

Dealing with graffiti or etched windows

The following information has been assembled as of September, 2009 to assist businesses who have been tagged or had windows etched. We have not endorsed any sources below, but have either seen their work or have supportive testimonials from our members. New sources are always welcomed.

Grffiti: If on a painted surface, will always require removing as much as possible and repainting or sealing with primer or lacquer and repainting. Brick, stucco, cement or other masonry surfaces are more difficult.

The downtown Business Alliance and several other business districts contract with a national company's local franchise named Goodbye Graffiti. They can be reached at 503-231-1414. The Manager is Teresa Bartlett. They will remove any kind of graffiti, and have demonstrated to us that their "green" chemicals will remove even the most difficult tags. They do not use power washers or sandblasting equipment. Their minimum call-out charge is \$149 for the first hour, and \$99/hr. thereafter. They will attack etchings, but we feel that better sources are listed below.

The S.M.I.L.E Neighborhood Association has a dedicated group of volunteers that are also removing graffiti. You can report graffiti to them and attach pictures by emailing to [HYPERLINK "mailto:graffiti@sellwood.org"](mailto:graffiti@sellwood.org) graffiti@sellwood.org or calling Trevor Williams at 541-598-4890. While their focus is public property, they will try to help businesses to the extent that they can.

Window Etching: There are two companies of which we know have done work in our district. Both will give estimates.

Glass Magnum, Gary Cayton, can be reached at 503-641-6926. He states that the cost of repair is always about 1/3 the cost of replacement. He also feels that with his technology, any window can be repaired. He has a process for filling deeper scratches. His estimates always include and recommend placing a film on the window. If the film becomes damaged at a later date, repair/replacement of the film runs 65-70% of repairing without the film.

Advanced Glass Technology, Josh, can be reached at 503-806-9184. He states that their average job runs about \$150 and that they charge \$4.50/sq. ft. for the film application.