

TOWN BOARD  
TOWN OF GERMANTOWN  
COLUMBIA COUNTY, NEW YORK

Local Law No. B of 2026

**A LOCAL LAW GOVERNING THE USE OF TOWN PARKS AND FACILITIES**

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Town Board of the Town of Germantown as follows:

**SECTION 1. TITLE.**

This Local Law shall be entitled “A Local Law Governing the Use of Town Parks and Facilities.”

**SECTION 2. PURPOSE AND INTENT.**

The purpose of this local law is to regulate the use of Town-owned parks and facilities, protect public property, ensure safety, and provide an orderly framework for public use. This local law further promotes the health, safety and general welfare of the Town of Germantown and its inhabitants.

**SECTION 3. AUTHORITY.**

This local law is adopted pursuant to Municipal Home Rule Law section 10.

**SECTION 4. DEFINITIONS.**

“Town Board” means the Town Board of the Town of Germantown.

“Park(s)” or “Town Park(s)” means any park, playground, recreation area, trail, open space, or facility owned, leased, or operated by the Town.

“Facility(ies)” includes buildings, pavilions, fields, courts, structures, and equipment located within Town property.

**SECTION 5. APPLICABILITY AND GENERAL REGULATIONS.**

- A. This local law shall apply to all persons using Town Parks or Facilities.
- B. No person shall use any Town Park or Facility in violation of this local law or any rule or regulation adopted pursuant to it.
- C. Prohibited conduct includes damage or removal of Town property, littering or dumping, unauthorized use, unsafe or disorderly conduct, use of alcohol or controlled substances where prohibited, and violation of rules or regulations adopted by the Town Board.

**SECTION 6. AUTHORIZATION TO ADOPT RULES, REGULATIONS AND SET FEES**

- A. The Town Board may adopt, amend, and repeal rules and regulations and establish fees for use of Town Parks or Facilities by resolution.
- B. Any rule or regulation adopted by the Town Board pursuant to this local law shall have the force and effect of this local law, and a violation thereof shall constitute an offense subject to the penalties provided herein.

#### **SECTION 7. PENALTIES FOR OFFENSES; ENFORCEMENT.**

- A. A violation of this local law or of any rules and regulations adopted by the Town Board pursuant to this local law is hereby declared to be an offense, punishable by a fine not exceeding three hundred fifty dollars or imprisonment for a period not to exceed six months, or both for conviction of a first offense; for conviction of a second offense both of which were committed within a period of five years, punishable by a fine not less than three hundred fifty dollars nor more than seven hundred dollars or imprisonment for a period not to exceed six months, or both; and, upon conviction for a third or subsequent offense all of which were committed within a period of five years, punishable by a fine not less than seven hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or imprisonment for a period not to exceed six months, or both. However, for the purpose of conferring jurisdiction upon courts and judicial officers generally, violations of this local law shall be deemed misdemeanors and for such purpose only all provisions of law relating to misdemeanors shall apply to such violations.
- B. In addition to the above remedies, the Town Board may maintain an action or proceeding in the name of the Town in a court of competent jurisdiction to compel compliance with, restrain by injunction, or otherwise remedy violations of this local law.  
All persons shall comply with any lawful direction of a Town official issued to enforce this local law.

#### **SECTION 8. REPEAL.**

Local Law No. 3 of 2005 is hereby repealed in its entirety. All other ordinances, local laws, and parts thereof inconsistent with this local law are hereby repealed, provided, however, that the Town's Smoke-Free Policy and Local Law Prohibiting Metal Detecting and Treasure Hunting on Town-owned Property shall remain in full force and effect.

#### **SECTION 9. SEVERABILITY.**

If any section, provision or part thereof of this local law shall be adjudged invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of this local law as a whole or any section, provision or part thereof not so adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

#### **SECTION 10. WHEN EFFECTIVE.**

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State.