



**Borough of
New Bethlehem**
Incorporated February 12, 1853

BOROUGH OF NEW BETHLEHEM
210 Lafayette St. New Bethlehem PA 16242
Phone: 814.275.2003 | Fax: 814.275.4269
info@NewBethlehemBoro.com
www.NewBethlehemBoro.com

Parks & Recreation Rules

 **Approved: July 2025**

RULES POLICY - GUMTOWN PARK/PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

1. Park Hours of Operation

- **Open:** 8:00 AM – 9:00 PM, 7 days a week

2. General Park Rules

To ensure a safe, clean, and enjoyable environment for all visitors, the following rules apply:

- **No Glass Containers:** To prevent injuries and maintain cleanliness.
- **No Fires:** Fires are not permitted without previous written permission.
- **No Excessive Noise or Loud Music:** Be respectful of other park visitors. Noise should not be disruptive.
- **No Overnight Parking or Camping:** Vehicles must be parked in designated areas only. Overnight stays are not permitted.
- **Pets Must Be on a Leash:** Owners are responsible for cleaning up after their pets.
- **No Littering:** Trash should be disposed of in designated receptacles.
- **No Alcohol:** Alcohol consumption is only permitted in designated areas with prior approval.
- **No Fireworks:** Fireworks, explosives, or any form of pyrotechnics are strictly prohibited.

3. Facility Use & Event Reservations

- The park is open for public use; however, individuals or organizations wishing to **reserve the pavilion, stage, or other park facilities** for a special event must complete a rental agreement and liability waiver.
- Examples of reservable events include community gatherings, festivals, memorial services, and private celebrations.
- Reservations are managed through the Borough Office. Contact: park@NewBethlehemBoro.com or **(814) 275-2003, opt:3**.
- A list of annual park events and general scheduling policies will be maintained to prevent conflicts.

4. Safety & Security

- All areas of the park will be subject to video surveillance.
- Park visitors are encouraged to report any suspicious activity to local authorities.
- Public restrooms (portable or permanent) will be maintained for visitor convenience.

5. Flood Zone Considerations

- Gumtown Park is in a flood-prone area. Park visitors should be mindful of weather conditions and avoid the area during heavy rain or flooding events.

New Bethlehem Borough fosters business, community, and personal growth within the borough while maintaining the small town appeal and family friendly environment that makes New Bethlehem a great place to work, live and raise a family.



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- Future infrastructure projects, including playground installation and park improvements, will account for flood risks.

6. Prohibited Activities

To maintain the integrity and safety of Gumtown Park, the following activities are **strictly prohibited**:

- Vandalism or destruction of park property
- Unauthorized commercial activities or solicitation
- Dumping of trash, hazardous materials, or pollutants
- Off-road vehicles or unauthorized motorized equipment
- Carrying or discharging firearms or weapons (except by law enforcement)

7. Park Improvements & Expansion

The Borough of New Bethlehem, in collaboration with the Gumtown Park Steering Committee, is actively working on park improvements, including:

- Electrical and lighting upgrades
- Public WiFi installation
- Pavilion, stage, and picnic area repairs
- Handicap-accessible 'inclusive' playground installation.
- Boat/kayak/canoe launch development
- Parking expansion and land acquisition for future recreational enhancements

8. Enforcement & Compliance

- Park rules will be enforced by Borough officials and local law enforcement as necessary.
- Violations may result in removal from the park, fines, or legal action.
- The Borough reserves the right to modify park policies as needed to improve safety and operations.

For questions, reservations, or to report concerns, please contact:

📍 **New Bethlehem Borough Office**

☎ **Phone:** (814) 275-2003

✉ **Email:** park@NewBethlehemBoro.com opt: 3

🌐 **Website:** NewBethlehemBoro.com/GumtownPark

📌 **Facebook Page:** [Facebook.com/GumtownPark](https://www.facebook.com/GumtownPark)

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