



BURLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Press Release – April 9, 2009
City-Wide Graffiti Remediation Initiative
Released by Chief Michael Schirling

Burlington Police, Burlington's Center for Community and Neighborhood's, the QUEEN CITY POLICE FOUNDATION, and the BURLINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION Team up for Graffiti Removal

Press Conference to be held Thursday April 16, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. – Burlington Police Department's Kevin P. Scully Community Room

1st Cleanup Day to coincide with Earth Day – April 22, 2009 – Volunteers should meet at the Burlington Police Station at 9:00 a.m. for graffiti removal training and team assignments.

2nd Cleanup Day to coincide with Green Up Day – May 2, 2009 – Volunteers should meet at the Burlington Police Station at 8:30 a.m. for graffiti removal training and team assignments.

Over the past year we have seen an increase in the amount of graffiti and a commensurate decrease in the removal of graffiti citywide. In response to that, enforcement efforts have been dramatically stepped up and the City's Graffiti Removal Team has been revitalized for the spring. A host of arrests have been made to date and more are expected shortly. Efforts to remove as much graffiti as quickly as possible will begin March 16, 2009.

Two key partners in this effort have stepped up to assist in graffiti remediation by helping to fund the specialized products and paint necessary to remove or paint over the graffiti that has become so pervasive in our area. The QUEEN CITY POLICE FOUNDATION and the BURLINGTON BUSINESS ASSOCIATION have teamed up to purchase the initial round of supplies and equipment needed to further this effort. In total, more than \$4,000 has been spent on or pledged to the effort so far.

Respect ~ Honor ~ Remember

Officer James W. McGrath, end of watch May 12, 1904; Officer J. Albert Fisher, end of watch December 15, 1947

On April 16 we will announce the details of the purchase, have the materials available for review, and outline the strategy for distribution of the cleanup products and for the cleanup days outlined above.

Residents and business owners can contact the Graffiti Removal Team via the methods noted below to get assistance in removing graffiti.

Anyone experiencing graffiti vandalism is urged to report to Burlington Police at 658-2700 and/or to contact the Graffiti Removal Team at 865-7548 or graffiti@bpdvt.org. Please note that this latter phone number and e-mail address should only be used for removal or volunteer contact NOT for reporting new vandalism or other crime. Also, anyone interested in being placed on a contact list to volunteer for graffiti removal may also contact staff at that number or via that e-mail address.

For further information please contact BPD at 540-2107 or the Office of Mayor Bob Kiss at 865-7275.

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