



## MORRIS TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

# *MEDIA RELEASE*

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John McGuinness  
Chief of Police

## **Possible Mountain Lion Observed in Burnham Park Area**

October 11, 2012

On Wednesday, October 10, 2012 Morris Township Police responded to a report of a small mountain lion in the area of Hillcrest Avenue. Upon patrols arrival the large cat was gone. Information from the reporting party seems to indicate that the animal resembled a mountain lion. Since patrols have not been able to confirm the sighting it is hard to say if there is a need for concern. We have followed up with the NJ Department of Environmental Protection and will continue to advise them of the animal's activities.

Sightings of mountain lions have been on the rise throughout North Jersey over the past few years. Like many wild animals, mountain lions generally avoid contact with humans. The food source for mountain lions mainly consists of deer which there are plenty of in the area.

Although the animal is believed to be passing through the wooded area of Washington Valley residents are asked to be vigilant when outside. If the animal is observed please do not hesitate to call the police immediately.



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