

**City of East Tawas**  
**760 Newman Street**  
**PO Box 672**  
**East Tawas, MI 48730-0672**  
*www.easttawas.com*  
*cityhall@easttawas.com*

## IMPORTANT DATES IN 2016

### **April**

20.... Cemetery Clean up starts

### **May**

2 ..... Compost pick-up begins

30 ..... Memorial Day

*City offices will be closed*

### **June**

### **July**

1.....**Summer taxes mailed**

4 .....Fourth of July

*City offices will be closed*

### **Aug**

2 .....Primary Election

### **Sept**

5 .....Labor Day

*City offices will be closed*

15 .....Summer taxes due

### **Oct**

10.....Columbus Day

*City offices will be closed*

31 ..... Trick or Treating 5pm-8pm

# ~ CITY OF EAST TAWAS ~

760 NEWMAN STREET • PO BOX 672 • EAST TAWAS, MI 48730-0672  
PHONE: 989-362-6161 • FAX: 989-362-6736 • cityhall@easttawas.com  
www.easttawas.com

## SPRING 2016

### LIBRARY UPDATE

Construction of the new library adjacent to the East Tawas Community Center is well underway. The utilities are in, the exterior walls are up, the roof is on and the floor has been poured! We're looking forward to work on the inside of the building beginning soon. The Library Committee has been busy selecting the furniture for the library. We're still looking for donations for the purchase of the furniture. Donations can be sent to East Tawas City Hall, P.O. Box 672, East Tawas, Michigan. 48730. Commemorative bricks are for sale for \$100 each.

A grand opening celebration is being planned for August 2016. Hope to see you there!

Remember: Libraries take you anywhere. Be part of the journey!

### EAST TAWAS LIBRARY DONATION

Please accept my gift to help support the new East Tawas Library Construction.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I would like to remain anonymous in any donor publications

\_\_\_\_\_ Personal Donation (*No Brick Paver*)

\_\_\_\_\_ Commemorative Brick Paver (*Bricks are \$100.00 and will be used as accents outside the library*)

Name or dedication to be inscribed (limited to four lines with a maximum of 15 characters per line):

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Examples of inscriptions include "in memory of Jane Smith", "In honor of the Smith Family", "John and Jane Smith"*

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to the City of East Tawas Library Construction Fund.

Mail check and this form to P.O. Box 672, East Tawas, MI 48730-0672

Questions? Please contact Blinda Baker at (989) 362-6161 or bbaker@easttawas.com

**"This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer."**

To file a complaint of discrimination write USDA, Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (866) 632-9992 (English) or (800) 877-8339 (TDD)  
Or (866) 377-8642 (English Federal-relay) or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish Federal-replay)

## EAST LINCOLN STREET PROJECT

The City received a Rural Task Force Grant from the Michigan Department of Transportation and East Lincoln Street from Robert Elliott Boulevard to Cemetery Road will be reconstructed sometime between mid-July and mid-September. The exact time line is not available at this time. Bolen Asphalt Paving, Inc. was awarded the contract for this project. In conjunction with this project, the City will be extending the sidewalk on East Lincoln Street. The sidewalk will be constructed on the south side of East Lincoln Street and will extend the sidewalk all the way to Cemetery Road.

### OTHER CITY PROJECTS

A 10" water line will be installed on Huron Street from West Westover Street to West Lincoln Street and the street will be resurfaced. Depending on funding, resurfacing of other streets will occur this Spring and/or Fall.

### GARBAGE PICKUP FOR PART TIME RESIDENTS

During the summer months, many part-time residents visit their summer homes in East Tawas. If you happen to leave before regular garbage pick up (Thursday), please contact City Hall at 760 Newman Street or 362-6161, so other arrangements can be made.



### ELECTION NEWS

The Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 in the East Tawas Community Center gymnasium. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please remember to bring your valid Driver's License or other valid Michigan identification in order to receive your ballot. Absentee ballots will be available 45 days prior to the election. You must complete an absentee ballot application before receiving a ballot. You may also complete a dual application which will cover both the August primary and November general elections for 2016. Voters requesting an absentee ballot in person at City Hall must present a valid Driver's License or other valid Michigan identification in order to receive a ballot. City Hall will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 30th and the deadline for requesting a ballot by mail is 2:00 p.m. on that day. All absentee ballots must be received by the City Clerk by 8:00 p.m. on election night. Voters eligible for an absentee ballot may vote in person at City Hall until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, August 1st.

The last day to register to vote for the August primary is July 5, 2016.

### HIGH WATER USE IN SUMMER

Did you know that a 3/4 inch hose running for 1 hour uses around 1,641 gallons of water? (based on 60 psi water pressure)

If you water your lawn for only 15 minutes every night, you will use 12,307 gallons of water in one month. (This amount does not include your regular monthly use.)

That converts to \$92.40 a month. (Again, not including your regular monthly use.)

Is your lawn worth it?



### AUTOMATED PAYMENTS

You can pay your water and sewer bills and tax bills through an automated payment program

#### FREE OF CHARGE

If you are interested or would like more information, please contact City Hall or visit us online at [www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com)

## KIDS AND TOUGH TIMES

Carefree childhood is a myth. While we may like to think of childhood as a time without worries or problems, reality can be quite different. That reality spans a wide range of experiences. Some are obviously traumatic, such as violence, divorce, or death. Others may seem trivial, unless you or a child you love are in the midst of that 'trivial' experience. A lost or misplaced stuffed animal can be heart wrenching for all involved at that seemingly endless moment.

The East Tawas Library has a Tough Times Collection that may help the children in your life. The collection consists of more than 100 books. The books vary in format from board books to picture books and graphic novels. The collection features a wide variety of subjects, including:

- Anger
- Bullying / Intolerance
- Death / Grief - People: Friends, Grandparents, Parents, Relatives, Sibling (from SIDS\*)
- Death / Grief - Pets: Cats, Dogs, Goldfish, Guinea Pig, Mouse
- Divorce / Stepfamilies
- Fears
- Foster Care
- Grandparent Moving into Retirement Home
- Jealousy
- Parent in Jail / Prison
- Sadness
- Sibling Born Prematurely
- Special Health Needs - Adults: Alzheimer's, Cancer, Chemotherapy Hair Loss, Parkinson's, PTSD\*\*
- Special Health Needs - Kids: Asperger's, Autism, Color Blindness, Eye Patches, Glasses, Head Lice
- Violence
- Worry

You know the children in your life, better than anyone. Some kids may benefit from having a book read to them. Other kids might pick up and read the book on their own if it is made available without fanfare. Perhaps the subject is right but the intended age of the book is too young or too old. Reading the book may give you an idea of how to broach the subject with your child or grandchild. Many of the books also have a section for adults with tips and advice to assist you in deciding how to approach the subject with your child.

Kids are smart and strong and resilient. With the love and support of caring adults they can weather life's tough times.

*Luann Elvey*  
*East Tawas Library*  
*204 Sawyer St.*  
*East Tawas, MI 48730*  
*989-362-6162*  
*libraryet@yahoo.com*

### **LIBRARY HOURS:**

Monday, Thursday & Friday: 8-11:30am & 12:30-5pm

Tuesday: 12-4pm & 5-8:30pm

Wednesday: Closed

Saturday: 8am-12pm

*Luann may be contacted at: libraryet@yahoo.com or 989-362-6162*



## **PROPERTY INSPECTIONS FOR ASSESSING PURPOSES**

In early 2014 the State Tax Commission sent a bulletin that gave assessing offices guidelines for property inspections. These recommendations, when implemented, preserve the property owner's rights. The East Tawas assessing office sends post-cards to owners of those properties that are scheduled for a property visit for the current year. This year's cards were included with the annual Change of Assessment Notice that was mailed in February. The post-card explains what happens during a visit for a Record Card Review. It also gives the property owner an option to contact the assessing office if they do not want an interior inspection or do not wish to grant access to their property.

If the property owner doesn't want to grant access to the property or an interior inspection, it is still important that the information used to assess a property is current and accurate. The property owner is then asked to complete a record card questionnaire that will give the assessor vital information that is needed to value the property. This questionnaire is available on-line at [www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com). A copy can be mailed by request or the questions can be answered by phone by simply calling the assessing office.

If you have further questions, please e-mail [rsells@easttawas.com](mailto:rsells@easttawas.com) or call (989)362-6241.

## **ZONING PERMITS**

Please remember that the City of East Tawas is a zoned community and you need a zoning permit for any construction (including decks, pools, fences, sheds, garages, additions, houses, etc.) or tearing down any structures. Permits and guidelines are available at City Hall. Incomplete permits will delay approval, so please be sure to allow yourself enough time to get all the necessary information and for the Zoning Administrator to review and approve the application.

Any commercial permits must be approved by the Planning Commission which meets at City Hall on the second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Plans must be submitted by 3:00 p.m. on the Thursday preceding the meeting to be included on the agenda.



## **SPRING CLEANING**

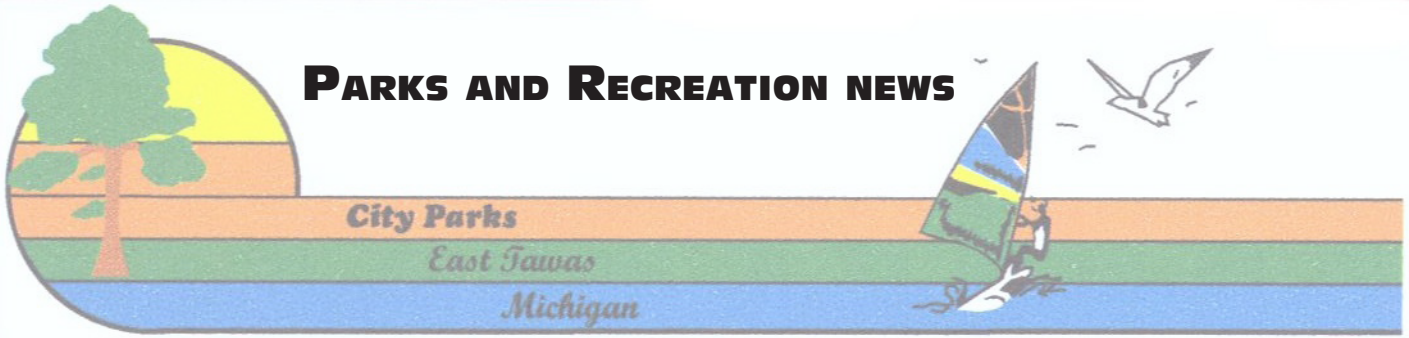
This is the time of year when many people begin Spring cleaning. Please keep in mind that our contract with Waste Management allows for up to 5 bags of regular household garbage and one large item per house. If you have any items beyond your limited amount to dispose of, you can make arrangements with Waste Management to have them picked up separately. They also have a transfer station located at 685 Aulerich Road (one mile off US-23) where items can be taken. For more information on either option, please contact Waste Management at 362-9562.

## **GARAGE SALES**

Garage sales are a big activity beginning this time of year. The City of East Tawas does not require you to obtain a permit for a garage sale, however, our City Ordinance states that a garage sale may last no longer than three days at one time and you are allowed only two garage sales in a calendar year.

The City also has an ordinance prohibiting signs attached to meter posts, trees or along any street right-of-way (City property), as well as on any building, wall or fence without first obtaining consent from the owner. State Law also prohibits attaching signs to utility poles. Signs in these locations will be removed. To advertise your event, the City has provided a kiosk in the Tawas Bay Players parking lot, located at 401 Newman Street.





## **PARKS AND RECREATION NEWS**

### **PARK BOARD SEEKS BATHHOUSE GRANT**

The East Tawas Park Board has submitted a grant application to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund for development of a public bathhouse. The bathhouse would provide free restrooms and showers to the general public and will be located on the 601 W Bay Street and 609 W Bay Street properties.

The project calls for the expansion of the current Day Use parking lot onto the subject properties. The expansion would create an additional 50 parking spaces which would increase the total number of available spaces to 113. In addition to providing public bathrooms and showers, the facility would also include an outside shower and foot wash station so that beach goers can rinse off before going into the building. There will also be a dish washing station so picnickers can rinse off and clean their dishes before leaving.

The Park Board is hoping that the location for the project will benefit the application. The Governor's new Iron Belle Trail system will be utilizing the City's bike path and will be located on the north end of the project. The Huron Shores Coastal Water Trail is on the north side. Being situated between these two trail systems, it is hoped that the Trust Fund will look favorably on the application. Thirty-three letters of support for the project were received from local businesses, residents and organizations and were included in the grant application.

### **TAWAS BAY PLAYERS TO HOST CTAM SPRING CONFERENCE**

The Tawas Bay Players are hosting the CTAM (Community Theater Association of Michigan) Spring Theater Conference, to be held in East Tawas May 13-15. The spring conference venue floats around the State, hosted by different theater groups. In agreeing to host this spring's event, TBP expects to bring many new faces to the Tawas area in hopes they return and enjoy our beautiful community on the bay. Various Newman Street businesses are hosting the workshop sessions and the Saturday evening banquet will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

On the agenda for the conference are ten workshops that give insight and new ideas in helping current community theaters. They are aimed at helping directors, actors, and backstage personnel. We are targeting youth involvement and benefits, auditioning, make-up, vocalizing/projection, musical stage movement, live and canned music for a musical, and PR for your theater, to name a few. During the workshop we will also be addressing our unique relationship with the City of East Tawas which has resulted in TBP having our own theater through the generosity of a long term lease with the City. As a bonus, the conference will be held on one of the weekends of our spring musical production, "The Marvelous Wonderettes".

This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase our community and businesses. Cost is \$60 to attend, so if you have even the smallest inclination to help out (we can use volunteers) or want to be involved in a production, this is a great way to jump in without having to travel!

Please contact Chairperson Donna Thomas, at [LNO38sabre@gmail.com](mailto:LNO38sabre@gmail.com), if you have questions about attending or volunteering!

## **COMMUNITY CENTER IS STILL A BARGAIN FOR AREA RESIDENTS**

The East Tawas Community Center continues to provide recreational opportunities for area residents at very reasonable rates. With a full size gymnasium, the Center is ideally suited for basketball, volleyball and a myriad of other recreational activities. If walking is your exercise of choice, then the facility's elevated synthetic walking track is for you. Many residents and visitors use the track on a daily basis to keep in shape, especially during our cold and inclement winter season.

All that is required to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Community Center is a City of East Tawas recreation pass. Recreation passes are good for the City of East Tawas fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) annually. But they are still a bargain. An annual pass for an individual resident is still only \$12.50. A two member family can purchase an annual pass for \$20.00 while a pass for an entire family is only \$25.00. Non-residents of the City of East Tawas can purchase annual passes as well. The rates for non-residents are double the price listed for an East Tawas resident. Daily passes are available for \$3.00 each.

So come on in and get your pass today and start taking advantage of the facilities offered in your Community Center.

## **CITY PARK & AUSABLE VALLEY AUDUBON PROVIDE BIRD HIDE**

East Tawas City Park staff and members of AuSable Valley Audubon have been working together the past two weeks to construct a "bird hide". A bird hide is a structure from which people can view birds and waterfowl along Tawas Bay. The East Tawas Bird Hide is 6' wide by 10' long and includes a "bump out" to allow wheelchair bound wildlife enthusiasts to be able to utilize the structure. The "camouflage" painting on the hide was donated and painted by Pam Frank and Erica and Chase Earl from the Iosco County 4-H "We Love to Craft" craft club. The bird hide will be placed on the concrete slab on the former Genii's restaurant property in early April.



## **CITY PAVILIONS AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL**

Are you having a graduation party, family reunion, etc. but aren't looking forward to having guests track through your house? Then you may want to consider renting one of the East Tawas City Park Pavilions for your event.

The pavilions are located in Durant, Bolen and Dillon Parks in East Tawas. Each pavilion comes with a covered picnic area, picnic tables, two gas grills, and a kitchen with stove, refrigerator and Bunn Coffee Maker. Rental rates for all three pavilions for residents of the Tawas Area School District is \$50.00 Mondays through Fridays and \$75.00 for weekends and Holidays. A \$50.00 security deposit is also required which will be refunded if everything is cleaned up and no damage is done.

The park begins taking requests for reservations on January 1 annually. The park offers the local Little League and Softball organizations until April 30 each year to submit their schedules for games and tournaments. On or around May 1, park staff will call to confirm your reservation at which time, you will have two weeks to come in and make your payments. That's all there is to it. To reserve one of the facilities, contact the Park Office at 989-362-5562.

If you prefer to be on the beach for your event, you may want to consider the Day-Use Area gazebo. Located in the East Tawas City Park Day-Use Area adjacent to the Museum, this facility rents for \$50.00 per day. The gazebo comes with a minimum of six picnic tables and there are charcoal grills located throughout the Day-Use Area. You can also bring your own gas grills if you prefer.

Hours for all of the park facilities are from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily.

## COMPOST PICKUP

Employees of the Department of Public Works will begin their compost (yard waste pick up) on Monday, May 2, 2016 through November 14, 2016. Compost must be contained in paper composting bags or a plastic trash bin specifically marked "Compost". Weight restriction for pick up is a maximum of 40 pounds. Plastic bags will no longer be picked up and will be tagged for this reason.

If you would like to take your yard waste to the compost area, a key is available at City Hall for East Tawas residents only. No building materials or junk may be taken to the compost area.

Please contact City Hall at 989-362-6161 or [cityhall@easttawas.com](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

## "CURB APPEAL" ....IT BENEFITS ALL OF US.



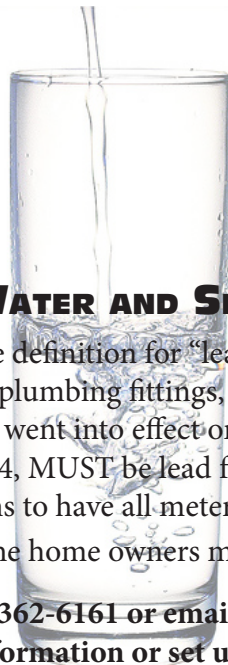
After a long cold winter, spring is the season of rejuvenation. Spring is a great time to venture back out in the yard and dispose of unwanted items. Getting rid of yard clutter will quickly increase the curb appeal of your home, possibly make for better neighbor relations and will certainly benefit the character and livability of the City we live in.

## SUMMER TAX BILLS

2016 summer tax bills will be mailed on July 1, 2016 and are due September 15, 2016. If you would like your tax payment paid by an automatic payment initiated by us, please contact our office or visit our website to complete the required form.

*Have you moved recently?  
Has your primary residence changed?*

*Please be sure to file the Principal Residence forms with the Assessor's Office by June 1, 2016. If you're not sure if you have filed the forms or if you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's Office at 362-6241.*



## UPDATES TO WATER AND SEWER METERS

On January 4, 2011, President Obama revised the definition for "lead free" within the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This act pertains to "pipe, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures" and is designed to protect the quality of drinking water in the U.S. The changes went into effect on January 4, 2014. With these new regulations in place, any meters replaced after January 4, 2014, MUST be lead free. In August 2010 our Department of Public Works began replacing existing meters, with plans to have all meters updated by 2018. Because we do not have outside access to all meters, arrangements with the home owners may need to be made.

**Please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or email us at [cityhall@easttawas.com](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com) to update contact information or set up an appointment.**



## CLEANING GREENWOOD CEMETERY

The East Tawas Department of Public Works will begin cleaning Greenwood Cemetery on Wednesday, April 20th (weather permitting). If there are any grave blankets, flowers, flowerpots, wreaths, etc. on the grave that you would like to keep, the items **must be removed prior to April 20th**. Any items remaining after April 20th will be removed and disposed of by the Department of Public Works. Decorations may be returned to the cemetery beginning May 13th. Please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or [cityhall@easttawas.com](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

## VALVE TURNING HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will be turning valves and flushing fire hydrants again starting May 2nd-May 6th, 2016. You may experience rusty water or low water pressure during this flushing period. Valve turning and flushing of the hydrants is necessary to provide better water quality. Please watch the Iosco County News Herald for the flushing schedule.



## RECYCLING HAS CHANGED



Waste Management and the cities of East Tawas and Tawas City have partnered to create a more effective recycling solution for your communities. The information listed below outlines your new recycling program.

These changes are effective immediately:

➤ 3rd Saturday of each month- we will continue to provide recycling services on the 3rd Saturday of each month (Hours of operation: Winter 9a-11a; Summer 8a-11a). The new drop off location will be at the Waste Management Transfer Station located at 685 Aulerich Road, East Tawas, MI 48730.

➤ NEW!! You can drop off your recyclables on weekdays now, too; Monday through Friday, 9a-4p at the Waste Management Transfer Station at 685 Aulerich Road, East Tawas, MI 48730! We've made it easy! The containers are set up as self-serve. Simply drive up to the containers, put your items in the correct container and drive away.

→ When you pull through the front gate at the Transfer Station, the recycling containers will be located to your right. If you have questions about recycling, there will be flyers located in the mailbox next to the containers.



## REMINDER

Garbage pickup for East Tawas residents is Thursday, unless following a holiday. If you use a trash can please secure your trash in plastic bags before disposing it. This will eliminate litter in yards and roadways. If you need to put your garbage out the night before, please do so after 7 p.m.

### Waste Management Holiday Schedule

*Collection will be delayed one day*

Memorial Day  
Labor Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day  
New Year's Day 2016

