number for residents to call if they have questions about the message or information to provide. Because the call is initiated from NORCOM which is located in Bellevue, Washington, the prefix is not Kirkland-based.

To Learn More or for Assistance

Learn more about the Reverse 9-1-1 system used by NORCOM or to add or, update your phone number to receive notifications or to delete your phone number, visit www.norcom.org or call 425-577-5656.

Board Members

Jim Eagan - President

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OPEN - Vice President

David Lee - Treasurer

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Dick Falcone - Secretary

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Richard Kobylka - Park

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OPEN - Architecture

Crystal Lee - Pool Manager

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Open Board Positions

There are two open board positions, Vice President and Architecture. Please consider helping out the neighborhood by volunteering for a position. Board meetings are held monthly. Contact Jim Eagan if you are interested.

Board Meetings are generally held the first Monday of the month. All homeowners are welcome and encouraged to attend. The next board meeting is February 4, at 7:30 pm at the Robert Frost Library.

We're on the Web!
www.highwoodlands.org

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

Kirkland Police Department

The Kirkland Police Department reminds Kirkland citizens and visitors that car prowls – theft of property from vehicles - increases in most areas of the city during the holiday season. Beginning in October and through November the Police Department has seen a significant increase in car prowls than what is typically reported in the late summer and early fall. In 2012, the Juanita Neighborhood, south Kirkland along Lake Washington Blvd., and the downtown residential areas have seen the most increases in car prowls. However, these thefts are occurring citywide as well as in neighboring cities. Several arrests of active car prowlers have been made and one arrest was the direct result of a Kirkland citizen calling 9-1-1 to report suspicious activity near vehicles. If you see any suspicious activity, trust your instinct and report it to the Police Department by calling 9-1-1.

What you can do to prevent car prowls

There are several ways that you can help prevent becoming a victim of car theft:

- Park your vehicle in a well lit area whenever possible.
- Lock your vehicle whenever and wherever you park it.
- Leave no items of any value in plain view to someone looking in your windows such as your purse, wallet, checkbook, cell phone, laptop or tablet computers. Personal information can be obtained from these items and devices and you could become a victim of identity theft.
- Other items such as GPS, holiday gifts, backpacks and duffle bags should be hidden from plain view. **Never leave a Firearm in your vehicle, hidden from view or not.
- If you have to leave items in your vehicle, lock them in your trunk and out of view.

What to do if you're a victim of a car prowler

If your car is prowled, whether it is locked or unlocked, call 9-1-1. Do not touch anything, as sometimes fingerprints can be recovered. If you are a victim of Identify Theft as a result of a car prowler, visit the KPD website for resource information at www.kirklandwa.gov/police.

What the Kirkland Police Department is doing

The Kirkland Police Department is conducting the following public education and enforcement activities:

- Increased patrols in all neighborhoods and especially where these crimes occur more frequently.
- Use of patrol officers in un-marked vehicles to spot thefts and suspicious activity.
- Attend neighborhood meetings to raise awareness about car prowls and other crime trends.
- Work with citizens and business owners as partners to educate and help prevent car prowls.

Contact Neighborhood Resource Officer Audra Weber at aweber@kirklandwa.gov or 425-587-3451 for crime prevention information.

Electronic Notification of the Newsletter Available

For those of you who wish to access our neighborhood newsletter electronically as soon as it is posted, you can receive an email message that it is available with a direct link to the newsletter on our website. We will also continue to deliver a paper copy of the newsletter to your door step.



To subscribe, go to the High Woodlands website (highwoodlands.org) and click on Newsletter. Then click on Subscribe. Type in your email address and click on "Submit Your Information". Then you will be sent an email with a link to confirm that you want to subscribe. Your email address is secure and will not be shared with anyone. You may also unsubscribe at any time.

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