



PRESS RELEASE

Date: December 1, 2025
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Vandalism of Borst Park Christmas Light Displays

The Centralia Police Department is investigating an act of malicious vandalism that occurred overnight between Tuesday, November 25, and Wednesday, November 26, 2025, at Borst Park. Unknown individual(s) damaged approximately one-third of the Christmas light displays prepared for the annual Borst Lights celebration.

Borst Lights is a beloved community event that residents of Centralia and surrounding areas look forward to each Christmas season. Beyond spreading joy, the event supports local non-profits with fundraising and collecting food donations for families in need.

Centralia City Parks employees, who have spent days setting up this year's displays, were deeply disappointed to discover the extent of the damage. Early damage estimates range from \$20,000 to \$30,000, indicating what it would cost to replace the damaged displays. In response, the Centralia Police Department has increased patrols in and around Borst Park and is actively pursuing all investigative leads to identify those responsible for damaging our community tradition.

We are pleased to report that, thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Centralia City Parks staff, most of the damaged displays have been repaired or replaced. Borst Lights will open as scheduled on the evening of Friday, December 5, 2025, and will remain open each evening through December 25, 2025. The drive-thru light display is open nightly between 5:00-9:00 PM.

The Centralia Police Department is asking for the public's help. Anyone with information about this incident, no matter how small, is urged to come forward. Tips can be reported by:

- Calling the Centralia Police Department during business hours at (360) 330-7680
- Contacting our non-emergency dispatch line 24/7 at (360) 740-1105

We are committed to identifying those responsible and appreciate any assistance the public can provide.

We thank our City Parks team for their rapid response and dedication in ensuring Borst Lights will shine brightly for another Christmas season.