

## What can the public do to help?

- Landscape walls, fences and storefronts with plants. Graffiti and litter is less common in landscaped areas.
- Increase lighting and visibility in vulnerable areas.
- Talk to your kids about graffiti and respect for the community
- **For graffiti in Surrey**  
**Anti-Graffiti Hot Line**

604-318-9822

### For graffiti in White Rock

City Property call Public Works  
604-541-2181

Private property contact City Bylaws  
604-541-2148

Or contact Community Policing  
778-593-3611

**City Bylaws require graffiti to be  
Removed within 48 hours.**

## REMEMBER!!!

### 1. Report: Contact local RCMP

White Rock 604-531-5527

Surrey 604-599-0502

**If you see vandals in action call 9-1-1**

### 2. Record

If you are a victim of graffiti vandalism it is important that you record the photographs will provide evidence should the responsible party be found and prosecuted.

### 3. Remove

- Failure to remove graffiti leaves an impression that no one cares about our community.
- Graffiti vandals want their vandalism to be seen, once they realize that their graffiti is removed quickly from a location, they will likely move on.
- It may take several removals to deter the vandals however patience and persistence will pay off.

#### SUREY RCMP

14355-57 Avenue, Surrey, B.C. V3X 1A9  
604-599-0502

#### WHITE ROCK RCMP

15299-Pacific Ave. White Rock, B.C. V4B 1R1  
Phone 778-593-3600

## RCMP COMMUNITY POLICING

# GRAFFITI VANDALISM

*It's a crime that  
costs everyone*



Sponsored by  
Semiahmoo Volunteer Community  
Policing Society



# What Is Graffiti?

There are many forms of graffiti.

These include writing, symbols, etching or drawing applied to any public or private property without the consent of the owner.

**Graffiti is not art but an act of vandalism and it is a crime.**

Vandals will use spray paint, felt pens, knives, or etching tools to commit their crime.

Graffiti is an offensive sight which detracts from the beauty of our community.



**A tag done on the side of an apartment building.**

Graffiti may also be obscene, racist or hateful and is sometimes connected with gang or other criminal activity. Graffiti should be taken seriously and removed as soon as possible.

## Why Should We Care?

**Graffiti, if left unchecked, may:**

- Reduce property values
- Create an undesirable image of our city
- Undermine residents' and visitors' sense of safety and security
- Heighten fear of crime in the community
- Cause small businesses to close as local economy declines
- Destroy public and private property
- Divert tax dollars from the delivery of other City Services



**By removing graffiti quickly and consistently, we show the pride we have in our community and we send a message that the community cares and won't tolerate vandalism.**

## Where Does Graffiti Occur and How Can It Be Removed?

Painting over graffiti may be the easiest way: however there are special cleaner available if this is impractical.

Graffiti on wooden surfaces can often be removed with a stiff wire brush.

Professional graffiti removal companies can be located in the phone book if necessary.

Popular graffiti targets are generally in high visibility locations including:

- Public and private buildings
- Recreational facilities
- Newspaper boxes
- Municipal benches
- Parks and playgrounds
- Fences and walls
- Bridges and overpasses
- Public transit property and vehicles
- Canada Post & Utility Company Boxes

# CLEAN UP!