

Removing graffiti from trail signs

Purpose

To remove graffiti from trail signs.

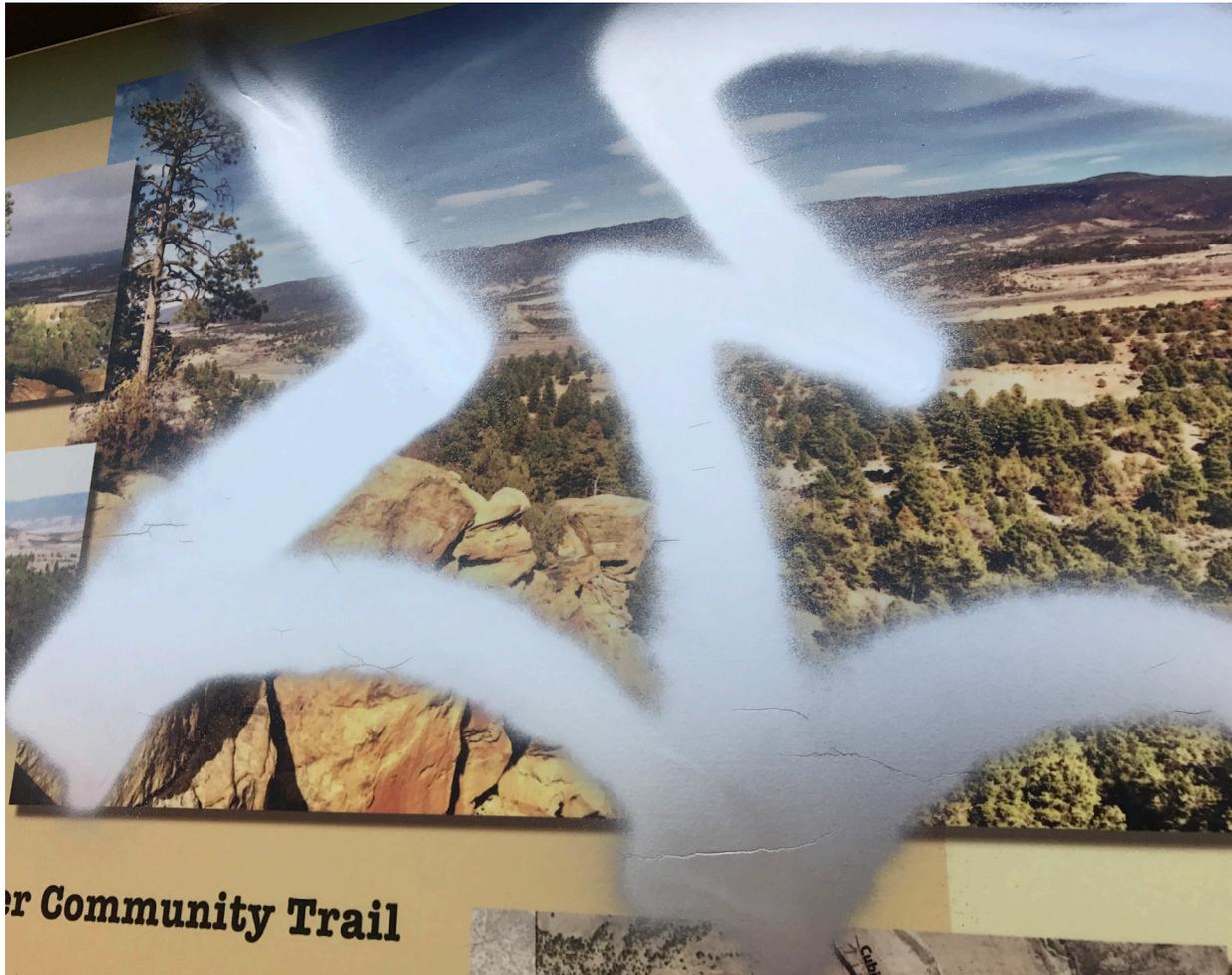
Overview

In September 2017, a member of the Cuba community discovered that the Fisher Trail kiosk sign had been tagged with graffiti. The community member contacted the sign manufacturer, Albuquerque's *Always a Better Sign*, and requested guidelines for graffiti removal. This particular sign is metal with a clear coat seal, designed to be sun and graffiti-proof. Always consult with your sign manufacturer before attempting graffiti removal.

The manufacturer recommended trying mineral spirits, a cleaning solvent. Mineral spirits are available at most local hardware stores. If this didn't work, they suggested trying the stronger Goof Off Pro Strength Graffiti Remover, which can be purchased at Walmart, Home Depot, Ace Hardware, or Amazon. They recommended using a soft cloth and to always test the solvent in a corner to ensure it doesn't destroy the material. The quicker the graffiti is removed, the better.



Fisher Trail Kiosk graffiti



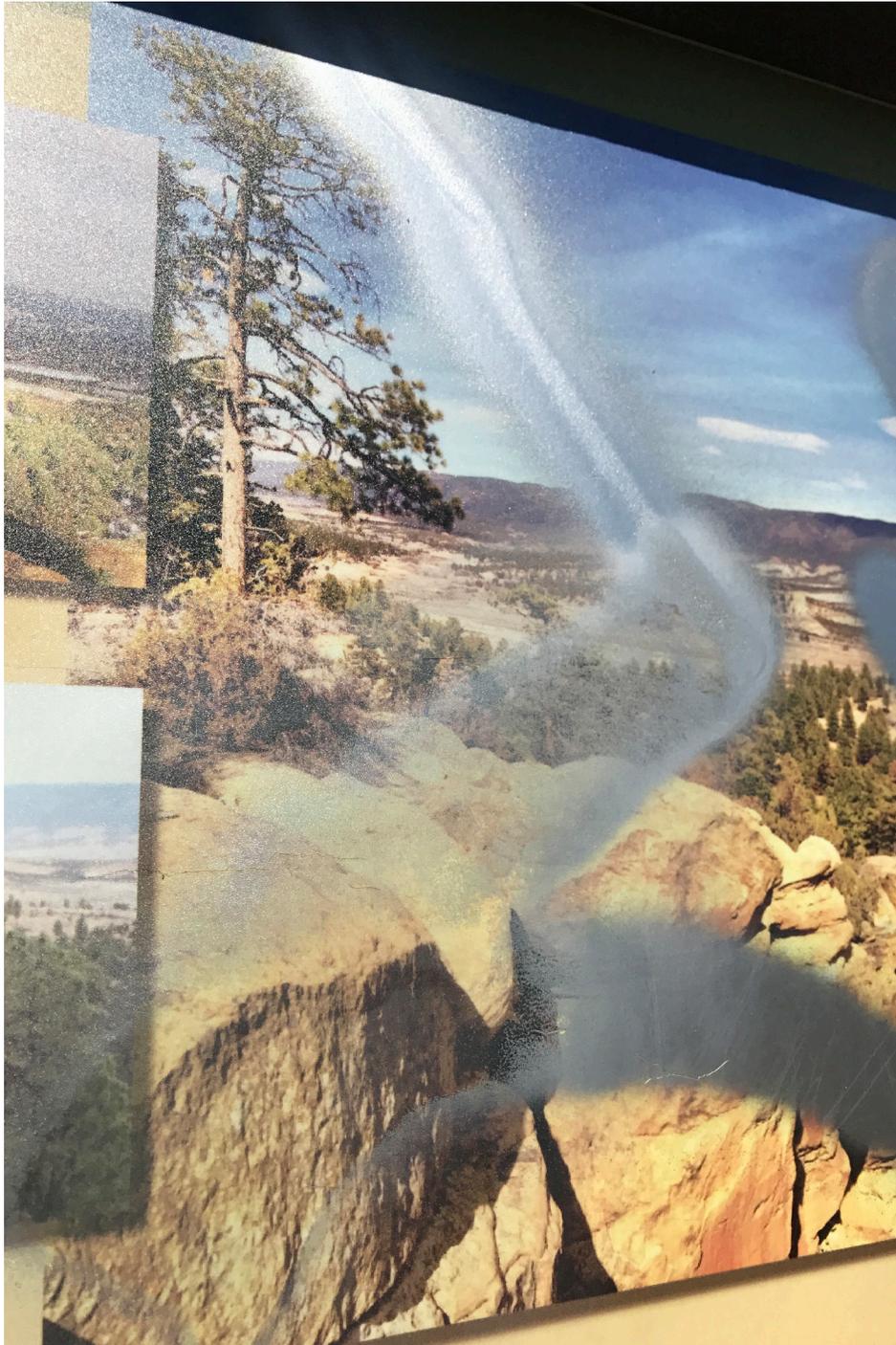
Close up of the graffiti

Materials

- Mineral spirits
- Goof Off Pro Strength Graffiti Remover
- Clean soft rags
- Water
- Gloves

Method

- Apply the mineral spirits to your clean rag
- Change the area of the rag once saturated with paint
 - This will happen quite often and you want to make sure you don't spread the paint as you remove it.
 - Try to keep wiping only on the painted area



Graffiti after mineral spirits were applied

Lessons From the Field

- In Cuba's case, they were left with the outline of the graffiti after the mineral spirits
- Testing Goof Off in an inconspicuous corner by spraying directly on the sign will ensure it does not damage the surface
- If it does not damage the sign when wiped off, directly spray and wipe the entire affected area
- Clean with a damp rag to remove any tackiness left on the surface



Completed cleaning



Questions? Comments?
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