Graffiti in Roosevelt

by Katie Wood

Who is tagging our homes and businesses? How do the businesses and neighbors put a stop to it?

Look around the neighborhood and you will find countless examples of graffiti defacing and destroying property. Graffiti is any marking placed on public or private property without the owner’s permission.

Most graffiti in Roosevelt consists of tagging. Tags are a form of graffiti, which are essentially the graffiti vandal’s signature for their secret identity. Tags may not be recognizable as actual words. They may be one-color single stroke tags to multi-color, bolder pieces. The larger the tag, the more time it takes to create and the more risk the graffiti vandal is taking in getting caught. This is why the majority of tags are one-color, single-stroke tags.

According to graffipedia.org, the Seattle Police Department’s graffiti investigator’s website:

The typical tagger in Seattle is young (23), white (77%), male (89%), and middle class. He is motivated by the rush of doing something illegal, not a desire to create art. He views tagging as an extreme sport. He tends not to be involved in other crime at the beginning of his career as tagger. He tends to be heavily involved in crimes such as burglary, car prowling and drugs if he keeps tagging into adulthood. Graffiti is a gateway crime. He has low self esteem and desires “fame” in his tagger subculture.

Because graffiti serves as bragging rights for the vandal and because graffiti is a gateway crime, the best thing you can do if you see graffiti in the neighborhood is to:

✓ REPORT IT,
✓ DOCUMENT IT, and then
✓ CLEAN IT UP thoroughly and immediately.

Continued on pg 2…
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To remove paint or ink graffiti:
• Use a pressure washer. • Clean surfaces before painting.
• Use matching paint or neutral grays, whites or beiges.
• When possible, repaint entire wall, or up to 7 feet high with matching color. This leaves no trace, does not draw the vandals attention and is 10x more effective than patching.
• Close color matches are more effective at prevention.
• Protect the ground from paint drips.
• Paint in squared-up shapes. • Clean up drips and spills.

PREVENTION

Business Owners: Join the Roosevelt Business Group to develop strategies to deal with graffiti. business@rooseveltsenw.org

Neighbors: Keep the neighborhood clean to send the message that you care about the neighborhood.

Make your property graffiti-resistant with these proven steps:
• Installing more lighting and flashing motion-sensor lighting.
• Grow vines or other vegetation to cover unpainted retaining walls.
• Install graffiti-resistant coating on walls.
• Keep matching paint on hand to quickly paint out graffiti.
• Install cameras to monitor activity on your property.

Other effective ways to combat graffiti:
• Join a Neighborhood Block Watch. seattle.gov/police/blockwatch
• Become an Adopt-a-Street volunteer and receive City support and supplies to clean graffiti. adoptastreet@seattle.gov or (206) 684-7647
RNA Land Use Updates

by Jay Lazerwitz, Land Use Committee Chair

Seattle2035 Comp Plan
Now that the comment period has closed, the next steps are:
• Early 2016 – Mayor’s Recommended Plan, Final Environmental Impact Statement, and Final Equity Analysis released;
• Mid-2016 – City Council review begins & Public hearing;
• Late 2016 – City Council expected to adopt Plan.
See: http://2035.seattle.gov

Backyard Cottages
There are proposals to ease the restrictions relating to Detached Accessory Dwelling Units (DADUs). Currently these are limited to 800 sq ft, and require an additional off-street parking space, and the structure height is more limited than for main residences. One important note: Parking is not required for properties in an Urban Village and/or close to frequent transit, so this does not affect DADUs in our area.

Roosevelt Neighborhood Design Guidelines
The Land Use committee has drafted an addendum to the guidelines to further define the priorities of the community. These focus on: Pedestrian environment; street-level design; high school heritage; greenspaces and greenways; transitions; sustainability; and Ravenna Park and boulevard heritage.
Email landuse@rooseveltseattle.org for a copy.

Use this link to find out more about the various development projects throughout the city:
http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/shapingseattle/map.aspx

Land Use committee meetings are on 2nd Tuesdays at 7pm located at CCA, 6801 Roosevelt Way NE, Rm 317.

Thinking of selling in 2016?
Free Staging, Free Landscaping, Free House Cleaning, Free Photography

We’re here for you rain or shine!

Ellen Hastings & Dida Lopez
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ellen@theloonteam.com
theloonteam.com

Free market analysis in Jan.& Feb. includes a complimentary Loon Umbrella.
Give us a call. The Loon Team has you covered!

Roosevelt-University-Greenlake Little League
Baseball / Softball

2016 Registration is open!!
206-367-1629
Go to RUG’s website: www.rugll.org

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Ph: 206.524.2020 * Fax: 206.985.4385
mapleleafvet@gmail.com
www.mapleleafvet.com
Get Involved!
Please contact the RNA to share your skills and learn more about your neighborhood.

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**ANNUAL RNA MEMBERSHIP FORM**

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*(pay what you can)*  $________ Other Tax Deductible Donation

Name(s): ____________________________________________________________
Address: ____________________________________________________________
Phone Number: _________________________  Email Address:____________________
Volunteer Skill(s) / Area(s) of Community Interest: ____________________

☐ I would love to pay annual membership dues to support increasing RNA's outreach and community events.

☐ I enjoy receiving *The Roosie* at my door and will donate my time to deliver to others by being a “Blockhead”.

☐ Please enter my email address to the [http://www.RooseveltSeattle.org](http://www.RooseveltSeattle.org) blog email list.

☐ Yes! I would love to place an ad to support *The Roosie* (Discounts for members!)

☐ Please welcome me, by name, as a new or renewing member on the website/twitter/facebook/next issue of *The Roosie*.

Please make check payable to: The Roosevelt Neighborhood Association & Mail to: 6910 Roosevelt Way NE, Box #518, 98115

OR *New* Pay your membership dues online at RooseveltSeattle.org/Membership/