

Graffiti is the most common type of property vandalism

Who do you call?

If you see graffiti “in progress” call 9-1-1 immediately.

To report existing graffiti:

Take a picture, document the date and location of the graffiti, and a description including the color and type of surface (wood fence, concrete, etc.). Then make a report and provide details to the appropriate agency:

Private Property in city- VPD 487-7500
<https://www.cityofvancouver.us/police/page/graffiti>
Public Property in city limits: 360-487-8177

Private Property in county-
CCSO 564-397-6079 or online
<https://www.clark.wa.gov/sheriff/file-crime-report>
State Highways- WSDOT 360-759-1300
Electrical Boxes-Clark PUD 992-3000
Bus Stops- C-TRAN 360-695-0123
County parks: Public Works 360.397.2446

Professional Resource:

Contact a professional graffiti removal service if you are unfamiliar with painting out graffiti or if your property has unique characteristics.



Clark County Sheriff's Office
Community Outreach
Phone: 564-397-3380
Email: sheriffcommunityoutreach@clark.wa.gov



CLARK COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE
Vancouver, WA
564-397-3380

GRAFFITI HURTS COMMUNITIES

How is a community really hurt by graffiti?

- Graffiti is a crime. It sends the message that nobody cares, attracting other forms of crime to the neighborhood.
- Graffiti decreases a resident's feeling of safety.
- Graffiti is toxic for the environment.
- Graffiti is costly in terms of removal, lost business and lowered property values.



GRAFFITI PREVENTION

How can I prevent graffiti?

- Keep your property clean and neat.
- Promptly remove graffiti. Removal within 24 to 48 hours significantly reduces the chance of reoccurrence.
- Step up security- add or improve lighting. Install a security camera.
- Plant hardy shrubbery or trees to cover current or potential graffiti areas.
- Work with neighbors- organize a neighborhood graffiti clean-up.

IT'S YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

METHODS OF REMOVAL

As a property owner, you are responsible to remove graffiti from your property. Check with your insurance company to see if you are covered for property vandalism.

There are several different graffiti removal techniques. Each surface requires or responds to a particular method better and choosing the correct one will save the property owner money and time.

Power washing- works well on porous surfaces. Can be used alone or with a cleaning solvent. This method is effective on wood, unstained fences.

Paint-out- graffiti on painted surfaces can be painted over. Some surfaces may require a primer. Avoid a "patchwork" of different colors which can invite more graffiti.

Chemical Removers- There are several graffiti removal products. Avoid products that contain toxic ingredients.