

Grow Over Graffiti

Grow over graffiti by planting trees or other greenery next to a graffiti-plagued wall.

Recommended Trees:

- Ashe Juniper
- Texas Mountain Laurel
- Mexican Wild Olive
- Condalia
- Rough-leaf Dogwood
- Texas Persimmon
- Texas/Mexican Redbud
- Anacacho Orchid Tree
- Goldenball Leadtree
- Mexican Plum
- Retama
- Roemer's Acacia
- Huisache
- Texas Ebony
- Western Soapberry
- Desert Willow
- Chilean Mesquite

Recommended Shrubs:

- Silk Tassel
- Wax Myrtle
- Elbow Bush
- Texas Kidneywood
- Agarita
- Flameleaf Sumac
- Evergreen Sumac
- Fragrant Sumac
- Whitebrush
- Texas Honeysuckle
- Desert Yaupon
- Spiny Hackberry
- Hoptree
- Coralbean
- Mexican Buckeye
- Rusty Blackhaw
- Esperanza
- Cenizo
- Guayacan
- Yaupon Holly
- Possumhaw Holly
- Barbados Cherry
- Climbing Rose
- Bouganvillea

Recommended Vines:

- Virginia Creeper
- Crossvine
- Trumpet Creeper
- Purple Leatherflower
- Passion Vine
- Scarlet Leatherflower
- Peppervine
- Briars
- Snailseed Vine
- Poison Ivy/Oak
- Morning Glory

Recommended Cacti/Succulents:

- Yucca
- Sotol
- Prickly Pear
- Tasajillo
- Agave

Contact your local nursery to determine availability or recommended comparable species. You can also check out the Texas A&M AgriLife Texas Superstar Plant List by logging on to <http://texasuperstar.com/>.

Call 1(800)344-8377 before you dig!

Properly Report Graffiti

Graffiti in progress.....Call 911

Graffiti on public property (drainage channels, curbs, sidewalks, retaining walls, traffic control boxes, signs and parks)..... Call 311

AT&T (cabinets, huts and pedestals).....1(800)246-8464

Clear Channel* (Billboards).....(210)227-3451

CPS Energy (utility poles, transformers, etc).....(210)353-2222

Grande Communications (cabinets).....(210)320-4600

San Antonio Water System (recycled water tanks/treatment plants, pump/lift stations)....(210)704-SAWS

Texas Department of Transportation* (highway signs, underpasses, etc).....(210)623-4431

Time Warner (boxes, pedestals and buildings)..... (210)244-0500

Union Pacific* (railroad-related infrastructure)..... 1(888)877-7267

VIA Metropolitan Transit* (bus shelters, benches, signs and VIA vehicles).....(210)362-2020

Unsure?.....(210)207-BUFF

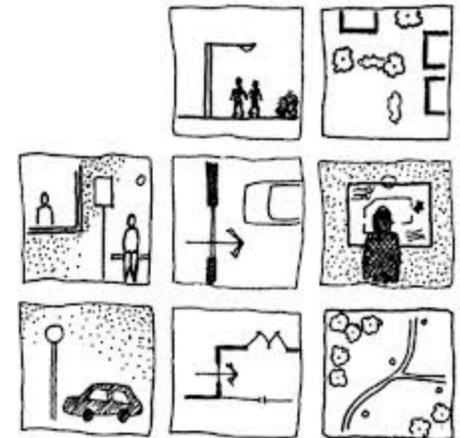
"Buff" - to remove painted graffiti with chemicals and other instruments, or to paint over it.



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Strategies to Decrease Graffiti and Improve Safety

Using Crime
Prevention Through
Environmental Design



Graffiti Abatement Program (GAP)
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San Antonio, Texas 78204
(210) 207-BUFF
Fax: (210)207-6073



CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Natural access control employs elements like doors (entrances and exits), shrubs, fences, and gates to deny admission to a crime target and to create a perception among offenders that there is a risk in selecting the target.

1. Use low, thorny bushes beneath ground level windows and rambling or climbing thorny plants next to fences to discourage intrusion or graffiti vandalism [Grow Over Graffiti].
2. Eliminate design features that provide access to roofs or upper levels.
3. Use a locking gate between front and backyards.
4. Block off dead-end spaces with fences or gates.



As a property owner, builder, or remodeler, *“The proper design and effective use of the built environment can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime, and improvement of the quality of life”* [National Crime Prevention Institute].

Natural surveillance occurs by designing the placement of physical features, activities and people in such a way as to maximize visibility and foster positive social interaction among legitimate users of private and public space. Natural surveillance increases the threat of apprehension by taking steps to increase the perception that people can be seen.

1. Design streets to increase pedestrian and bicycle traffic and to encourage interaction between neighbors.
2. When creating lighting design, avoid poorly placed lights that create blind-spots for potential observers and miss critical areas. Ensure potential problem areas are well lit: pathways, stairs, entrances/exits, parking areas, ATMs, phone kiosks, mailboxes, bus stops, children's play areas, recreation areas, pools, laundry rooms, storage areas, dumpster and recycling areas, etc.
3. Design buildings so that exterior doors are visible from the street or by neighbors, and install windows on all four facades of buildings to allow good surveillance.



Territorial reinforcement promotes social control through increased definition of space. When people take pride in what they own and go to the proper measures to protect their belongings, crime is deterred from those areas because now it makes it more of a challenge. The more difficult it is to commit a crime in certain areas, the less crime will occur.

1. Make addresses clearly visible from the street and public way.



2. Avoid blank spaces in your design, which may be an invitation to graffiti vandals.
3. Provide trees in residential areas. Research results indicate that outdoor residential spaces with more trees are seen as significantly more attractive, safe, and likely to be used than similar spaces without trees.

Note: All designs must be in accordance with City building and technical codes, including Chapter 35 Unified Development Code (UDC).