

Graffiti Prevention Information

Make Exterior Walls Less Attractive

When would-be vandals are looking for a wall to tag, there are characteristics that make one area more or less attractive than another. Rough surfaces are more difficult to paint than smooth surfaces. Dark-colored walls are less appealing since a lot of graffiti is done in darker colors. Graffiti attracts more graffiti, so a clean, freshly painted wall can also be a deterrent.

Make it Harder to Reach the Wall

Landscaping can be a deterrent. Clinging plants such as ivy, or hostile vegetation like small thorny bushes on or near vulnerable walls, can prevent graffiti. Be certain to not block windows or doors with landscaping. Build a fence between your business and public property to create a boundary and limit pedestrian access..

Make the Vandals More Visible

Use motion-sensing lights. If an area is usually dark, people will notice if it suddenly lights up.

Remove large trees or bushes that give vandals cover. Short bushes that keep people away from the walls but allow for visibility are best. Use pebbles around your building to create noise when stepped on.

Cleaning Graffiti

The best deterrent to graffiti is prompt removal. Vandals want their work to be visible. If graffiti is removed as soon as it's done, they won't waste their time putting it back in the same location. Unified Police Department has several locations where you can get cleaning supplies to help in the removal of graffiti. You can contact them at 385-468-9796 or visit one of their graffiti removal supply pick-up locations listed on their website at http://updsl.org/page_mgu_graffiti.php

For nonporous and smooth painted surfaces:

- **Erase** - aerosol spray - available from UPD, 385-468-9796, or ZEP Manufacturing, 801-975-9831.
- **Brake and carburetor cleaner** - aerosol spray, available at most automotive stores.
- **Sandblasting** - use as a last resort as it ruins the surface.

For porous and unpainted surfaces:

- **Big Orange** - a liquid stripping agent - available at ZEP Manufacturing, 801-975-9831.

- **Outdoor latex paint** - paint over cinder block and other cement surfaces. Available at hardware and paint stores. Try to match the original color.

FOR INFORMATION ON SOUTH SALT LAKE'S GRAFFITI ORDINANCE AND CLEAN-UP REQUIREMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT [CODE ENFORCEMENT AT \(801\) 464-6712](#).