Welcome to Seattle Public Utilities

Adopt-A-Street Program

Graffiti Removal Information Packet

Greetings! Thank you for your interest in the Seattle Public Utilities’ (SPU) Graffiti Removal under the **Adopt-A-Street** Program. By volunteering with **Adopt-A-Street**, you will join more than 250 individuals, businesses, churches, clubs, organizations and schools in fostering civic responsibility and environmental stewardship, and community engagement. Although Adopt-A-Street Volunteers primarily focuses on litter removal along city streets, graffiti removal is a necessary effort within the city.

This packet includes the following information to help you and/or your group get ready to participate in **Adopt-A-Street**. Please feel free to call (206) 684-7647 or email adoptastreet@seattle.gov for more information. SPU looks forward to partnering with you to *keep Seattle’s* c*lean.*

Sincerely,

The Adopt-A-Street Team

Seattle Public Utilities

**graffiti removal frequently asked questions**

**Q: Can schools, churches and businesses become graffiti removal volunteers?**

**A:** Yes. We encourage schools, churches, businesses and other organizations to participate in our graffiti program to promote community service in their neighborhoods.

**Q: What supplies and support will the City provide if I become a volunteer?**

**A:** The City provides volunteers with all the materials needed on a loan basis. It is the responsibility of the adopter to arrange for the collection of supplies two weeks prior to the graffiti removal and return of supplies two weeks after the completion of the removal. The following tools are available for loan:

 Latex Gloves Canvas Gloves Trash bags

 Safety Vests Paint (Gray, Brown) Paint Rollers

 Roller covers Paint Grid

**Q: What do I do after I remove graffiti?**

**A:** So that the city can keep records of tags that have been completed and ones that still need to be completed please call the Hotline at (206) 684-7647 and report your project; 1) Location of project(s) completed 2) Square footage of graffiti covered 3) number of volunteer hours 4) number of volunteers 5) date when you would like to return supplies.

**Q: Can I do more than just paint out graffiti?**

**A:** Yes. Graffiti Removal volunteers are encouraged to Adopt-a-Street as well. Through the Adopt-a-Street program you can pick up litter, restore public property, and do other beautification projects. We would be happy to assist you with these projects.

**Q: What do I do if I find a syringe?**

**A:** Contact the **Illegal Dumping hotline at (206)-684-7587** or make a request through the Find it, Fix it app. Illegal Dumping will make arrangements to pick up and dispose of it for you.

**Q: Can I volunteer outside of city limits?**

**A:** Our program is only for Seattle properties. Contact the numbers below for opportunities outside the City of Seattle.

 King County Adopt-A-Road (206) 477-8100

 Pierce County Adopt-A-Road (253) 798-6000

 WA State Dept. of Transportation Adopt-A-Highway Program (360) 705-7813

**Q: Do you provide insurance for volunteers?**

**A:** Yes. Volunteers in our program are covered under the City’s Volunteer Insurance Program. Adopters are required to record the name of each volunteer who is participating in the graffiti removal event on the **Volunteer Sign-in Sheet.**

**Q: Am I allowed to paint over any graffiti on public property?**

**A:** No. Graffiti on public property can only be removed by City. Volunteers are only allowed to remove graffiti on Private Property after they have received written permission to do so.

**Q: How do I measure square footage?**

**A:** You can measure square footage by multiplying length times width. If you do not have a measuring tool on hand you can make a rough estimate.

* A small tag can range anywhere from 0-10 square ft. (the size of a school backpack)
* A medium tag can range anywhere form 10- 100 square ft. (the size of a refrigerator)
* A large tag can range anywhere from 100+ square ft. (the size of regular sized car)