

Join Graffiti Watch today!

Name	<input type="text"/>
Address	<input type="text"/>
Telephone	<input type="text"/>
Email	<input type="text"/>
Date	<input type="text"/>
Blocks	<input type="text"/>

Become a member of Graffiti Watch!

By joining Graffiti Watch, you agree to:

- Adopt a minimum of four blocks in a heavily tagged area
- Commit to a time period of one year or more
- Attend a safety and graffiti training provided by Public Works
- Report graffiti on private property by calling 311
- Report vandalism in progress by calling 911
- Attend one anti-graffiti program meeting

What I will receive:

- **Supplies:** paint, brushes, buckets, graffiti remover and gloves
- **A vest** to identify me as a Graffiti Watch volunteer
- **Assistance** in addressing other quality of life issues regarding street cleanliness
- **Certificate of Appreciation** from the Mayor's Office after one year's service

For more info or to send in an application:

mail Public Works Community Programs
2323 Cesar Chavez St.
San Francisco, CA 94124-1091

phone 311

fax 415-695-2001

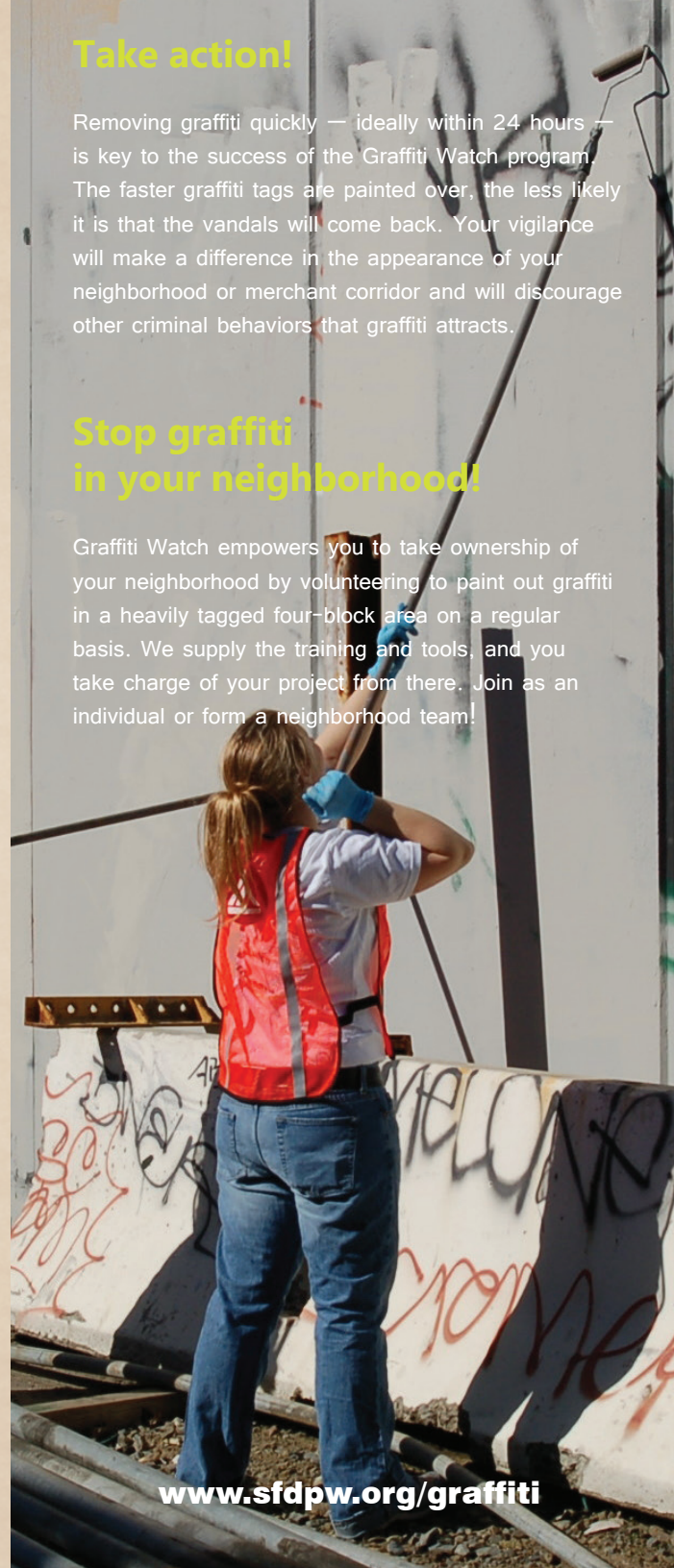
email volunteer@sfdpw.org

Take action!

Removing graffiti quickly — ideally within 24 hours — is key to the success of the Graffiti Watch program. The faster graffiti tags are painted over, the less likely it is that the vandals will come back. Your vigilance will make a difference in the appearance of your neighborhood or merchant corridor and will discourage other criminal behaviors that graffiti attracts.

Stop graffiti in your neighborhood!

Graffiti Watch empowers you to take ownership of your neighborhood by volunteering to paint out graffiti in a heavily tagged four-block area on a regular basis. We supply the training and tools, and you take charge of your project from there. Join as an individual or form a neighborhood team!



Graffiti
WATCH

San Francisco Anti-Graffiti Program

San Francisco Public Works

www.sfdpw.org/graffiti



What is Graffiti Watch?

Graffiti Watch is a citywide volunteer effort to prevent and remove graffiti from public property, such as utility poles, mailboxes, trash receptacles, and other street furniture that taggers deface. The program's goal is to keep San Francisco streets and sidewalks graffiti-free through community involvement.



Q. What type of commitment must I make?

A. Typically, individuals or groups pledge to keep a minimum of four blocks graffiti-free for one year.

Q. How do I apply?

A. Fill out the application in this brochure. You also may call 311 or download the application by going to www.sfdpw.org/graffiti.

Q. What supplies and support will the City provide if I adopt my street?

A. Public Works will provide you with paint, brushes, buckets, graffiti solvent and other tools to remove graffiti from public property.

Q. How can I find out if there is a Graffiti Watch member or group in my neighborhood?

A. Call 311 for information about people already working in your neighborhood.



Safe practices to remove graffiti

What you need:

Safety glasses, cotton gloves (paint), synthetic gloves (solvent), head covering, traffic vests, sturdy shoes, long sleeves and long pants.



Be safe:

- **Work safely in the right of way:** Work facing traffic and wear a reflective safety vest. Watch for pedestrians entering work area when using solvent. Use caution working near crosswalks or driveways. Don't leave tools or materials lying across sidewalks where they are a trip hazard. Post "Wet Paint" signs.
- **Prevent injury:** Use proper body mechanics and lifting techniques. Wear gloves and watch for sharp edges on areas to be cleaned and on tools.
- **Prevent falls:** Watch for wet or oily surfaces, potholes or uneven pavement that may cause slips and falls. Wear shoes or boots with non-skid soles.
- **Protect eyes and skin:** Wear safety glasses and proper gloves for materials or equipment being used (synthetic for solvent or cotton for paint). Eyewash is required when working alone.
- **Avoid fumes:** Used rags must be kept in plastic bags for disposal after use.
- **Prevent spills:** Keep paint can on drop cloth and out of pedestrian path of travel. Spills of cleaning materials or paints must be cleaned immediately. If help is needed call 311.
- **Avoid conflict:** If a hostile or aggressive person threatens or attacks, move away from danger and notify the police by calling 911.

Graffiti Ordinance

By law, private property owners are responsible for abating graffiti on their property. Here's a step-by-step description of the process of graffiti removal for private property owners:

Step one: graffiti is reported

Graffiti is reported to 311, which issues a service request to our graffiti unit. The unit investigates and documents the graffiti.

Step two: graffiti notice

A notice is given to the property owner to remove the graffiti, with the option to request a hearing within 30 days.

Step three: graffiti removed

The graffiti unit inspects the property again after 30 days. If the graffiti has been removed, the graffiti notice is closed. If not, a second notice is sent to the property owner requesting authorization for Public Works to enter the property to remove the graffiti at the owner's expense -- the greater of \$500 or the actual abatement cost. If the property owner does not grant authorization, Public Works may seek a court order through the City Attorney to enter and abate at the property owner's expense.

Step Four: Hearing requested

The property owner can request a hearing with a neutral hearing officer if they believe that they are burdened with a disproportionate share of graffiti responsibility and if removal would result in financial hardship.

Step Five: Abatement Action

If the hearing officer determines that a hardship exists, Public Works will remove the graffiti at no cost. If no hardship is determined, and the owner fails to remove, the City may obtain a court order to remove the graffiti at the owner's expense, charging the cost of abatement, administration and attorney fees. Alternatively, Public Works can provide paint for graffiti removal to the property owner at no charge if the owner agrees in writing to paint over the graffiti within 10 business days from receiving the paint.

Step Six: Bill Collection

If the owner does not pay the bill within 30 days from the date the bill is mailed, a lien will be imposed on the owner's property.