

Councillor Request Inquiry

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2017

The Graffiti Management Program is designed to engage and educate residents about graffiti, reduce occurrences and facilitate removal.

Educating residents on graffiti

Strathcona County educates residents and businesses by:

- Promoting the reporting of graffiti through County Connect as an efficient tracking tool
- Website information and resources
- Community Road Signs
- Social Media
- Operational staff
- Partnership with RCMP

Community initiatives to combat graffiti

Strathcona County was the first community in Alberta to have anti-graffiti wraps installed on utility boxes. Fortis Alberta continues to cover additional utility cabinets with anti-graffiti photo wraps. Many positive comments have come in from residents and other municipalities about these wraps who are now implementing them in their own community.

Strathcona County supports the resident by providing a free graffiti removal kit coupon to a local paint store (Sherwin Williams). If they prefer to purchase the kit elsewhere, they may purchase up to \$40 and Strathcona County can reimburse the resident. The graffiti removal kit (matching fence paint, roller, brush, tray and gloves) is offered free to assist the property owner in prompt removal of graffiti. In some special circumstances (i.e. seniors or limited mobility), we are able to provide volunteer services to paint the resident's property if they are unable to.

Residents in Strathcona County can also pick-up graffiti wipes to help keep their neighborhoods clean when they see graffiti. We do ask the residents to report through County Connect for tracking purposes. The signage in park spaces now have anti-graffiti coating, which has deterred graffiti artists.

As residential fencing is primarily considered "private property" we must obtain written approval for us to have volunteers paint over fences. This has not been easy to obtain, but we continue to work with community members on this initiative.

Our partnerships have continued with Fortis Alberta, Canada Post, TELUS, Shaw, Alberta Highway, Schools, CN Rail and Intrex and response times have improved on their infrastructure.

Recreation, Parks and Culture have a close working relationship with the RCMP on the reporting of graffiti as we strive to wipe out graffiti in the community.