

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2019

April

19 ...

22.... Cemetery Clean up starts

May

6 Compost pick-up begins

27 Memorial Day

City offices will be closed

June

July

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

4Fourth of July

City offices will be closed

13-14..... Summerfest 2019

Aug

3 Tawas Uncork'd Wine, Ale and Food Festival

23-25..... Blues by the Bay Festival

Sept

2Labor Day

City offices will be closed

16.....**Summer taxes due**

Oct

14.....Columbus Day

31Downtown Halloween Parade 4:30 p.m.

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 2019

UNDERSTANDING SHORT TERM RENTALS

There are various opportunities across the country to rent a home for the weekend via the touch of a smart phone. East Tawas would like to offer this opportunity to property owners through our zoning ordinance as our current ordinance does not permit residential housing to be utilized as a "short term" commercial use. Our City Planning Commission and City staff are exploring ways to provide this opportunity while still maintaining property values, resident interests and zoning expectations.

UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION



EVANS STREET:

Water main and road replacement between Bay Street and Lincoln Street.

NEWMAN STREET:

This project will include updates to broken and sagging curbing and a complete resurfacing of Newman Street from Bay Street to Lincoln Street and Westover, State, and Lincoln Streets between Main Street and Sawyer Street.

SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

SUMMER HELP - City of East Tawas is now accepting applications for summer employees at the Department of Public Works. Applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have a valid driver's license. Applications are available at East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI 48730, calling 989-362-6161, emailing cityhall@easttawas.com or on our website at www.easttawas.com. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. The City of East Tawas is an "Equal Opportunity Employer" and provides a drug free work environment.

"PLANNING, PLANNING, PLANNING"

In an effort to better understand and plan the City's infrastructure, we will be asking residents to help us in defining residential uses throughout the City. An insert will be included with the 2019 Summer tax bill to assist in this endeavor. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

VALVE TURNING HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will be turning water valves beginning April 22nd through May 3rd and flushing fire hydrants starting May 7th through May 11th. 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 quality water. Please watch the Iosco County News Herald for the flushing schedule.

"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)

NEW FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE- PERMANENT ABSENTEE VOTER LIST

Under Proposal 3, a constitutional amendment passed by Michigan voters in November 2018, EVERY Michigan voter has the right to vote by absentee ballot – no reason is required. You MUST return the absent voter ballot application form for each election in order to receive a ballot. Due to this change, the City of East Tawas will be maintaining a list of voters who wish to automatically receive an absent voter application form. The application forms will be automatically mailed to those registered voters who have been placed on the list prior to an election. The City cannot automatically mail an absentee ballot to any voter; however, we would be able to mail the application form used to request an absentee ballot. If you wish to be added to the permanent absentee voter list, please contact the Clerk's Office to obtain a "Permanent Absentee Voter List Request Form" or visit our website at www.easttawas.com for a fillable form. Applications will be mailed approximately 60 days before an election.

Voters who are put on the list should be aware that any address change made with their voter registration will require the voter to re-apply to be placed on the permanent absentee voter list. The permanent absentee voter list is based on an address and a voter name, therefore, any address change made will remove the permanent absentee voter status and the voter must re-apply.

(Note: Election law states that a ballot can only be given to the person requesting the ballot. Applications for an absentee ballot can be presented at City Hall but only those persons appearing in person will be given an absentee ballot. Ballots for those not appearing in person will be sent their ballot by mail or hand delivered by the Clerk. Please contact City Hall if you have any questions.)

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 obtain all of the necessary information and for the Zoning Administrator to review 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.

SUMMER TAXES

Summer tax bills will be mailed on July 1st and will be due on Monday, September 16, 2019. Interest will be added at 1% per month after the due date. Summer taxes may be paid at East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, by mail addressed to City of East Tawas, PO Box 672, East Tawas, Michigan 48730, by credit or debit card over the phone, online or at City Hall. If paying by a debit or credit card, you will be charged a 2.75% service fee for this convenience. If you would like to have your taxes paid by an automatic payment initiated by the City at no cost to you, please contact our office or visit our website (www.easttawas.com) to complete the required form.

SUMMER TAX DEFERMENT

Eligible taxpayers can defer the payment of the summer taxes on their principal residence until February 14, 2020 by completing an Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes and submitting the application by September 16, 2019. Because income changes from year to year, the application form must be submitted every year to request deferment of your taxes. Additional information is available at City Hall or on the Michigan Department of Treasury website at www.michigan.gov/treasury.

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

Please be sure to file the Principal Residence Exemption form with the Assessor's Office by June 1, 2019. If you're not sure if you have filed the form or if you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's Office at 362-6241.

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 household per week. If you have any items beyond your limited amount to dispose of, you can make arrangements with Waste Management to have them picked up at your cost. 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.

CLEANING GREENWOOD CEMETERY

The East Tawas Department of Public Works will begin cleaning Greenwood Cemetery on Monday, April 22nd (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 19th**. 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 18th. Please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or cityhall@easttawas.com if you have any questions or concerns.

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 utility poles, 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. 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.

BURNING PERMITS

Getting a burn permit has never been easier. You can call the State of Michigan burning permit hotline at (866) 922-2876 to verify if burning is allowed. You also have the option of using the interactive map located on the State of Michigan's website at www.michigan.gov/burnpermit to find the burn conditions in our area. If "YES" appears in the Burning Permits Issued column, you are authorized to burn for that day. Either the phone call or online confirmation serves as your burn permit. You don't need to print anything or write anything down. Updates are made every day by 10:00 a.m.

Due to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality rules, no burn permits are issued for trees, logs, brush or stumps within the City limits. Burning authorized by this permit in the City of East Tawas is for grass clippings and leaves ONLY. These permits do not relieve the responsible person(s) of liability for any damages resulting from the escape of the fire.





EAST TAWAS CITY PARK CAMPGROUND TO RECEIVE ELECTRICAL UPGRADE

This fall, the East Tawas City Park Campground will be undergoing a major electrical upgrade. 50-amp electric service will be provided to each campsite. Today's RV's are bigger than ever and come equipped with many more electrical appliances than in the past. For today's camper, a 50-amp electric hookup is a necessity. Plans call for this project to start in October and it should be completed by the end of the year. The estimated cost of the project is \$750,000 and will be paid for through campground revenues.

CITY PARK BATHHOUSE PROJECT TO START SOON



After more than a year of working to get the price of this project down to an affordable number, it looks like the project will finally get started this spring. Sajdak Contracting of Houghton Lake is the contractor that will be building the restroom. Although we had to eliminate the two picnic pavilions from the plans in order to cut costs, the rest of the building remains as originally planned with restrooms and showers.

PARK 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 Mondays through Fridays and \$75 for weekends and Holidays. A \$50 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 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.



GRANDCHILDREN AND LIBRARY CARDS

Start planning now for upcoming visits from your grandchildren. Kids love having their own library card, however, in order to issue the cards we need a parent's (or legal guardian's) signature. So, the next time your grandchildren are in town with their parents, have them stop by the East Tawas Library.

Please note: The ONLY time you, as a grandparent, can sign the library card application is if you are your grandchild's legal guardian. (This is per Iosco-Arenac District Library policy.)

Parents will need to show identification with a current mailing address, however, we do not have a residency requirement so ID from downstate, out-of-state, or elsewhere is accepted. Identification can include a driver's license, state ID card, a piece of current mail, or other officially issued documents. We then need signatures from both the parent and your grandchild. We do ask that kids be old enough to independently print or write their name (first name only is fine). It's that simple! With less than 5 minutes of their parent's time, your grandchildren will have their own Iosco-Arenac District Library card.

The card is accepted at all 8 library branches and can be acquired at any branch if their location or hours are more convenient. Branches are located in: Au Gres, East Tawas, Hale, Omer, Oscoda, Standish, Tawas City and Whittemore. Each library card also comes with a key chain card so we suggest that at least one card be kept at your house so you can enjoy future East Tawas Library visits with your grandchildren

Luann Elvey
East Tawas Library
760 Newman Street
PO Box 672
East Tawas, MI 48730
989-362-6162
libraryet@yahoo.com



EAST TAWAS LIBRARY HOURS

Monday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Tuesday: 10:00 am – 8:30 pm
Wednesday: Closed
Thursday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am – 6:00 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am – noon