



## Graffiti: How Seattle Public Utilities handles it and what you can do to help

Graffiti—anything painted, sprayed, drawn, written, marked, or carved on public or private property without the owner’s permission—should be taken seriously. It can lower property values, drive away business, and make our communities feel less safe. Luckily, working together, we can do something about it.

### Graffiti on Public Property



Seattle Public Utilities, along with the Seattle Department of Transportation and Seattle Parks and Recreation, keeps our city clean by removing graffiti from public property like sidewalks, bridges, street signs, hydrants, retaining walls, and more.

You can help ensure graffiti on public property is responded to and removed quickly by reporting it when you see it. There are a few ways to report:

- City of Seattle Graffiti Hotline: 206-684-7587
- Online: go to [www.seattle.gov/utilities](http://www.seattle.gov/utilities) and click on Report Problems
- Find It, Fix It App: [www.seattle.gov/finditfixitapp](http://www.seattle.gov/finditfixitapp)
- Police Report: 206-625-5011 or [www.seattle.gov/police/need-help/graffiti](http://www.seattle.gov/police/need-help/graffiti)

### Graffiti on Private Property

It’s the responsibility of property owners to remove any graffiti found on private property. We know finding graffiti on your property is frustrating and removing it can be even more so. However, outcomes are worse if graffiti is not removed. The sooner graffiti is removed, the less likely your property will be vandalized again. Here are a few tips for removing graffiti and, even better, preventing it from happening in the first place!

#### Removing Graffiti

There are a few ways to handle graffiti on private property:

- Paint over it
- Remove it with hardware store products
- Use a pressure washer

#### Preventing Graffiti

You can avoid having to remove graffiti by preventing it from happening in the first place. Here are some tips for preventing graffiti on your property:

- Plant vegetation to make barrier
- Install a fence to restrict access
- Improve lighting
- Use graffiti resistant materials or coatings
- Paint a mural

Learn more about graffiti removal and prevention at [bit.ly/SPU-Graffiti](http://bit.ly/SPU-Graffiti).

### Spring Clean 2020

Seattle Public Utilities works hard to keep our city safe and clean by responding to spill reports, cleaning up illegal dumping and graffiti, managing public place garbage and recycling, and much more. But we can’t do it alone!

This April and May, you can help keep our city clean and beautiful by participating in Spring Clean, Seattle’s annual neighborhood cleanup event. You provide the elbow grease, we’ll provide FREE cleanup supplies. Gather a group of friends and neighbors and sign up today! Go to [www.seattle.gov/utilities/springclean](http://www.seattle.gov/utilities/springclean) or call 206-233-7187.



*Group stretch before a rainy (but fun!) Spring Clean event in the Chinatown International District.*

### SPU Customer Survey We want to hear from you!

We want your feedback about Seattle’s drinking water, garbage/recycling/compost, drainage, and sewer services.

Your input helps us improve our services, prioritize investments, and make plans for the future.

Take our brief 3-5 minute survey online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPU\\_survey](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SPU_survey). (Survey closes April 15.)



## Reducing Seattle's sewer overflows by 2025

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU) and King County Wastewater Treatment Division's (WTD) Ship Canal Water Quality Project will protect our waters from sewage and stormwater pollution.

The project will build a 2.7-mile, 18-foot, 10-inch diameter tunnel that will capture and temporarily hold more than 29 million gallons of stormwater and sewage that overflow during heavy rains. When the storm passes, flows will be sent to King County's West Point Wastewater Treatment Plant in Magnolia. Keeping sewage and stormwater out of Puget Sound protects public health and our region's water quality.

2020 construction activities will be visible in Ballard, East Ballard, Fremont, Queen Anne, and Wallingford.

We know construction can be difficult on neighborhoods, so we're taking special care to serve our communities and the environment throughout this project.

We're committed to:

- Removing contaminated soil and groundwater
- Transporting soils generated by tunneling using barges to reduce traffic and exhaust emission
- Sharing information before impacts happen
- Proactively replacing and/or repairing aging infrastructure in the project area when possible
- Upgrading intersections in the project area to make them more accessible and pedestrian friendly when possible
- Incorporating temporary and permanent public art by local artists in our project areas
- Using native vegetation and pollinator plants to enhance biodiversity and soil health
- Using recycled materials and energy-efficient equipment

The Ship Canal Water Quality project will be completed in 2025. Visit [spushipcanal.participate.online](https://www.spushipcanal.participate.online) to learn more and sign up for updates.



*SPU and King County WTD are working together to help create a healthy future for Puget Sound – and all of us – by building an underground storage tunnel to significantly reduce the amount of polluted stormwater and sewage that flows into our waters each year.*

For interpretation services please call 206-684-3000.

如需口譯服務請電 206-684-3000。

통역 서비스를 원하시면 206-684-3000 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

Wixii adeegyada turjubaanka fadlan wac 206-684-3000.

Para servicios de traducción, por favor, llame al 206-684-3000.

Para sa serbisyo ng tagapagpaliwanag, tumawag sa 206-684-3000.

Muốn yêu cầu dịch vụ thông dịch xin gọi số 206-684-3000.

## Contact Us

### 24/7 Emergency Services

(e.g. urgent flooding, hydrant leaks)

- (206) 386-1800

### Report Problems

(e.g. graffiti, illegal dumping, needles)

- [www.seattle.gov/utilities](http://www.seattle.gov/utilities)
- [www.seattle.gov/finditfixitapp](http://www.seattle.gov/finditfixitapp)
- (206) 684-7587

### Customer Service

- [www.seattle.gov/utilities](http://www.seattle.gov/utilities)
- [www.seattle.gov/utilities/EmailUs](mailto:www.seattle.gov/utilities/EmailUs)
- (206) 684-3000  
Mon-Fri, 7:30am-6pm

## \$SAVE

### Emergency Bill Assistance

#### Qualifying for SPU's Emergency Assistance Program Just Got Easier!

If you're having trouble paying your bill, you may be eligible for emergency assistance.

SPU has recently increased the amount of emergency assistance customers can receive to help pay their bill (up to \$424) and made it easier to qualify.

To learn more and see if you qualify, go to [www.seattle.gov/mybill](http://www.seattle.gov/mybill) and click on "emergency assistance" or call (206) 684-5800.

### Utility Discount Program

Is your household income at or below 70% of the state median income? You may be eligible to get a discount of 50% on your Seattle Public Utilities bill and 60% on your Seattle City Light bill through the City of Seattle's Utility Discount Program.

Learn more: [www.seattle.gov/mybill](http://www.seattle.gov/mybill) or call 206-684-0268.

