



Graffiti Busters

Rules of Operation

Dear Graffiti Buster Volunteer,

Thank you for joining Neighbourhood Watch 3193 Graffiti Busters. As you can imagine it is important that all our "Busters" understand our operating rules and safety code, accordingly we require your endorsement and signing of this document.

Neighbourhood Watch Victoria provides insurance for Volunteers with liability insurance and personal accident insurance, but this is subject to the rules set out here. If these rules are NOT followed, the insurance may be compromised, and claims denied.

Safety issues and insurance

- 1) Only NHW 3193 endorsed graffiti "busts", led by a Zone Leader are covered by the NHW insurance. Individual outings no matter how well intended, are not covered.
- 2) In the unlikely event of an incident involving injury or property damage, please report the circumstances immediately to NHW 3193. This is a condition of insurance cover for Volunteers.
- 3) Busters MUST wear the High-viz. vests, gloves, sensible shoes and clothing. Face masks and eye glasses are available. It is your responsibility to protect yourself, please be aware of this at all times.
- 4) In working areas where there is road traffic, including laneways, safety warning signs should be set up.
- 5) Busters should familiarise themselves with instructions on the Bayside Council Graffiti Kit and follow them.
- 6) Use of a ladder or other aid (box etc) to gain access to high points is NOT covered by our insurance.

What we can and cannot clean

- 7) Our task is to remove graffiti from public places.
- 8) The Council will clean graffiti from Council property. Our role in this instance is to report it and follow up.
- 9) Utilities, Power companies, Telstra etc should clean their own assets but in most cases either do not do so, or are slow to respond. Our view is that until this situation changes we will clean these assets using the Council-provided Kit.
- 10) Graffiti on Power Company green boxes MUST NOT be painted due to possible fire risk. (power poles can be painted).
- 11) A large percentage of graffiti is on Private property where it should be cleaned by the owner, but the responsible party is often hard to find. Clearly, we have no right to clean without the owner's approval (especially not to paint, say, a fence or garage door). However, there are degrees of common sense. If there is any risk that an owner might object to the removal of graffiti on their property, permission MUST be obtained in advance, using the forms available.

Removing graffiti – learning about techniques and surfaces

- 12) The Council Graffiti Kit contains a solvent that is relatively quick and effective in removing graffiti from brickwork and Colorbond type metal, by following the instructions and rinsing off with water. However, do NOT use this liquid on ordinary painted surfaces as it will remove the paint as well as the graffiti. In such circumstances, overpainting is the logical option. If paint is to be applied to Private assets WITH OWNERS APPROVAL then it is important to match the colour, unless of course permission is given to apply a different colour.

In all cases, take care when attempting to remove graffiti. We want the result to be an improvement, not a compromise.

I have read the above and agree:

Your name.....

Signature..... Date.....

Phone..... Email.....

Graffiti Busters is an initiative of Neighbourhood Watch 3193
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