

## Bath, PA - Community Hub's Post



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🗑️ Caught In Their Own Lie: Bath Borough Accused ME of Trespassing on Land They Illegally Turned Into a Dump 🗑️

Let's get straight to the facts about Bath Borough's actions at 400 N. Chestnut Street—and their attempts to silence scrutiny.

📌 The LIE: False Trespassing Accusation

On March 26, 2024, I documented the Borough dumping near Monocacy Creek. In response, the Borough publicly accused ME of "TRESPASSING" and threatened prosecution. But look at the timeline:

- 📅 March 26: Dumping documented. NO "No Trespassing" signs present.
- 📅 March 27: Frantic cleanup by Borough crew (3 men, front loader, multiple trailers hauled away). Still NO warning signs.
- 📅 March 28: TWO DAYS LATER, eyewitnesses see Borough staff installing the "No Trespassing" signs and I have photographic evidence that those signs didn't exist on the days of recording.

This wasn't about safety; it was a calculated attempt to intimidate me and discredit evidence after they got caught.

🔥 THE SMOKING GUN: The 1995 Deed of Dedication 🔥

I obtained the deed transferring this property to the Borough (dated February 22, 1995). This isn't just any deed—it's explicitly titled a "DEED OF DEDICATION AND CONFIRMATION":

- ✅ It dedicates both Lot 5B (400 N. Chestnut St.) AND Lot 5 (the main Fireman's Park) TOGETHER as one unified tract.
- ✅ It clearly states the land is for the "proper use and behoof" of the Borough, specifically for "public welfare."
- ✅ It was registered TAX-EXEMPT specifically as a "dedication to a Pennsylvania political subdivision."

⚖️ WHAT THIS MEANS LEGALLY (PA's DDPA Law)

Under Pennsylvania's Donated or Dedicated Property Act (DDPA), municipalities CANNOT change the use of dedicated public land without:

- 🏛️ Getting approval from NORTHAMPTON COUNTY ORPHANS' COURT
- 📄 Proving the original use is impossible (a very high standard)

Bath Borough has shown ZERO evidence they followed this mandatory process before converting the land into a dump site around 2018–2020.

📁 FURTHER PROOF: Their Own Recent Parks Plan: [https://bathborough.org/.../240404\\_Bath-ParksRec-Plan...](https://bathborough.org/.../240404_Bath-ParksRec-Plan...)

Even the Borough's officially adopted (April 10, 2024) Parks & Recreation Plan:

- 🌳 Classifies 400 N. Chestnut as "Parks and Recreation" land (Photo C).
- 🗺️ Includes it within Fireman's Park boundary maps (Photo D).

- 🌐 Details only recreational improvements—not use as a dump.

#### ⚠️ THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES:

- ⚖️ Legal Liability: Potential lawsuits to force cleanup and restore the park
- 🌿 Environmental Cleanup Costs: Years of dumping near a Class A stream requires expensive remediation
- 💸 Sabotaged Park: Inflated cleanup costs drain funds meant for actual park amenities
- 👤 Loss of Public Trust: Violations of law and misrepresentation erode community faith
- 🚫 Grant Funding Risks: Violating state law jeopardizes future grant applications

Bath Borough appears to have knowingly violated state law regarding dedicated public land, attempted a cover-up involving potentially libelous accusations, disregarded environmental risks, and actively sabotaged the future park promised in their own plan.

#### 🗣️ DEMAND ACTION FROM BATH BOROUGH COUNCIL & MANAGER BRADFORD FLYNN:

- 1 Retract the false trespassing claim
- 2 Produce the Orphans' Court Order approving the conversion (it likely doesn't exist)
- 3 Explain why they're violating state law and their own Parks Plan
- 4 Commit to cease illegal dumping and begin environmental remediation
- 5 Detail how they'll fund cleanup without sacrificing planned park amenities

Serious questions need to be asked about accountability at the highest levels of Borough management, given this apparent pattern of illegal activity, violations of public trust, and attempts to mislead the public.

They tried to silence the truth. Now they must answer for potentially breaking the law.

SHARE this post! Contact your Council members!

Attend next Council Meeting April 14, 2025 @ 6PM

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