



Robyn Preston MP

Member for Hawkesbury

MEDIA RELEASE

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HAWKESBURY COMMUNITY URGED TO MOBILISE FOR GRAFFITI REMOVAL DAY 2019

Member for Hawkesbury, Robyn Preston MP has urged local residents and community groups to roll up their sleeves and participate in Graffiti Removal Day 2019.

Ms Preston said locals are being urged to brush up on their creative skills for this year's main event on 27 October.

"Graffiti is a blight on the Hawkesbury community and costs our local Councils and the Government millions of dollars each year cleaning up public property," Ms Preston said.

"I am encouraging our local community to love where they live and lend a hand this Graffiti Removal Day by volunteering at a local site."

Minister for Local Government Shelley Hancock said up to 3000 volunteers would work at approximately 600 sites around NSW for Graffiti Removal Day.

"We have up to 60 Councils participating as well as a wide range of community groups including Rotary, Scouts NSW, Girl Guides NSW&ACT, Air Force Cadets, PCYC, NSW Police Force, Lions Clubs, church groups, and high schools," Mrs Hancock said.

"I encourage everybody to get involved in this worthwhile event, which has seen volunteers remove more than 141,000 sq/m of graffiti since it began in 2012.

"Penalties for graffiti vandalism include up to 12 months' imprisonment and bans on the possession of spray cans by young people without a lawful excuse."

Attorney General Mark Speakman said the Government not only wants to remove unsightly graffiti but is keen to hear about creative and fun ideas to prevent vandalism, especially at regularly targeted sites.

"Whether it's colourful, artistic murals or plants that can act as 'green screens', I encourage all local community members to come up with ways to help stop graffiti in the first place."

People can volunteer, suggest an idea or nominate a clean-up site by visiting www.graffitiremovalday.org.au

Media: Adam Foda | Office of Robyn Preston MP | (02) 4578 0300