



Wayside Exhibit Maintenance

[Note: The information on products and vendors in this document is provided for informational purposes only and does not imply an endorsement from California State Parks or the State of California.]

Fiberglass Embedded Panels

Cleaning and Maintaining

Wayside panels are very durable and only require periodic cleaning and removal of debris and graffiti to ensure a good appearance and extended use. Many commercial and/or household cleaners may be used safely on fiberglass panels; however, some may affect aluminum frames. We recommend beginning with the safest and most environmentally friendly cleaners before increasing solvent strength or use. Read the directions before using any products.

Follow these steps for success:

1. Wash the panel, frame and base with mild liquid detergent, such as Original Green Palmolive, to remove dirt and debris, and to reveal any damage. Rinse thoroughly.
2. If still soiled spray liberally with a biodegradable green cleaning solution such as ZEP Green All-Purpose Cleaner. Work across the panel and under the frame channels with a sponge. Rinse with water.
3. Remove any remaining stains, stickers or graffiti using the specific procedures listed below. For difficult or unusual problems call Pannier at 800-544-8428.
4. For luster and extra protection apply 3M Marine Ultra Performance Paste Wax 09030.

Tree Sap, Bird Droppings

Follow Steps 1 and 2 using warm water if possible. Stains can be removed with 3M Marine Fiberglass Restorer and Wax 09005.

Permanent Markers, Shoe Dye

Follow Steps 1 and 2. Then use a clean sponge and apply Graffiti Buster II by BioChem Systems. Wash again and rinse. Most markers and graffiti will be easily removed. More powerful solvents may be safely used on fiberglass but are not recommended due to their environmental hazards.

Paint

Follow Steps 1 and 2. Make sure the area is well ventilated. Apply MARK-OFF Graffiti Paint Stripper to a cloth and apply by hand. Rinse with water. If paint remains spray the surface and let soak for a few minutes. Rub with cloth. Rinse. Prolonged use may shorten the life of the panel. Mark-Off is available from HYDRA TONE Chemicals (859-342-5553).

California State Parks – Wayside Exhibit Maintenance

Stickers

Follow Steps 1 and 2. Soak stickers with Super Orange by Direct Chem. Let stand for a few minutes. Stickers may be peeled or pushed off with a plastic putty knife. Rinse. Direct Chem is by Zircon Industries (800-547-4328).

Evaluation of Panel

When you are cleaning the panel, it is important that you evaluate the panel for replacement. If you observe the following conditions, please take appropriate steps to have the panel replaced.

- Raised fibers, or crazing
- Excessive vandalism, including deep scratches, knife cuts or bullet holes
- Faded text or images
- Severe weathering causing glass fiber exposure
- Delaminating
- Other severe damage

Porcelain Enamel

Cleaning and Maintaining

1. Wash the panel, frame and base with mild liquid detergent, such as Original Green Palmolive, to remove dirt and debris, and to reveal any damage. Rinse thoroughly.
2. If still soiled spray liberally with a biodegradable green cleaning solution such as ZEP Green All-Purpose Cleaner. Work across the panel and under the frame channels with a sponge. Rinse with water.

Spray Paint or Permanent Markers

Follow Steps 1 and 2. Then apply, in order, paint thinner, lacquer thinner, or acetone with a clean cloth. Wash again and rinse. Most paint, markers and graffiti will be easily removed.

Small Chips

Follow Steps 1 and 2. Then apply auto touch-up paint. The paint can be obtained from the manufacturer of the panel.

Evaluation of Panel

When you are cleaning the panel, it is important that you evaluate it for replacement. If you observe the following conditions, please take appropriate steps to have the panel replaced.

- Excessive vandalism, including deep scratches, knife cuts or bullet holes
- Faded text or images
- Other severe damage

High Pressure Laminate (HPL) panels

Maintenance

- When using thick stock graphics outdoors, an occasional coating of liquid wax or furniture polish will help keep the edges shiny and black as well as help the panel resist moisture.
- An occasional wiping of the cleaned graphic face with a polymer based car wax will assist in easing removal of graffiti and dirt.

Cleaning

For simple cleaning, mild soap and water is best. Rinse with clean water after washing. Avoid the use of abrasive cleaners or acids.

Graffiti

Graffiti (paint, crayon, felt tip markers, etc) can be removed using an organic solvent, such as Simple Green, or similar non-abrasive citrus-based cleaners. Very stubborn graffiti may require something stronger, such as mineral spirits. Do not use lacquer thinner or acetone, as they may damage the surface of your graphics. Always rinse with clean water.

Minor blemishes, nicks, rub marks or burnishes

Minor blemishes, nicks, rub marks or burnishes, and very light scratches can be concealed using a polymer based car wax, or a polymer based surface treatment, such as Freeman's Furniture Cream.

Persistent stains

Persistent stains may be removed with a 2-minute exposure to household bleach. Always rinse with clean water after this procedure.

Evaluation of Panel

When you are cleaning the panel, it is important that you evaluate it for replacement. If you observe the following conditions, please take appropriate steps to have the panel replaced.

- Excessive vandalism, including deep scratches, knife cuts or bullet holes
- Faded text or images
- Other severe damage

Plexiglas/Acrylic Maintenance

When cleaning Plexiglas/Acrylic it is very important to use a clean soft terry cloth towel or cheese cloth. Do not use paper towels. Paper towel fibers are too coarse and will scratch the surface of the Plexiglas/Acrylic. Paper towels will also leave streaks on the surface of the Plexiglas which will restrict visibility. Microfiber cloths are also terrific to use if you have them handy. SPECIAL NOTE: Plexiglas/Acrylic has a very soft surface which can easily be scratched. When cleaning Plexiglas/Acrylic, always make sure that you are using a soft, clean cloth. If the surface is dusty, rinse it first with plenty of water from a hose or a trigger sprayer.

Cleaning

Apply Plexi-Clear to entire surface, holding the can about 8-12 inches away. By applying a liberal amount you are allowing for the product to dissolve and soften bugs or other dirt and debris and making it easier and faster for you to get the surface clean the first time. One application is usually all that is needed.

Evaluation of Plexiglas/Acrylic

When you are cleaning the Plexiglas/Acrylic, it is important that you evaluate it for replacement. If you observe the following conditions, please take appropriate steps to have the panel replaced.

- Excessive vandalism, including deep scratches, knife cuts or bullet holes
- Cracks, yellowing or deformity
- Other severe damage