

# Solvents

A solvent is a substance, usually a liquid, that will dissolve another substance. Using the right solvent will make a job easier; using a wrong one can damage the item you are trying to remove the paint from. The sooner a solvent is applied to paint the easier it will be to remove it. Please use caution whenever using a solvent.

Some solvents to consider using for paint removal are listed below, remember to check with the sales person on proper use and if the product is good for the material it will be used on.

*Turpentine, Mineral Spirits, Naphtha, Isopropyl and*

*Denatured Alcohols, Acetone, Lacquer Thinner.*

## TIPS TO HELP PREVENT GRAFFITI



Watch out for suspicious behavior. Pay close attention to individuals or groups who may be loitering. If it appears they are about to apply graffiti, call 911.



Improve lighting on your property. If graffiti is a problem in your alley, consider installing motion detector lights on your garage.



Report all incidents of damage to your property. Reporting is important because it may be possible to identify patterns through accumulated reports, thus helping police deal with the Problem. Call 847-872-8000.

## PRODUCT GUIDE

- **KILZ II** A primer coating.
- **PROCON** Wipe on, Hose off.
- **GOOF OFF** Spray on and wipe off.
- **BLASTER** Use with a pressure washer.

These products are available at many hardware and paint stores. Ace Hardware in Zion has a number these items as well as other solvents mentioned in this brochure.

**Note: Follow manufactures directions on proper use as well as personal protection when using any of these products. Many of the products are flammable and release toxic fumes.**

## TOOLS

- **Paint Brush**
- **Wire Brush**
- **Rags**
- **Power Washer**
- **Safety Glasses, rubber gloves, etc.**

City of Zion  
Building Department  
2828 Sheridan Road  
847-746-4018

# HOW TO WIPE OUT GRAFFITI

City of Zion  
Building Department



- **Tips for Graffiti Removal**
- **Tips to help prevent Graffiti**
- **Resource & Product Guide**

Please Report Graffiti  
To Zion Police Department  
Non Emergency Number  
847-872-8000



Graffiti is one of those things that can happen in any community no matter its size or socio-economic make up. The City of Zion takes a very proactive approach to apprehending the offenders as well as requiring property owners that have had graffiti placed on their property to clean it up as soon as possible. It is our hope that the information included in this brochure is helpful to our citizens in the reporting and removal process. For those citizens that cannot remove the graffiti themselves we recommend trying the Yellow pages or speaking with their insurance company.

## Graffiti Removal Techniques

**Painting over Graffiti** is one of the fastest and cheapest ways to cover up graffiti if the vandalism covers a large area.

**Power Washing** is a good process if the surface having the graffiti removed is solid. Use caution, do not leave the high pressure stream in one area to long as this may cause damage.

## Solvents/Graffiti Removal Products

These products are good for small as well as large areas of graffiti removal. Applying the products and then wiping off is sometimes all it takes, using a wire brush to scrub the product into rough surfaces and then hosing off or using a pressure washer in addition to the chemicals.

It cannot be stressed enough to use protective gear when working with chemicals and to try the chemical on a small portion of the area first to insure no damage to the surface material occurs.

## Types of Surfaces & Recommended Products

**Brick, Cement, Concrete** Use Procon or Blaster. Use wire brush to work into the porous surface. Allow the product time to work and rinse with a hard stream of water or pressure washer.

**Stucco** Follow the same recommendations as above, in addition try a 60 grit sandpaper.

**Aluminum/Vinyl Siding** Use Goof Off, Blaster or Procon. These are some of the hardest materials to remove graffiti without damaging. In most cases the siding will have to be painted after the graffiti is removed.

**Wood** Use Solvents, Goof Off, Procon or Kilz.

**Metals** Use Solvents or any of the other products listed. Aluminum will oxidize and change color so use care.