

# Time to scrub out GRAFFITI

Graffiti vandalism is the act of tagging, writing or defacing a surface, without the permission of the property owner. Graffiti has a significant financial and social impact on the community, and can negatively contribute to the overall perception of safety.

## Report graffiti

Report all incidents of graffiti and vandalism of your property to the Police by contacting the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or online at [www.police.nsw.gov.au](http://www.police.nsw.gov.au)

Even information about minor incidents will assist Police in apprehending offenders and identifying locations of concern.

To report graffiti and vandalism on Council property please contact Customer Service on 4221 6111 or lodge an online report at [www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au](http://www.shellharbour.nsw.gov.au)

All other graffiti can be reported to the NSW Graffiti Hotline on 1800 707 125.

**For more information or any questions, contact the Crime Prevention Officer at your local Police Command or the Community Safety Officer at Council.**

## Prevent graffiti

- Keep your property clean and tidy, and free of rubbish, weeds and damage - to show that you care about your property and that vandalism will not be tolerated.
- Limit access to areas that are likely targets of graffiti vandalism through appropriate landscaping. Keep trees and shrubs trimmed to reduce opportunities for concealment.
- Apply graffiti resistant coating to protect walls, fences and buildings and consider using darker paint colours as these make graffiti less noticeable. Always keep extra paint on hand so graffiti vandalism can be covered over quickly.
- Consider installing sensor lighting in an area at risk of graffiti and ensure existing lighting is operating correctly.





# Tips to remove GRAFFITI

Council is responsible for the removal of graffiti and vandalism found on Council property.

The removal of graffiti or vandalism from private property is the responsibility of the property owner. This includes businesses and walls / fences that are adjacent to laneways, footpaths and reserves.

Removing graffiti as soon as it appears is an effective deterrent to repeated vandalism.

Suggestions for removing graffiti include:

- **Paint Out** – Prepare the surface to reduce 'bleed through' from graffiti. Paint over graffiti and surrounding surface to avoid a patchwork effect.
- **Chemical Graffiti Removers** - Strong solvents dissolve or remove paint. Match the chemical to the type of surface carefully to avoid damaging the surface. Read instructions carefully, follow safety precautions and use personal protection such as face masks, gloves and goggles.
- **Pressure Washer** – High pressured water equipment combined with the correct solvent will remove graffiti from surfaces such as brick and concrete. Caution should be taken as this method may eventually wear down a surface.



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