

RESOLUTION NO. 422

**A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A GRAFFITI PREVENTION & REMOVAL POLICY
FOR THE
TOWN OF STEVENSVILLE, MONTANA**

WHEREAS, The Town of Stevensville is committed to providing a community that is safe, healthy, livable and welcoming to all residents and visitors. Graffiti is a crime that often invites more graffiti and puts into question the perceived physical and social order of the community. If left unattended or unmanaged, graffiti will give the impression that nobody cares and can encourage other types of antisocial behavior; and

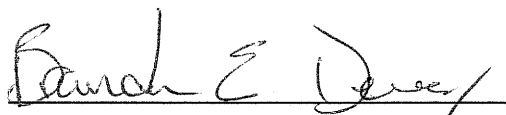
WHEREAS, the Town of Stevensville finds and declares that appearance of graffiti on public and private properties within public view is obnoxious and constitutes a public nuisance, the abatement of which shall be provided as set forth herein; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville has determined that it is in the interest of the Town to remove graffiti on Town property in a timely manner, conditional to weather conditions.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville that the Town does hereby establish a policy that commits to the timely removal of graffiti on Town property.

Passed and adopted by the Town Council of the Town of Stevensville, Montana, this 22nd day of January, 2018.

Approved:


Brandon E. Dewey, Mayor

Attest:


Stacy Bartlett, Town Clerk

Graffiti Removal Policy

Town of Stevensville

A. Authority

The authority for the Graffiti Removal Policy shall be by the approval of the Town of Stevensville Town Council.

B. Policy Statement

The Town of Stevensville is committed to providing a community that is safe, healthy, livable and welcoming to all residents and visitors. Graffiti is a crime that often invites more graffiti and puts into question the perceived physical and social order of the community. If left unattended or unmanaged, graffiti will give the impression that nobody cares and can encourage other types of antisocial behavior.

The Town of Stevensville is committed to the timely removal of graffiti on Town property, conditional to weather conditions.

This policy aims to set an example for businesses and home owners about the importance of removing visible graffiti from their properties.

C. Definitions

“Council” – means the Council for the Town of Stevensville.

“Graffiti” – means one or more letters, symbols, marks, etchings, pictorial representations, messages or slogans, howsoever made, that disfigures or defaces a property.

“Offender” – means an individual or group of individuals who have been charged with an offence by the police for causing graffiti on public property.

“Town Property” – means any property, building, structure, facility, infrastructure, or sign owned or operated by the Town of Stevensville.

3. Department Responsibilities

The Public Works Department will coordinate efforts to remove graffiti:

- The Public Works Department will be responsible for removing graffiti from Town buildings, facilities and infrastructure.

4. Reimbursement

The removal of graffiti can be a costly endeavor and can drain municipal resources that could have been used for other services. When possible, the Town will try to recover the costs associated with removing graffiti.

Estimates or the cost of damage may be compiled in a timely fashion and forwarded to the police to the attention of the investigating officer of each incident (or act of graffiti) with a copy being kept on file with the Town for future use. The copy forwarded to the Police will include a request for reimbursement for damages done by the offender to be included in the Court brief and presented to the Court.

The Town may also choose to sue the Offender for damages.

G. General

This Policy shall be administered by the Public Works Department with assistance from the police.

This Policy shall be referred to as the "Graffiti Removal Policy".

This Policy shall come into force and effect on the day of passage.