

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2017

April

- 14.... Good Friday
City offices close at noon
- 16.... *Happy Easter*
- 24.... Cemetery Clean up starts

May

- 1 Compost pick-up begins
- 29 Memorial Day
City offices will be closed

June

July

- 1.....Summer taxes mailed**
- 4Fourth of July
City offices will be closed

Aug

Sept

- 4Labor Day
City offices will be closed
- 15Summer taxes due

Oct

- 9.....Columbus Day
- 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/SUMMER 2017

REDEVELOPMENT READY COMMUNITIES®

The Redevelopment Ready Communities® (RRC) Program is a state-wide certification program that supports communities to become development ready and competitive in today's economy. It encourages communities to adopt innovative redevelopment strategies and efficient processes which build confidence between businesses and developers. Effective October 1, 2017, communities must be engaged in the RRC program to be eligible for grants administered by the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC.) At the February 20, 2017 meeting, the City Council adopted a resolution to begin the process to become a Redevelopment Ready Community. City staff must attend training sessions for RRC Best Practices. The following are the topics for the six best practices sessions:

- ◆ Community Plans and Public Outreach
- ◆ Zoning Regulations
- ◆ Development Review Process
- ◆ Recruitment and Education
- ◆ Redevelopment Ready Sites®
- ◆ Community Prosperity

Once staff has finished the training on the best practices, staff will need to complete a self-evaluation to see how the City's Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and other policies compare to the best practices. Implementation of the RRC best practices will help the City make sure our development processes are deliberate, fair and consistent. The RRC program provides the framework and benchmarks for the City to strategically and tactically ask "What can we do differently?" By shifting the way we approach development, we will be reinventing the way we do business and making our City more attractive for investments that create places where people want to live, work, and visit. The MEDC will be providing the city with evaluation support, expertise, consultation and training opportunities.

PROJECT UPDATE

HURON STREET - The existing four-inch water line will be replaced with a ten-inch water line from Westover Street to Washington Street. John Henry Excavating, Inc. is the contractor for the project. This will be a spring project and is expected to take less than a month to complete. Once the line is replaced, the street will be repaved as part of the annual street work.

EVANS STREET - The sanitary sewer and storm sewer lines from Bay Street to Lincoln Street will be re-lined this year. The project has not been put out for bids at this time but is expected to be completed by September 30th. Once the project is complete, the street will be repaved as part of the annual street work.

"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)

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. 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 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 five 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.

SUMMER TAX BILLS

2017 summer tax bills will be mailed on July 1, 2017 and are due September 15, 2017. 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.

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.





YOUR NEW CONSUMER ENERGY METER IS COMING SOON

You don't need to be home the day of your scheduled installation unless the meter is located inside of your home.

Here's what to expect:

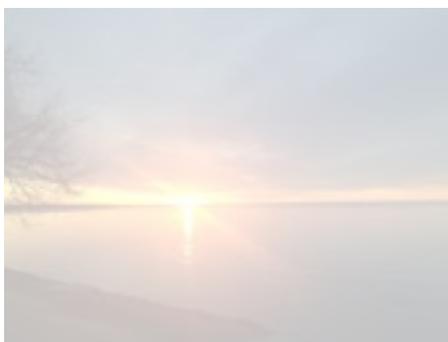
You'll receive a postcard one month before your scheduled installation date.

Please make sure the meter is clear of all obstructions.

If the scheduled date doesn't work for you and you'd like to make an appointment for your installation, please call us at 888-862-2199.

***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, 2017. 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.



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 \$122.70 a month. (Again, not including your regular monthly use.)

Is your lawn worth it?



RECYCLING

The information listed below outlines your new recycling program.

➤ 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.

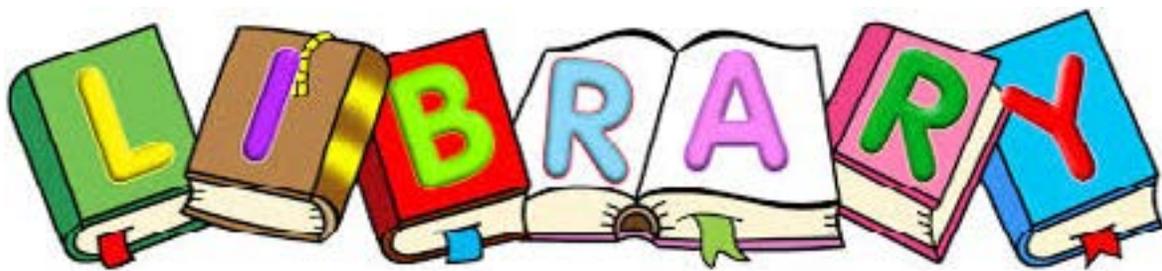


AUTOMATED PAYMENTS

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



TIME (AND TECHNOLOGY) MARCHES ON

Just as 'time marches on' so does technology. While not many of us still remember silent movies or the change-over to 'talkies' in the late 1920's, quite a few of us still remember the Tawas Drive-In Theatre. For a short time they even offered drive-in church services, which was kind of prophetic since the Tawas Area Presbyterian Church is now located on part of the grounds of the former drive-in.

The East Tawas Library has a small collection of donated DVDs (including a few Blu-ray DVDs) which can be checked out on the honor system. While the East Tawas Library is still accepting DVD donations, the library is divesting itself of its collection of VHS tapes.

If you still have a VCR player at your cottage, hunting camp, or elsewhere, bring a bag and stop by the library. You can have as many VHS tapes (to keep) as you want. We will even help carry the bag(s) out to your car. If you have moved on to newer technology, stop by the library and ask for information on Hoopla. This is a free service that will let you borrow digital movies from home with your library card. Movies can be downloaded to your computer, phone, tablet, or even your TV. While the service is free, and there are no late fees, the number of downloads allowed per month is limited. Hoopla also offers downloadable audiobooks, comics, eBooks, music, and television shows.

Luann Elvey
East Tawas Library
760 Newman Street
PO Box 672
East Tawas, MI 48730



LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday, Thursday & Friday: 8-5pm

Tuesday: 12-8:30pm

Wednesday: Closed

Saturday: 8am-noon

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

DURING LUNCH HOUR



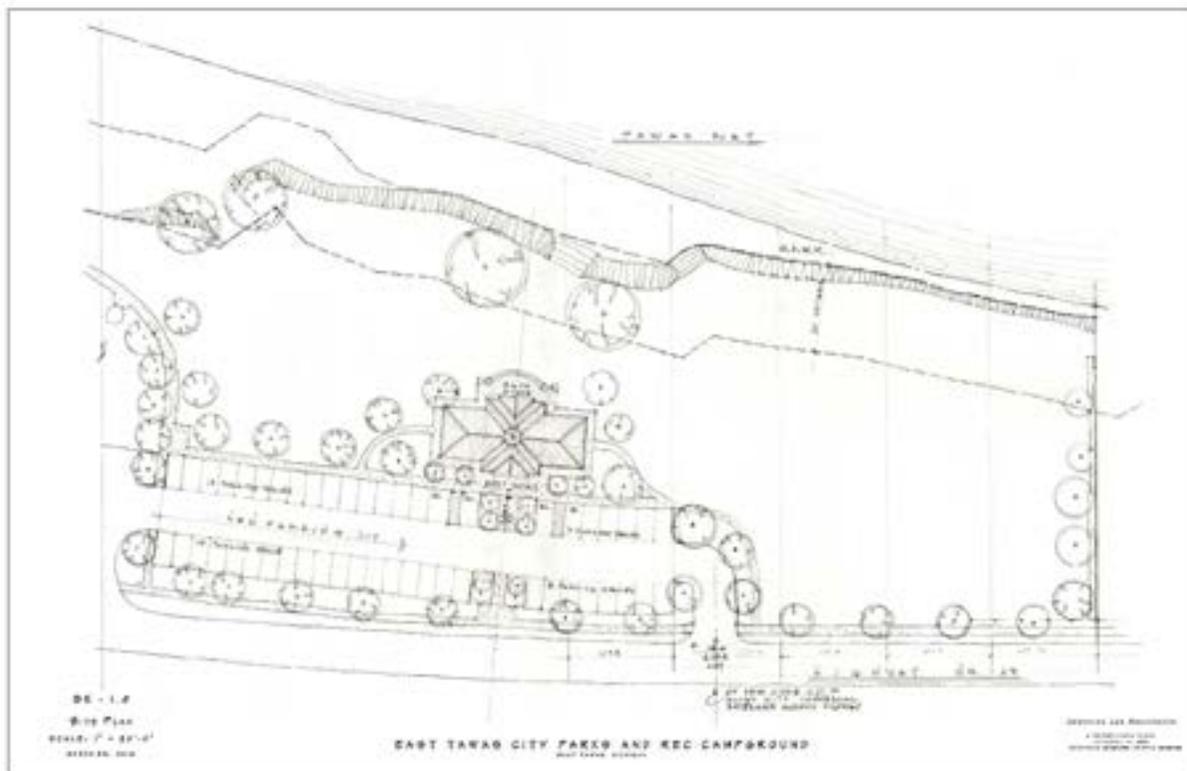
PARKS AND RECREATION NEWS

CITY PARK IS APPROVED FOR BATHHOUSE GRANT

On December 9, 2016, the East Tawas City Park was notified that its Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund public restroom development project was recommended for funding by the Trust Fund Board. Final funding for recommended projects must first be passed into law by both the Senate and House of representatives and signed by the Governor before the grant is formally approved. This could take four to six more months. The bathhouse will provide free restrooms and showers to the general public and will be located on the former Genii's Restaurant and Verlac Real Estate properties. There will also be two picnic pavilions attached to the facility, one on the east side and one on the west side.

The project also calls for the expansion of the current Day Use parking lot onto the subject properties. The expansion will create an additional 50 parking spaces which will increase the total number of available spaces to 113. In addition to providing public bathrooms and showers, the facility will 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 facility will also benefit the Governor's new Iron Belle Trail system which will be utilizing the City's bike path and the Huron Shores Coastal Water Trail. Thirty-three letters of support for the project were received from local businesses, residents and organizations and were included as part of the grant application.



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.

The only requirement to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Community Center is to obtain 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. 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. Any individual 18 or older will have to purchase their own pass. 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 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 each of the three pavilions for residents of the Tawas Area School District is \$50.00 Monday through Friday 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 1st annually. The park offers the local Little League and Softball organizations until April 30th each year to submit their schedules for games and tournaments. On or around May 1st, 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 Iosco County Historical 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.

COMPOST PICKUP

Employees of the Department of Public Works will begin their compost (yard waste pick up) on Monday, May 1, 2017 through November 13, 2017. Compost must be contained in paper composting bags or a plastic trash bin specifically marked "Compost". Brush must be bundled and cut into no larger than 4 foot lengths. 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 property owners. No building materials or junk may be taken to the compost area.

Please contact City Hall at 989-362-6161 or 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 in May. 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.



"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 making better neighbor relations and will certainly benefit the character and livability of our City.

CLEANING GREENWOOD CEMETERY

Clean up of Greenwood Cemetery will begin on Monday, April 24th (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 24th**. Any items remaining after April 24th 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 if you have any questions or concerns.

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 placing it in the can. 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 when the holiday falls on a weekday.

Memorial Day

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Day

New Year's Day 2016

