



Facilities Use Request City of Belfast, Maine



The City of Belfast owns streets, sidewalks, parks, land, and buildings. It is the policy of the City that property belonging to the citizens of Belfast be available to the public. Unless specifically approved to the contrary, no public property will be set aside for the exclusive use of any individual or group and the general public will at all reasonable times have access to City property.

This application is specifically for City property such as waterfront parks, pavilions, streets, sidewalks, etc. This application is NOT for the Belfast Boathouse, but it may be required in addition to the Belfast Boathouse Rental Application if you are planning an event that includes both the Belfast Boathouse and Steamboat Landing Park.

This application must be submitted 60 days or more before the proposed event date. This allows for the application to be reviewed by all departments and to be reviewed and approved by the Belfast City Council.

EVENT NAME: _____

BRIEF EVENT DESCRIPTION: _____

DATES and TIMES: _____

PROPOSED LOCATIONS/AREAS TO BE USED: _____

ORGANIZING GROUP (if applicable): _____

GROUP REPRESENTATIVE/INDIVIDUAL NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____ **EMAIL:** _____

All applications and related documents must be returned to the Belfast Parks and Recreation Office at City Hall, 131 Church Street, Ground Level (drop off at City Clerk's office). Questions? Please call 207- 338-3370 Ext. 127 or parksandrec@cityofbelfast.org.

This is a planning checklist for your benefit as well as the City's. **All activities must be included in the event description; anything not included cannot be approved and cannot be added later unless a second or revised application is submitted. Approvals will not be provided to individuals or groups who are uncertain of their plans.**

When you are ready to submit your application, please attach maps, additional sheets, event outlines etc. which will help to explain your request. If any of the following questions do NOT apply to your event, simply write N/A (not applicable) in the space provided. Thank you.

Describe in detail the activities within your event and the schedule you are proposing.

Based on the facilities noted above, how do you intend to use the spaces requested?

Are you asking to close off any City Streets? If so, please list by street name (include from where-to-where the street will be blocked, days, times, etc.).

If yes, who will be managing the street closures?

How many people do you expect at your event?

How many volunteers do you expect at your event?

Will YOU or YOUR GROUP be selling things at this event? If yes, what will you be selling, and please provide descriptions.

If you will not be selling anything, will others at this event be selling items? If yes, please provide details.

Will you be renting spaces to vendors on City property? If yes, please provide for the type of vendors and your fees.

Please provide an explanation of vendor space sizes, locations, load-in/load-out details, etc.

Does this event call for any type of open fire, including for cooking purposes? If so, please describe what fire safety measures you plan on employing associated with this potential hazard? NOTE: a fire permit may be required.

How do you propose to handle garbage removal?

How do you propose to handle parking and how will parking instructions be communicated to vendors, volunteers, service providers, and your customers?

How do you propose to handle security, if needed.

How do you propose to handle the need for regular and accessible restrooms?

What are your electrical needs, and how will you provide electricity?

What kind of noise do you expect to generate at this event and during which specific period of time?

What are your event safety protocols (i.e., weather, injury), and will you have a First Aid tent?

Have you spoken to the neighbors in the area of this event regarding traffic, noise, parking etc.? NOTE: You may need to provide parking lot monitors and signage for your event.

Will any alcohol be served or consumed at this event? If yes, please provide details on who will be providing that service, including their contact information (phone and email). NOTE: Additional permits may be required for your event based on your service provider, their liability insurance coverages, and any existing permits they may have.

Please attach a map that shows your event's boundaries, how you will set-up your event (vendors, beer/wine garden, restrooms, where activities will be located, your access points, and any other pertinent details).

Map Attached: Yes No (If no, when will map be available to review?) _____

Are you able to provide a Certificate of Insurance in the amount of \$1,000,000 that also lists the City of Belfast as an additional insured to hold the City of Belfast harmless from any and all injuries that may occur as the result of any negligence on your part in conducting this event?

Who is your insurance agent that will provide the Certificate of Insurance as proof of this policy?

Who will be in charge of the event and on-site for the majority of the event's duration? Please include cell phone numbers and an email address.

Are you asking the City for any additional services over and above the request to use the facilities you have described above? If so, please be specific. (Examples: barricades, security/street closures, electrical access, etc.)

Are there any other details you haven't addressed and that you would like to include?

Have you reviewed the specific policies for use of City-owned property, located in Appendix A, particularly the information about reservations being secured in advance, and changes that could occur to your event (middle of pg. 7, under Scheduling)? Yes No

Specific Department and Services Requested

City Manager: _____

Police: _____

Fire/ Ambulance: _____

Parks and Rec.: _____

Public Works: _____

Harbor Master: _____

Other: _____

Remember, if any aspect of the activity you wish to conduct is not specifically listed on this checklist, then there will be no permission to conduct that activity unless an amended form or an addendum is filed for approval by City Council. Any amendments or addenda must be filed more than 60 days prior to the event date.

I certify that I am at least twenty-one (21) years of age. I have read and fully understand the Facilities Request Application and also the rules and regulations utilizing Belfast Parks and Recreation’s facilities and property. I am an authorized representative of above listed business, organization, or event and will abide by all rules and regulations set forth by this agreement. I understand and fully agree to forfeiture of any or all deposits if I am not in compliance with the terms set forth by this agreement. In signing this form as an individual or as a representative of the above listed business or organization, release the City of Belfast from any and all liability in case of death or injury during the use of any City-owned facility or property.

SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

REVIEW #1: _____

DATE: _____

REVIEW #2: _____

DATE: _____

APPROVAL: _____

DATE: _____

APPENDIX A:
SPECIFIC POLICIES RELATED TO
USE OF CITY PARKS AND PROPERTY FOR SPECIAL EVENTS AND FUNDRAISERS

The purpose of this policy is to specify and clarify procedures regarding the use of City parks for special events or fundraising events and to ensure these activities meet the requirements of the City ordinances. **A Special Event or Fundraiser can be defined as any event that exceeds 75 people, and which is open to the general public, and/or where fundraising may occur through an event pre- registration, and/or where donations will be accepted in advance or on-site.**

This policy applies to:

- all City parks and park areas;
- the City pool;
- and for other City-owned property utilized for special events or fundraisers (i.e., sidewalks, streets, city parking lots).

Reservations must be secured for special events/fundraisers AT LEAST 60 days in advance. Some events may require additional lead time and should be discussed in advance. This time frame allows the Department to review requirements with organizers, secure paperwork and deposits, and then forward to City Council for approval for any atypical details or waiver requests.

NOTE: Several waterfront parks are also designated as special event spaces since they provide the most space for the larger events held in the City of Belfast. Special requirements are necessary to balance the use at the various City parks and to ensure that the parks are still open to the general public and that parking is available for all events and for general users.

The following types of large group events are subject to the provisions of this policy:

- Community events sponsored by Belfast-based civic or social organizations,
- Fundraising events sponsored by a Belfast-based non-profit organization to benefit a Belfast-based program,
- Special athletic or sporting events by a Belfast-based group,
- Concerts or public performance events at any park,
- Special events at the Belfast Dog Park,
- Other events as determined by the Parks and Recreation Director or the Parks, Trails, and Recreation Committee.

The following rules apply:

- Since each event is somewhat unique, the Director of Parks & Recreation will determine if the planned event shall be covered by this policy.
- Belfast-based groups organizing a large special event/fundraiser will have priority over non-Belfast-based groups.
- Special events/fundraisers are booked on a first-come, first-served basis EXCEPT three annual events with a long event history and schedule—Arts In The Park, Maine Celtic Celebration, and the Belfast Harbor Fest.
- All special events/fundraisers must be reviewed in advance to ensure that they meet this

policy and the City ordinances regarding public safety, alcohol, permitting, etc.

Scheduling

Special Events/Fundraisers can be scheduled up to one (1) year in advance. The appropriate rental form (either Special Event/Facility Request or a Belfast Boathouse Rental Application, or in some cases both forms) must be completed to secure a date. The Parks and Recreation Director will determine when rental deposit, security deposit, final payment, and insurance certificate will be due. The rental date(s) will not be secure until rental deposit and/or full payment (depending on lead time) is paid.

Reservations must be secured for special events/fundraisers AT LEAST 60 days in advance. In addition, the Director and/or City Manager/City Council may:

- deny or revoke reservations to any event which is not compatible with the facility or other scheduled events;
- restrict the total number of Special Events/Fundraisers which may be held per year at each park;
- deny or revoke reservations to any event with the potential of overloading park visitor capacity with respect to public safety or facility capacity or parking accommodations;
- suggest alternate locations in order to better accommodate Special Events/Fundraisers with respect to public safety, parking, visitor capacity;
- move activity locations or cancel specific activities if inclement weather has created hazardous conditions or the potential for excessive facility damage;
- all cases of reservation denial or revocation may be appealed to the Belfast City Council at their next regularly-scheduled meeting.

Event Planning

Special event/fundraiser organizers shall meet with the Director at least 60 days prior to the event to review preliminary event plans, determine activity locations in the park, and confirm all operational details. A second meeting 7-10 days prior to the event may also be scheduled. Provisions for inclement weather/heavy rain should be made by the sponsoring group with regard to all event operations (parking areas, activities, food service, etc., to include moving activity locations or canceling specific activities if inclement weather has created hazardous conditions or the potential for excessive facility damage.). The Department Director must approve event details in advance.

Tent Policy

If you intend to erect tents of your own or rented tents from a third-party, you will need to adhere to the following recommendations:

- All tents, no matter the size, should be staked properly to avoid any accidental fly-aways during windy days. Tent stakes should be marked clearly to avoid any tripping hazards.
- Large tents (larger than 20' x 20'/400 sq. ft.) installed without sides do not need any additional inspections or permits; these tents must be staked properly.
- Large tents (larger than 20' x 20'/400 sq. ft.) installed with sides, sides that will be on 100% of the time, fall into the Assembly Use category for the Maine State Fire Marshall's office. These tents would need to have a plan review for egress paths and fire retardation

certification. This would be coordinated well in advance of the event. These tents must also be staked properly.

- Large tents (larger than 20' x 20'/400 sq. ft.) with or without sides should have one (1) fire extinguisher on-hand; large tents (larger than 40' x 40'/1,600 sq. ft) with or without sides should have two (2) fire extinguishers on-hand.
- Tent stakes/support guy wires must be 12' or more from any structures, parking lots, trees, vehicles, signage, etc. Any stakes/support guy wires must be marked well for pedestrians' needs.
- Installation areas must be marked for utilities in advance of any tent installation if there is even the slightest chance that underground utilities are in the area. Utility marking is the sole responsibility of the reservation holder and should only be scheduled once reservation holder has an approved tent location from the Department.
- Additional rental fees may be required if a tent must be installed several days in advance of a special event/fundraiser, and only if the space is available.

Park Operations

Belfast Parks and Recreation is not able to financially assist special event or fundraising events. The Department may assign staff for park maintenance before, during, and after the event (for assistance with trash collection, restroom maintenance, special setups/take downs, facility maintenance, electrical needs), based on the potential number of visitors the event may generate.

The Department will invoice the event sponsors for all expenses incurred that were in excess of the normal level of park operations or that generated overtime. Only Department employees are permitted to operate Department vehicles and equipment. The large event organizers may also be required to provide volunteers to direct event parking and pedestrian access or to provide overflow parking at a non-municipal owned area, and to assist with trash collection duties. Therefore, the organizing group can expect to pay for these functions:

- Permits for alcohol/catering services; these may need to be paid by renter and/or by individual vendors participating in the fundraising or special event being sponsored by renter.
- Extra Department staff: expense depends on event details; an estimate can be provided in advance,
- Repairs to park facilities, as required, and if resulting from the group's use,
- Portable toilet rentals (supplemental) from a private supplier, pending event details,
- Trash dumpsters (supplemental) from a private supplier, pending event details, and
- Additional insurance premiums for coverage of the event with indemnification to the City of Belfast, and, if needed, for any private parking areas near the facility (see below) and/or for a liquor liability endorsement.

Insurance

All rentals that are open to the public except family rentals (non-public) shall provide to the Department, in advance of the event, a Certificate of Insurance which:

- Provides evidence of coverage in both commercial general liability insurance and automobile liability insurance (if applicable) for a minimum coverage amount of \$1,000,000 per occurrence, combined single limit;

- A Certificate of Insurance must include adding the City of Belfast as an additional insured;
- For events that are hosting alcohol-related activities such as a beer garden or wine tasting, the Certificate of Insurance will also need to demonstrate a liquor liability endorsement which may increase the insurance premium.

The minimum coverage amount that is required by the Department may be increased pending the type of event and level of risk or an additional rider may be requested. Food service and liquor operations may require additional permits, and these are typically processed by the Belfast City Clerk's office and approved by the Belfast City Council. Additional insurance coverage for food service (as well as meeting the requirements of the City and state health codes) may be required. In addition, other groups or businesses which use park facilities during special events (i.e., third-party concessionaires like food vendors) must also present in advance to the event organizer a similar Certificate of Insurance for their operations. Please contact the Department regarding specific insurance requirements for the planned event.

Parking and Vehicle Access

Very few of the Special Event areas have their own parking, especially those in the waterfront area. To host an event at Steamboat Landing Park, an event organizer will be required to rent the Belfast Boathouse to secure handicap parking and to have load-in and load-out access.

Event organizers will be required to follow the soon-to-be-created parking plan during large and multi-day events (as of 2025). Once that parking plan is in place, the Belfast Parks and Recreation Department will update this policy with those details. Parking is permitted only in designated spaces or areas. No parking on the grass or in driveways is permitted during a large group event, except with the express written permission of the Department. Tasks may also include providing appropriate signage during events, hosting volunteers for parking tasks (see below), and communicating the parking information to patrons.

The organizers should also make arrangements to furnish Parking Guides (volunteer or paid) to safely direct vehicles to the proper spaces, as well as providing safe pedestrian crossings on various roadways around the event site.

- Considerations should be given to making directional and information signs for your event.
- Vehicles parked illegally on City or private property will be ticketed by police and are subject to towing at the owner's expense.
- It is especially important that emergency access remain available at all times during your event, and that the event organizers follow the new event parking plan (2025).
- Vehicular access to any areas off the paved roadways must be approved by the Department in advance, including by event contractors, caterers, concessionaires, event leaders, etc.

If you plan to submit a request that is outside the boundaries of this policy, please submit it at least 60 days in advance.