



**CITY OF KIRKLAND**  
**Fire & Building Department**  
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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Kurt Triplet, City Manager  
**From:** Helen Ahrens-Byington, Deputy Fire Chief / City Emergency Manager  
**Date:** June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
**Subject:** Map Your Neighborhood Day Proclamation

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

Council proclaims that June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011 is Kirkland Map-Your-Neighborhood Day.

### **BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:**

The mission of the Kirkland Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is to create and sustain partnerships that support disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery to become a resilient community. After a disaster, the first level of care will be neighbors checking on neighbors. The Map-Your-Neighborhood (MYN) program is designed to help neighborhoods connect and prepare before the disaster happens. In 2010, the City of Kirkland was awarded a Washington Service Corps, Vista Volunteer for 12 months, to support emergency preparedness in Kirkland. One of the core projects assigned to the Vista, was to encourage community volunteers to participate in the Map-Your-Neighborhood program.

The MYN program was developed by Dr. LuAnn Johnson, Public Education Program Manager with the Washington State Emergency Management Division. This emergency preparedness program has been adopted throughout Washington and across the nation. The Kirkland Office of Emergency Management began to use the Map-Your-Neighborhood program in 2007 as a disaster preparedness training program. The program trains citizens in the "9 Steps to Take Immediately Following a Disaster" and helps them identify the skills and equipment each neighbor has that would be useful in a disaster response. They also learn ways that they can support each other in the aftermath of a disaster.

The Office of Emergency Management is partnering with volunteers in the community by training and supporting Map-Your-Neighborhood leaders. Currently, over 20 Neighborhood blocks have participated in the program with dozens more interested in signing up. The Kirkland Office of Emergency Management's goal is to have over 50 MYN blocks mapped by the end of August. In order to assist in accomplishing this goal, June 12, 2011 is being designated as the Kirkland Map-Your-Neighborhood Day, encouraging leaders to set a date to meet in their neighborhoods, creating a community that is more resilient when a disaster happens here.



## A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

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### Proclaiming June 12, 2011 as "Map Your Neighborhood" Day in the City of Kirkland, Washington

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the City of Kirkland's Office of Emergency Management is to create and sustain partnerships that encourage emergency and disaster preparedness, planning, response and recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, the "Map Your Neighborhood" program involves neighbors in preparing for and effectively responding to disasters through skill building, resource management, and communication; and

**WHEREAS**, the Norkirk Neighborhood, Highlands and Market Neighborhoods participated in a "Map Your Neighborhood" Program event in 2010; and

**WHEREAS**, on Sunday, June 12, 2011, Kirkland residents are encouraged to gather together, meet one another, and learn how to become part of Kirkland's resilient community in disaster preparedness and response; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Office of Emergency Management can provide training and resources to neighborhoods interested in mapping their neighborhood;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I**, Joan McBride, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim June 12, 2011 as "Map Your Neighborhood" Day in Kirkland, Washington and urge all citizens to participate in "Map Your Neighborhood" activities and support the City's goals to be effectively prepared for disasters in order to efficiently respond to them.

Signed this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2011

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Joan McBride, Mayor