

# City of East Tawas

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## Fall and Winter 2005

### DEER MANAGEMENT

Over the past few years the City has been working with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources to address controlling the deer population in the City. A representative from their Roscommon office met with City Officials in August to discuss alternatives the City has to control the deer population and to address the problems we are having with the deer.

### GENERAL ELECTION 2005

There will be a General Election held at City Hall on Tuesday, November 8, 2005. The purpose of this election is to elect a Mayor for a two-year term and three Council members for four-year terms. Mayor Robert Elliott has chosen not to run for another term and current Mayor Pro-Tem, Bruce Bolen, has filed a petition to run for Mayor. Candidates for the three Council positions are incumbents Duane Look and Steve Klenow and newcomer Craig McMurray.

Absentee ballots for this election will be available on approximately October 19<sup>th</sup> at East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and will also be available on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Absentee ballots must be returned no later than 8:00 p.m. on election night, November 8, 2005.

### VISIT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

"I've lived in this town 35 years and never knew we had a library." If this sounds familiar please stop in before another year goes by. Come join the people from all over the world who visit our City's library. Hometowns of recent visitors were located in Georgia, Massachusetts, Nova Scotia, the United Arab Emirates, Washington D.C., Washington State and even Mongolia.

While most of the out-of-town visitors come to use the library's computers, the library contains much more, including books for all ages and interests including board books for the little ones, graphic novels which resemble comic books for the teens, as well as many how-to books, audio books, jigsaw puzzles, magazines, and videos. While visiting the library, some love to play with the Lego's and puppets while others can't resist the ongoing jigsaw puzzle. Please stop by and check it out.

The East Tawas Library is located at 204 Sawyer Street and can be reached at (989) 362-6162 or [libraryet@yahoo.com](mailto:libraryet@yahoo.com). They are open on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 - 5:00 p.m.; Wednesdays from 12:30 - 5:00 p.m.; and Saturdays from 9:00 - Noon.

### ELECTION CONSOLIDATION

Michigan's new Election Consolidation Law means that voters in the City of East Tawas will no longer have to wonder where they go to vote. All elections, including school elections, will be held in the Council Chambers at the East Tawas City Hall. In 2003, our residents voted in favor of a Charter amendment to change East Tawas to one voting district so voters no longer need to question in which precinct they reside. Hopefully this new law and the Charter amendment will help eliminate any election day confusion.

### PROMOTING ACTIVE COMMUNITIES

The City was recently notified that it was one of 29 communities in the State of Michigan which have been recognized for their efforts to make their community a place where people can easily be active and healthy. The award was presented at a banquet in September. Watch the Iosco County News-Herald for more information.

## NEW ELECTION EQUIPMENT

East Tawas voters used the new optical scan voting equipment for the first time at the School Election on May 3, 2005. Approximately 17% of registered voters in the City turned out to vote, which is several times higher than in most previous school elections. Voters use a pencil or pen to connect two sides of an arrow to cast their vote and once they have completed voting, they feed their ballot into the tabulator. The tabulator will reject the ballot if the voter has made an error which gives the voter an opportunity to correct the error before the ballot is processed. With the new equipment, results are available sooner on election evening. The City of East Tawas has reserved Monday, October 17, 2005 for demonstrating the new equipment. Please stop by City Hall any time between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. to try out the equipment. Anyone unable to come on October 17<sup>th</sup> should contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or cityhall@easttawas.com to schedule an alternate time.

### **Recreation Passes**

**All yearly Community Center recreation passes expired on September 30, 2005. You may purchase passes for 2005-2006 at the Community Center office. The rates will remain the same as they have been the previous two years. If you have any questions please contact the Community Center office at (989) 362-3537.**

## KNOW YOUR STATE LAWS

With the recent influx of go-peds, motorized scooters, crotch rockets and the like on the market, many people are purchasing them before taking time to review and become familiar with Michigan laws pertaining to their registration and operability on Michigan roadways.

Michigan law defines a moped as “a 2 or 3 wheeled vehicle which is equipped with a motor that does not exceed 50 cubic centimeters piston displacement, produces 2.0 brake horsepower or less, and cannot propel the vehicle at a speed greater than 30 miles per hour on a level surface. The power drive system shall not require the operator to shift gears.” MCLA-257.32 (b) Go-peds, motorized scooters and crotch

rockets all fit within this definition and, therefore, all laws pertaining to mopeds also pertain to them.

To be legally operated on public streets, the operator “shall not ride other than upon and astride a permanent and regular seat attached to that vehicle.” MCLA-257.658 (a) Most go-peds and motorized scooters are not equipped with seats and cannot be legally driven on a public street.

Michigan law also requires they have “at least one and not more than two head lamps” located not more than 54 inches nor less than 24 inches above the level surface upon which the vehicle stands and one rear stop light. MCLA-257.685 (b) and 257.697 Most go-peds and motorized scooters do not have lights and crotch rockets are positioned too low to the ground.

The operator must have either a valid driver’s license or be 15 years old and have a special restricted license. MCLA-257.312 (2)

Operators under the age of 19 must wear an approved crash helmet. MCLA-257.658 (4)

They may not be operated on sidewalks or on bike paths. MCLA-257.660 (6)

A horn is required. MCLA-257-706

Basically, if you wish to purchase a go-ped, motorized scooter or crotch rocket, you have no choice but to confine its use to private property unless it is registered and meets the requirements of a moped including a seat, headlights, rear view mirror, rear stop light, horn, front and rear breaks, and a muffler

## NON-MOTORIZED TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY GROUP

The East Tawas City Council has formed a non-motorized transportation advisory group to advise the Council on ways to make our community safer for walkers, joggers and bikers and to encourage people to use the recreational facilities provided by the City. Pam Frank has agreed to chair this group and we are seeking additional volunteers. If you are interested in serving on this advisory group or would like additional information please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or cityhall@easttawas.com.

## important dates

### Oct

- 17 voting equipment demonstration
- 31 Halloween  
Trick-or-Treating will be 5-8 pm

### Nov

- 7 last scheduled day for compost pickup
- 8 General Election
- 24-25 Thanksgiving  
*City Departments will be closed  
garbage pickup will be Friday*

### Dec

- 16 Santa Claus comes to town  
*East Tawas Fire Department*
- 26 Christmas holiday  
*City Departments will be closed  
garbage pickup will still be Thursday*

### Jan

- 2 New Year holiday  
*City Departments will be closed  
garbage pickup will still be Thursday*

### Feb

- 15 Winter 2005 property taxes due

good to excellent by 87.3% of the residents and 93.7% of the nonresidents

- ✧ 93.6% of the residents rate the courtesy of the staff as good or excellent compared to 95.7% of the nonresidents who rate it the same
- ✧ the average age of the users is 51 to 70 as reported by 55.6% of the residents and 52.1% of the nonresidents
- ✧ 46% of the residents and 51% of the nonresidents use the facility 0-3 times per week.
- ✧ October to April is the most popular time to use the facility as reported by 46% of the residents and 63.8% of the nonresidents
- ✧ mornings are the most popular time for people to use the facility as reported by 39.7% of the residents and 36.2% of the nonresidents; afternoons rate second by residents and nonresidents alike at a rate of 33.3%
- ✧ the track is the most popular item being used in the facility with 88.9% of the residents and 93.6% of the nonresidents indicating this
- ✧ in response to whether organized activities should be offered, only 46% of the residents and 27.7% of the nonresidents responded in the affirmative; 54% of the residents and 46% of the nonresidents indicate that they do not want organized activities or did not respond to the question

The East Tawas City Park and Community Center staff would like to thank all of you that took the time to respond to the survey. Your effort is greatly appreciated and we will certainly keep the results and your comments in mind when considering changes to our facility.

**We will be conducting the Public Accuracy Test for the November 8<sup>th</sup> General Election on Tuesday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall.**

## COMMUNITY CENTER SURVEY RESULTS

Results of the East Tawas Community Center Surveys that were sent out last spring indicate that the majority of East Tawas residents and nonresidents are pleased with the facility and its operation. Some of the results are as follows:

- ✧ 92% of East Tawas residents and 96.9% of the nonresidents feel that the hours of operation are good to excellent
- ✧ 88.9% of the residents and 77.7% of the nonresidents feel that the rates are good to excellent
- ✧ 85.7% of the residents and 95.8% of the nonresidents feel that the cleanliness of the facility is good to excellent
- ✧ the temperature level of the facility is rated

The 2004  
Water  
Quality  
Consumer



Confidence Report for the City  
East Tawas was published in  
the Iosco County News Herald  
in June. If you would like to  
view this report, it is posted  
on the City's website at  
[www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com) or you

will be complete by the time this newsletter is mailed  
and some will be completed in 2006:

all of Lakewood Drive  
all of Jefferson Street  
all of River Street  
West Lincoln Street from Sawyer Street to Wilkinson Street  
East Franklin Street from Wadsworth Street to Adams Street  
Bennington Street from Wadsworth Street to Alice Street  
Adams Street from Lincoln Street to State Street  
Adams Street from Westover Street to Bay Street  
South Alice Street from US-23 to Lake Huron  
Wadsworth Street from Lincoln Street to Washington Street  
Wadsworth Street from Westover Street to Bay Street  
Main Street from Jefferson Street to Washington Street  
Church Street from Jefferson Street to Franklin Street

## STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council has determined the need for  
resurfacing several blocks throughout the City. Some

We appreciate your patience during these times of  
resurfacing. If you have any problems or concerns  
regarding the improvements, please contact City Hall  
at (989) 362-6161 or [cityhall@easttawas.com](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com).

## Employment Opportunity

The City of East Tawas is seeking applicants for the position of the Zoning Administrative Officer. It is anticipated that this position will be part-time with the hours to be determined after the position is filled. Previous experience in zoning administration is preferred and salary is dependent on qualifications and experience. This position will remain open until filled. Applications are available at City Hall. The City of East Tawas is an equal opportunity employer.