



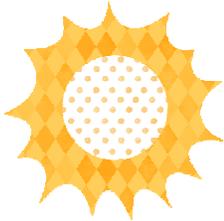
City of Bethlehem Parks, Recreation, and Public Property

10 E. Church St. - Bethlehem, PA 18018

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Spring 2011 Newsletter



Easter Egg Hunt

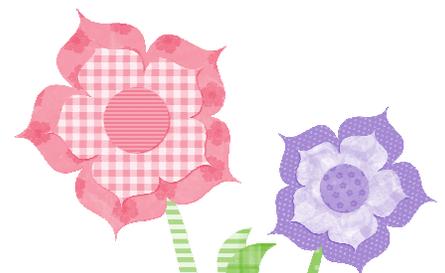
This year's annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on the lawn in front of Memorial Pool on Illick's Mill Road at 10am on Saturday, April 23, 2011.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is for Bethlehem Residents and their children ages 3 through 8. The event will be held rain or shine. For information, call the Recreation office at 610-865-7081.



Bethlehem Skateplaza Wins Local National Award

The Bethlehem Skateplaza opened in July of 2010 and did not take long to gain recognition. As we were cutting the ribbon on the first Phase of the project, Focus Skateboarding Magazine was filming for a featured article in an upcoming issue. Our contractor, F.A. Rohrbach, not only completed the job ahead of schedule and under budget, but was recognized by their peers for their excellent work. Receiving an Excellence in Construction Award by the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. for the Best Public Construction Project in Eastern Pennsylvania, Rohrbach also received the Pyramid Award (second place) from the National Association of Builders & Contractors for Excellence in Construction for the Bethlehem Skateplaza! The award was presented in Orlando, FL in February, 2011! **Thank you and congrats to F.A. Rohrbach and the entire design team.**



Bethlehem Greenway Under Construction

This rails-to-trails project is finally starting to come together. The western portion of the South Bethlehem Greenway is beginning to take form. Phase One starts at New St. and heads east to Fillmore and will include five street crossings. The section of the Greenway, which stretches from Hayes to the Skateplaza, opened in 2009, with funding help from Sands Casino Resort Bethlehem. When completed, the greenway will cover 34 acres of South Bethlehem and stretch 3 miles long. Each section of the Greenway will feature different amenities, such as plazas, gateways, community gardens, playgrounds, art venues, etc.



Bethlehem Ice Rink Construction Freezes

Due to the harsh weather conditions during the month of December, the completion of the Earl Schafer Municipal Ice Rink will be postponed until spring. To ensure that the rink is done properly, work will resume in the spring when warmer weather will allow for a more controllable construction environment. Once the renovations are completed, the rink will be open from September until April, which will extend the skating season. These are the first renovations to the skating pad since the ice rink was constructed in 1957. The pad, which houses the pipes, has been leaking for some time. A brine solution runs through these pipes to keep the ice cold. During demolition of the old pad, a sink hole was discovered and filled. Other site work has been completed. The most important work remaining is the pipe work and replacing the concrete pad. Once the concrete is poured, it needs a month to cure. We are excited to unveil the new facility for the 2011/2012 skating season.

Bethlehem Skateplaza

The Bethlehem Skateplaza has now been open for 6 months, and so far has met or exceeded everyone's expectations. Not only has the Plaza been recognized with two major awards for its design and construction, it has also become a regular stop on the regional skateboarders and BMX circuit. On any given day in the summer, many states in the region are represented at the Skateplaza, and the venue will only increase in popularity as we expand with construction of Phases II and III. With a pavilion/restroom building and Phase II on the near horizon, the sky is the limit for the Bethlehem Skateplaza. If you would like to help, sponsorship opportunities are still available, as well as a "Buy-a-Brick" Program for the entrance plaza.

Please call the Recreation office for more info, 610-865-7081



Spring Activities

Southside Recreation Programming

As a result of the Southside Vision 2014 plan, the City of Bethlehem, in cooperation with the Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley, employs a Southside Recreation Coordinator on staff. The goal of this program is to promote activities and events for teenagers ages 13-19 living in Bethlehem's Southside.



Activities include adventure camps, park programming, murals, park clean ups, SAT Test Prep, tournaments, field trips, and much more.

Currently the program is offering Teen Nights at the Boys and Girls Club on 4th St. in South Bethlehem on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6-8pm. Also this spring, an SAT Prep class is being offered in cooperation with Northampton Community College. For information about any of these programs, please call Mark Atkinson at 610-997-7971.

City Clean-ups

**Southside Clean-up
Saturday, April 9th
7am-Noon**

Volunteers will be meeting in Lehigh University's Campus Square at 7am to get their assignments before fanning out across the Southside to pick up trash along the streets, sidewalks, and parks. No household trash will be accepted.

**North by Northwest
Cleanup
Saturdays, March 19
& April 16**

Clean-ups will be concentrated around the Rt. 378 interchanges at 3rd Ave. and W. Union Blvd. There will also be cleanups at Fairveiw and Friendship Park areas. Supplies will be provided.

Want to stay informed about the latest events, cancellations and programs?

Follow us on
Twitter

www.twitter.com/bethparksnrec



Facebook

www.facebook.com/bethlehemparks

Spring on 4th, What's on 3rd?

The 16th annual Spring on Fourth / What's on Third Celebration of South Bethlehem is currently scheduled for Saturday, April 30th Noon-4PM. This is an annual celebration of the Southside of Bethlehem and the coming of spring. Each year the local citizens join

forces with the support of the City of Bethlehem in this celebration of community. Events include the great Chili Cook Off, Clothing Sales, Live Music, and Cops -n- Kids Celebration of Reading.



Spring Activities (cont.)

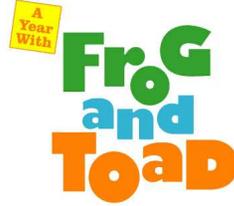
Dog Park News

The City of Bethlehem's Dog Park has been a popular spot for dogs and owners alike. Located on Illick's Mill Road behind Memorial Pool, the park is open daily from dawn till dusk for Bethlehem residents only. Beginning in 2011, the park has adopted a BYOB policy, **Bring Your Own Bag**. Help your fellow dog owners by keeping the park clean of waste and by bringing your plastic bags to one of our drop off locations near the park!



Charles A. Brown Ice House Schedule

This spring, Pennsylvania Youth Theatre has a great lineup at the Charles A. Brown Ice House.



School Performances		Public Performances	
Monday, March 28	9:45 & 12:15	Friday, March 25	7:00 PM OPENING
Tuesday, March 29	9:45 & 12:15	Saturday, March 26	2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
Wednesday, March 30	9:45 & 12:15	Sunday, March 27	1:00 PM & 4:00 PM
Thursday, March 31	9:45 & 12:15	Saturday, April 2	2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
Friday, April 1	9:45 & 12:15	Sunday, April 3	1:00 PM & 4:00 PM



School Performances		Public Performances	
Wednesday, May 4	9:45 AM	Friday, May 6	7:00 PM OPENING
Thursday, May 5	9:45 AM	Saturday, May 7	2:00 & 7:00 PM
Friday, May 6	9:45 AM	Sunday, May 8	1:00 & 4:00 PM
Tuesday, May 10	9:45 AM & 12:15 PM	Friday, May 13	7:00 PM
Wednesday, May 11	9:45 AM & 12:15 PM	Saturday, May 14	2:00 & 7:00 PM
Thursday, May 12	9:45 AM	Sunday, May 15	1:00 & 4:00 PM
Friday, May 13	9:45 AM	Friday, May 20	7:00 PM
Tuesday, May 17	9:45 AM & 12:15 PM	Saturday, May 21	2:00 & 7:00 PM
Wednesday, May 18	9:45 AM & 12:15 PM	Sunday, May 22	1:00 & 4:00 PM
Thursday, May 19	9:45 AM & 12:15 PM		
Friday, May 20	9:45 AM		

Other performers at the Charles A. Brown Ice House include the Mock Turtle Marionette Theatre. Their Spring schedule is as follows:

March 5 – “Just Like a Puppet” -

April 9 – Mock Turtle Puppets perform “Da Pooch”

April 16 – “Yes I’m Going Fishin’ ”

May 7 - All Around the Maypole

Admission for shows is \$5 for adults and children. Children under 2 are free. Admission for show and workshop \$7.50. For more info, contact Doug Roysden at 610-867-8208.

The Ice House is also available for rental for parties, fundraising, church groups, and corporate events. Call the Recreation office for availability and rates, 610-865-7081.

Adopt-a-Park Program

In an effort to increase community involvement and pride in our City's parks and open space, Bethlehem has established an Adopt-A-Park program. We are inviting individuals, groups, or businesses to "adopt" a city park. Volunteers can take an active role in maintaining and enhancing their neighborhood parks by keeping them clean, safe, and well-maintained. Activities can include: park clean-ups, community gardens, park beautification

and reporting vandalism or damage to park equipment. The program can be modified to fit the needs of your group or organization. Please contact our office for Adopt-A-Park availability.



Softball signups

We are currently accepting teams to sign up for our summer slow pitch softball league. Games start in May, sign up today!

Pavilion Rentals

Pavilions are available for rental at 3 beautiful locations...Monocacy, Saucon, and South Mountain Parks. Rentals are on a first come, first serve basis. Reservations must be made in person at the Recreation Office. To check availability and rates, call our office at 610-865-7081

Park and Playground Improvements

In the summer of 2010, a City park received an Extreme Makeover: KaBoom style. In conjunction with the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and KaBoom!, a national non-profit organization, Higbee Park in Bethlehem's Westside neighborhood received a much needed makeover. Additional greenspace was created with the removal of a significant amount of asphalt, a new play system was constructed in 1 day, and a community garden, trees, and picnic tables are in the works for this spring. The event coincided with the Pennsylvania League of Cities and

Municipalities convention, which was held in Bethlehem. Many of the convention's attendees volunteered for the day.

Other parks that received a "green makeover" were Madison and McNamara Parks in the City's Southside. These parks had a significant amount of asphalt removed to create more green space. Both parks had basketball courts that were on a slight slope, so asphalt was added to create a level playing surface. Additional park amenities will be added this spring!

Bethlehem named Playful City in 2010

Playful City USA is a national recognition program honoring cities and towns across the country for their commitment to play in their community.

In 2010, Bethlehem was among 118 other communities to receive the designation of Playful City USA. Bethlehem, along with the other communities, has made a commitment to providing physical activity for our youth.





The Bethlehem Municipal Golf Course

Bethlehem Golf Association

The Bethlehem Golf Association (BGA) was established in 1996. For those of you looking to join an organization to gain that feeling of a country club membership, check out what BGA has to offer.

For more information on the BGA, tee times and rates please visit our website at: www.bethlehemgc.com

18 Hole Clubhouse—610-865-7105

9 Hole Executive Course/Driving Range—610-865-7114

New for 2011

We are proud to offer three club fitting options for you this year.

Nike

Callaway

Taylor Made

Stop in and try the latest equipment for this year!

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Phone: 610-865-7081 Fax: 610-865-7312

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