

Stop graffiti vandalism

Fact sheet 4: Situational methods to prevent graffiti vandalism

INCREASE THE EFFORT

Target harden

- Reduce access to canvas
- Increase surveillance
- Secure spraycans
- Use of materials/coatings to deter graffiti vandalism

Control access

- Reduce access to canvas by fencing, vegetation etc
- Reduce access to area at high risk times

Screen exits

- Generate community activity
- Roster staff at vulnerable times, eg Park staff
- Restrict access at night

Deflect offenders

- Reduce access at vulnerable times
- Use music or lighting
- Provide alternate activities
- Create youth friendly spaces

Control tools

- Ensure spraycans are displayed to reduce theft and are not sold to under 18 year olds
- Work with stationary suppliers on access to marker pens and etching tools

INCREASE THE RISKS

Extend guardianship

- Involve neighbours
- Increase lighting
- Run 'adopt a park' programs
- Monitor levels of graffiti vandalism in targeted locations

Reduce anonymity

- Increase surveillance and access control
- Ensure behaviour rules are followed

Assist natural surveillance

- Increase lighting
- Plan activities in high risk times
- Generate increased legitimate activities

Utilise place managers

- Situate staff in high risk locations
- Reward community vigilance
- Police/security patrols
- Adopt a park

Strengthen formal surveillance

- Staff surveillance
- Police or security patrols
- Install Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)
- Use alarms or movement activated lighting
- Negotiate with businesses to report and remove

REDUCE THE REWARDS

Conceal targets

- Use landscaping
- Deny access
- Move travel routes
- DA conditions and planning controls

Disrupt markets

- Reduce sale of spraycans to under 18 year olds
- Reduce theft of spraycans and other tools

Remove targets

- Reduce size and number of canvases by landscaping, colour, texture, art, or design.
- DA conditions and planning controls

Deny benefits

- Rapid removal
- Don't print pictures of graffiti vandalism in media
- Use anti-graffiti coatings
- Involve all property owners
- Seek compensation

Identify property

- Post signage with property owner and contact details
- Mark details of shop on each spraycan
- Report graffiti vandalism to owner or hotline
- Develop MOU's for removal

REDUCE PROVOCATIONS

Reduce frustrations and stress

Create safe and attractive youth friendly spaces to ensure 'ownership'

Avoid disputes

- Design public space to reduce conflict between different user groups
- Make clear rules for space

Neutralise peer pressure

- Offer rewards for information to reduce bragging
- Use offenders to remove graffiti vandalism
- Focus on chronic offenders

Discourage imitation

- Rapid removal and repair
- Censor tags in the media
- Highlight arrests and penalties
- Use a graffiti coating to make removal easy

Reduce recognition and fame

- Rapid removal and repair
- Censor tags in the media
- Use anti-graffiti coatings
- Remove most prolific tags and those in high profile locations first

REMOVE EXCUSES

Set rules

- 'Graffiti vandalism is a crime' education
- Designation of space to define acceptable behaviour

Alert conscience

Remind people of cost of removal and how this impacts on availability of other services

Post instructions

- Provide behaviour rules
- Provide maintenance phone number
- List penalties for graffiti vandalism
- Provide removal and paint-out information

Assist compliance

- Create a sense of territoriality
- Use activity generators
- Design paths to reduce access to vulnerable areas

Control drugs and alcohol

- Use alcohol free zone and alcohol prohibited area legislation
- Use lighting to deter drug use
- Work with liquor accords on problem locations



Contact us:

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