



How to Report Graffiti

NB Connect is a mobile app program that allows citizens to report non-emergency issues, such as graffiti and to be confident that the report is transmitted directly to the city employee that handles the issue. Citizens can also report graffiti through the city website or by phone.

NB Connect Mobile App – Download NB Connect onto your smart phone by searching “Commonwealth Connect” in the Apple or Google Play Store. This will allow you to upload photos of graffiti and report vandalism directly to city government.



NB Connect Online – If you do not have a mobile device, report graffiti by visiting the [City of New Bedford](http://newbedfor-ma.gov) website (<http://newbedfor-ma.gov>) and clicking on NB Connect.



City of New Bedford – Report graffiti over the phone by calling Donna Amado in the Department of Public Infrastructure at 508-979-1550 ext. 506.



SeeClickFix



City of New Bedford
Jon Mitchell, Mayor

Graffiti Free

NB

A Guide to
Graffiti Prevention & Removal



Keep NB Graffiti Free

Mayor Jon Mitchell’s graffiti prevention and removal campaign “Graffiti Free NB ” aims to combat and deter vandalism by making reporting options for citizens quick and easy.

Introduction

Keeping the City of New Bedford a clean, safe, and attractive place is the foundation to a high quality of life. One way of maintaining the City's attractiveness is by removing destructive graffiti from the City's public and private buildings.

Graffiti is a form of vandalism where writing, symbols, or drawings are etched, sprayed, engraved, drawn, scratched, painted, or written onto the surface of public or private property without the authorization of the property's owner or occupant.

Graffiti can be damaging to the integrity of a property as well as to the reputation, perception, and stability of a neighborhood or city. The presence of this graffiti vandalism creates a sense of disorder in neighborhoods, reduces property values, invites more crime, and thus poses a real threat to New Bedford's public safety and livability.



Penalties (Sec. 126A)

Graffiti is a crime for which there is no tolerance. This offense can result in a misdemeanor or felony conviction. Penalties for such a crime include: **up to \$5,000 in fines, restitution, community service, up to three years of probation, loss of driver's license, a permanent criminal record, and jail time.**

Steps to Report & Remove Graffiti

- 1). Document graffiti with a photo (if possible)
- 2). Note the location of graffiti (street, address, name of building or business)
- 3). Note if the graffiti is on public or private property
- 4). If the graffiti is on private property, property owners must complete a Graffiti Removal Agreement and Release of Liability Form found on the City website and return the signed form to the Solicitor's Office in City Hall
- 5). Report graffiti to New Bedford city government through NB Connect or by phone

How Does the City Remove Graffiti?

- 1). EcoQuip Machine – removes graffiti from any surface (metals, concrete, brick, wood, and marble) by using a fine abrasive grit, water and an air compressor



- 2). Paint – graffiti vandalism can be covered with paint

Important Graffiti Reporting Contacts to Remember

NB Connect Mobile App - search "Commonwealth Connect" and download app from the Apple or Google Play Store

City of New Bedford Website - <http://newbedford-ma.gov>

Department of Public Infrastructure - Donna Amado at 508-979-1550 ext. 506

Graffiti Reward Program

The City will issue a reward of \$500.00 to anyone who provides material information leading to the apprehension and conviction of anyone who has defaced public or private property with graffiti. To report information regarding graffiti vandalism, please call the New Bedford Police Department at 508-991-6300.

Artist Refuge

The City of New Bedford is home to a burgeoning artist community that is full of great talent. To engage local artists and to combat vandalism, the Office of the Mayor, in partnership with 3rd Eye Unlimited, the UGLY Gallery and NB Beautiful, will be sponsoring a new mural program. Murals created through the mural program will beautify New Bedford while exhibiting the work of local artists.

For more details please contact the Mayor's Office.