



CITY OF EDMONDS

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POLICE DEPARTMENT • AN ACCREDITED LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

DAVID O. EARLING

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE #1

Date: December 2, 2011

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BURGLARY RATES ON THE RISE

As reported yesterday local burglary rates are on a steady increase as we head into the holiday season. In the last two months alone there have been over 200 commercial and residential burglaries in the Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace areas (See included map of Edmonds, Lynnwood and Mountlake Terrace). Edmonds alone has had 39 burglaries reported between October 1st and November 30th (See included map of Edmonds).

Of particular concern is the increase in residential burglaries and the potential of those numbers climbing as we near the holiday season when many homes are filled with gifts or left unoccupied while we shop or travel. A common theme in residential burglaries, and something to be aware of, is the suspect's attempts to assure that the home is unoccupied before they break in. Commonly a suspect will ring the door bell or knock on the front door and if they receive no answer they will go to a more secluded part of the house and force entry through a door or window. If someone knocks on your door you should do something to make sure they know someone is home, whether you choose to answer the door or not. If you do answer the door for someone and they do not appear to have a legitimate reason for being there, call 911 and report this, providing as much detail as you can about the subject and any vehicles that they may be associated with. The most effective tool the police have in thwarting home burglaries is the alert homeowner reporting suspicious persons or activities in their neighborhoods.

As we near the holidays the Edmonds Police Department recommends the following home safety tips:

Before leaving on a holiday vacation or trip be sure to remember the following:

- Avoid advertising, especially in front of strangers, that you will be leaving home for the holidays (this includes social media sites).
- If available, use the phone company's call forwarding to forward all your calls.
- Suspend newspaper deliveries and have your mail held at the post office.
- Have a trusted neighbor watch your home while you are gone.
- Make sure your home looks occupied while you are away and make it difficult to break in.
- Have a neighbor park their car in your driveway.

- Use timers on your lights.

Tips at Home:

- Keep the outside of your home well-lit with doors locked and window curtains closed.
- Do not display gifts beneath the Christmas tree that can be seen from windows or doors.
- After the holidays, do not advertise gifts received by leaving boxes for the garbage collection. Instead, destroy or flatten for closure in a recycle bin.

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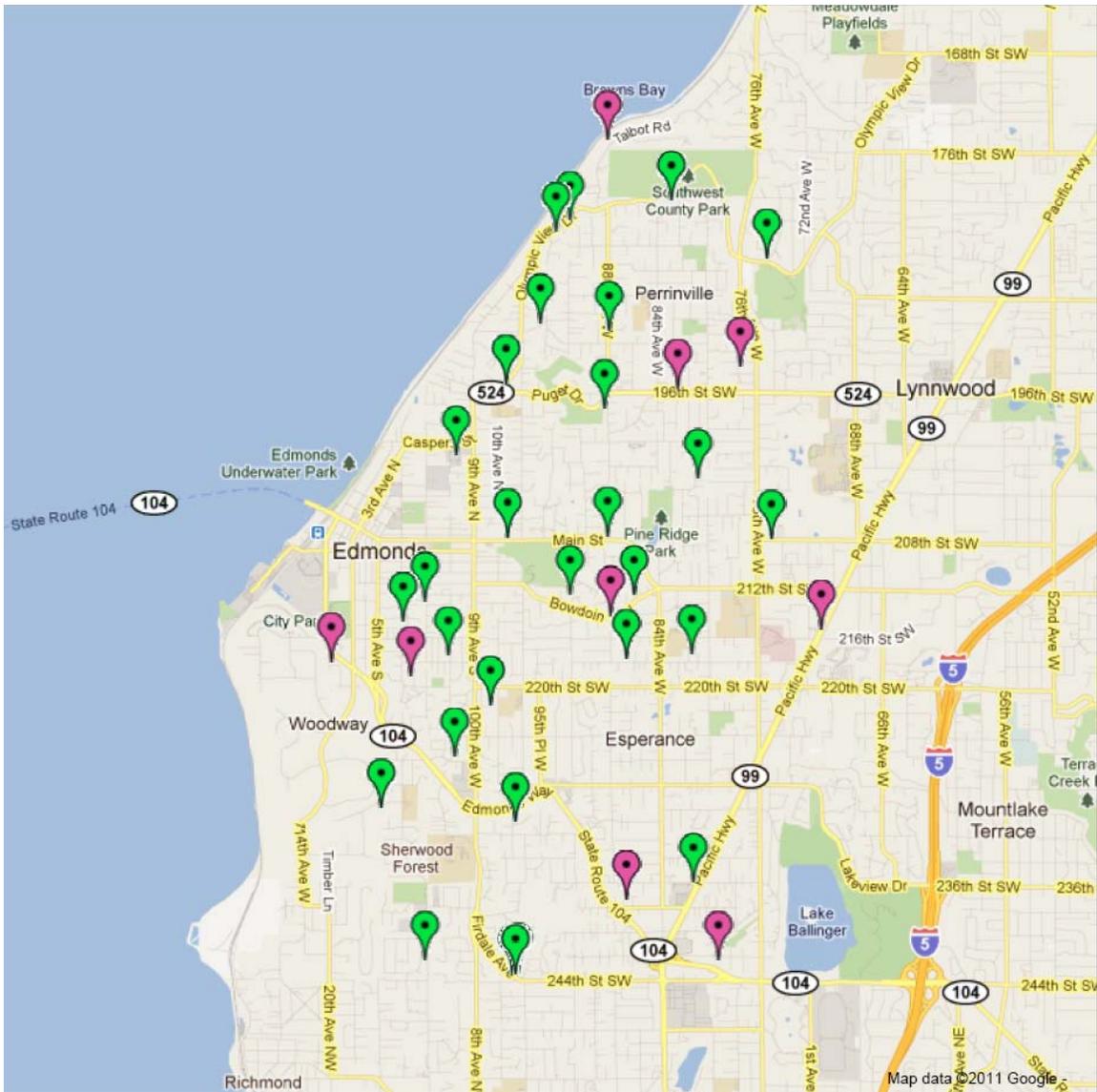
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Sister City - Hekinan, Japan



Edmonds Burglaries for October (Magenta) and November (Green).



Edmonds, Lynnwood, Mountlake Terrace burglaries October 1st through December 1st.