



# Graffiti in Your Community is a CRIME!!!

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## What is Graffiti?

“Graffiti” means one or more letters, symbols, figures, numbers, etchings, scratches, inscriptions, marks, messages or slogans that are sprayed and scribbled that deface or deface property howsoever made on or affixed to the property or building.

## What should you do when Graffiti defacement happens?

- Report it the Ontario Provincial Police by contacting them at 1-888-310-1122 or if you witness the crime in progress, call 911 and give them a description of the individual.
- For anonymous calls, please call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-461-6555.
- Document any evidence.
- Remove graffiti from your property as soon as possible. Rapid Removal is one of the most effective deterrents to the graffiti artist.

## Graffiti is a Community Concern – Get Involved!

It is important that everyone do their part in keeping both public and private properties free of graffiti in order to help the Municipality of Trent Hills and its communities stay clean and beautiful. Elimination of graffiti from walls, fences, signs and other structures are prime ways for instilling community pride.

## Negative Effects of Graffiti:

- Poses a risk to the health, safety and welfare of our communities.
- Promotes a perception in the community that laws protecting public and private property can be disregarded with impunity.
- Fosters a sense of disrespect for private property that may result in increasing crime, community degradation and urban blight.
- Creates a nuisance that can adversely affect property values, business opportunities and the enjoyment of community life.

