STOP Vandalism In YOUR Parks

Crete Park District needs your help to prevent vandalism and apprehend individuals who vandalize our parks and recreational facilities. Please call Park District office at 708-672-6969 or Police Dispatch at 708-672-0911 to report vandalism to your park facilities.

Why is it important to stop vandalism? If you think vandalism isn't your problem, think again. Vandalism is a crime. Here are a few reasons why vandalism hurts everyone.

Vandalism destroys what your tax dollars have created. Each year vandals destroy thousands of dollars' worth of park facilities and equipment funded by tax dollars. A few minutes of destructive "fun" can add up to huge losses for our parks. Vandalism is a problem at all parks throughout Crete, costing the tax payers nearly $10,000.00 a year.

Vandalism takes dollars away from recreational programs and facilities. It costs money to repair or replace whatever a vandal's actions have destroyed. For example, the cost of removing writing from a cement or brick wall can easily reach $2000 for sandblasting costs. Replacing a destroyed bench involves high labor repair costs. Even damaged trees are costly to replace at a value at $1000 or more. This is money that is wasted each year that should be spent on NEW and Improved programming and equipment.

Vandalism is not cool. Damaging public property through vandalism is cowardly. Individuals who use spray paint for artistic expression on public property are breaking the law, the same as the individuals who purposely light fires in shelters and garbage cans. What if the parks did not have any amenities such as garbage cans or park equipment? How much fun would it be?

Help Stop Vandalism! Here's what YOU can do to help prevent and address vandalism.

- Always call 9-1-1 to report any crime in progress, including vandalism.
- If you have information about a crime that has occurred in a park, but that does not require an immediate police response, please call (708) 672-6969. The Crete Park District will assign you a number that will make you eligible for a reward if an arrest occurs due to your tip. (You can remain anonymous if you like.)
- Be involved! We are asking residents to assume responsibility for the activities taking place in and around their park in order to help prevent crime and vandalism. Help us alleviate suspicious activities in parks, save tax payer money and promote pride in Crete!