

Removing graffiti from your property

If you're a victim of graffiti:

It's important you remove graffiti within 72 hours.

- This reduces the chance of reoccurrence.
- It sends a clear message that defacing property is not acceptable.
- It doesn't give graffiti vandals the recognition they seek.

The Community Standards Bylaw 5M2004 states:

- Graffiti means words, figures, letters, drawings or stickers applied, scribbled, scratched, etched, sprayed or attached on or to a surface.
- No person shall create or apply graffiti.
- Every owner or occupier of a premises shall ensure that graffiti placed on their premises is removed, painted over or permanently blocked from public view.

Facts to know before attempting to remove graffiti:

- Commonly used removal methods are listed on the reverse side of this leaflet. However, property owners are advised to consult a professional graffiti remover since these methods may not always be successful and improper removal can actually imbed graffiti.
- Always read and follow the manufacturers' directions on all products.
- Removal products work best on newly placed graffiti.
- Removal works best at 10°C or warmer. All graffiti must be temporarily blocked from public view until total removal is possible.
- Do a test patch first with all removal products.
- Don't let removal products drain into the storm sewers. Consult Drainage Bylaw 37M2005 for details.
- ICI Paints and Cloverdale, in partnership with The City, provide a discount for graffiti removal and paint-over products.

calgary.ca | contact 311



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Removal suggestions

1. Paint-over

- Most effective and relatively inexpensive method of graffiti removal.
- Apply a primer first to prevent graffiti from leaching through.
- Use two coats of latex paint and apply in uniform block patches.

2. Remove

- Graffiti/paint remover is available at paint stores.
- Follow the manufacturer's directions.
- Use caution and do a test patch first.

Aluminum or vinyl siding:

Use remover sparingly. Rinse with warm water.

Metal:

Use remover, rub with steel wool (may scratch). Rinse with warm water.

Stucco:

Use remover and rinse with a pressure washer.

Masonry:

Apply remover with a brush. Rinse with warm water.

Wood:

Sand to remove the graffiti.

Stickers:

Use remover sparingly and scrape off carefully.

3. Hire a professional

Listed in the Yellow Pages under graffiti removal.

You can help reduce graffiti in our city by:

Calling 3-1-1 to report graffiti.

Calling 9-1-1 to report someone in the act of applying graffiti.

For more information on graffiti prevention and resources, to receive additional copies of this leaflet or brochures about community graffiti management, or for information on community cleanups, please contact 311 or visit calgary.ca.