

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2020

April

20.... Cemetery Clean up starts

May

4 Compost pick-up begins

25 Memorial Day

City offices will be closed

June

July

1.....Summer taxes mailed

4Fourth of July

City offices will be closed

11-12..... Summerfest 2019

Aug

1 Tawas Uncork'd Wine, Ale and Food Festival

28-30..... Blues by the Bay Festival

Sept

7Labor Day

City offices will be closed

15**Summer taxes due**

Oct

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 2020

CITY HALL RENOVATIONS

City Hall has enhanced our electronic filing system and is now in the process of updating our physical files also. As you may have noticed, our offices are being reconfigured to accommodate a new filing system. With this, we will also be taking the opportunity to update our workstations. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we work through improvements this year.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

The City is working with MDOT to assist in their planning of a potential 2026 US-23 reconstruction project. Water distribution, storm water drainage and sanitary collection infrastructure improvements are being coordinated in hopes that a combined project can be implemented. Project objectives would be to remove the antiquated concrete roadway that currently exists beneath the asphalt pavement, replace water main and sanitary sewer, improve storm water drainage and update lighting along the bike path. Only one urban project is selected every three years in MDOT's northern region so we will be working closely with MDOT's staff in Alpena to assist in their regional presentation preparation.



VALVE TURNING HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will be turning water valves beginning April 13th through April 24th and flushing fire hydrants starting April 27th through May 1st. 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.

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.

CLEANING GREENWOOD CEMETERY

We will be beginning the spring cleanup at the Greenwood Cemetery on Monday, April 20th (weather permitting). If there are any grave blankets, flowers, flowerpots, wreaths, etc. on graves that you would like to keep, the items **must be removed prior to April 17th**. Any items remaining after April 20th will be removed and disposed of. Decorations may be returned to the cemetery beginning May 11th. Please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or cityhall@easttawas.com if you have any questions or concerns.

CITY OF EAST TAWAS ELECTION NOTICE

The nonpartisan City Primary Election will be held on Tuesday August 4, 2020 to nominate a Mayor for a two (2) year term expiring December 31, 2022 and three (3) Council members-at-large for four (4) year terms expiring December 31, 2024.

In order for a candidate's name to appear on the ballot, a nonpartisan nominating petition with a minimum of ten (10) and a maximum of fifteen (15) signatures of registered voters in the City of East Tawas must be filed with the City Clerk no later than 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday April 21, 2020. Nonpartisan Nominating Petitions and Affidavit of Identity forms are available at East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI 48730. For more information, please contact the City Clerk by phone at 989-362-6161 or by email at jpotts@easttawas.com.

The City is now maintaining a permanent absentee voter list due to the passing of Proposal 3 allowing every Michigan voter a right to vote by absentee ballot without providing a reason. If you have already signed up for our permanent absentee voter list, an application will automatically be mailed to you approximately 60 days before the election. 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.

HOW THE CENSUS BENEFITS YOUR COMMUNITY

Federal funds, grants and support to states, counties and communities are based on population totals and breakdowns by sex, age, race and other factors. Your community benefits the most when the census counts everyone. People in your community use census data in all kinds of ways, such as these:

- ▷ Residents use the Census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality of life and consumer advocacy.
- ▷ Businesses use Census Bureau data to decide where to build factories, office and stores, and these create jobs.
- ▷ Local government officials use the Census to ensure public safety and plan new schools and hospitals.
- ▷ Real estate developers and city planners use the Census to plan new homes and improve neighborhoods.

SUMMER TAX DEFERMENT

Eligible taxpayers can defer the payment of the summer taxes on their principal residence until February 14, 2021 by completing an Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes and submitting the application by September 16, 2020. 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.

SUMMER TAXES

Summer tax bills will be mailed on July 1st and will be due on Monday, September 16, 2020. 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, 760 Newman Street 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.



CITY PARK ERECTS RETAINING WALL TO PROTECT CAMPGROUND

With the lake levels increasing to new all-time highs this past summer, the East Tawas City Park campground was flooded many times. This past December, the Park took steps to prevent this from happening in 2020.

Beginning in early December 2019, John Henry excavating was hired to construct approximately 595' of steel retaining wall. The wall is approximately 18" to 24" above the grade of the beach sand. Campers will be able to step over the wall to access the beach or use the newly constructed boardwalk/deck access constructed by Park staff.

The new retaining wall will create a new, definite barrier between the campsites in the campground and the public beach. Campers not wishing to step over the wall or use the boardwalk can still access the beach by exiting the campground through the east entrance and entering the beach from Harbor Park.

CITY PARK CAMPGROUND COMPLETES ELECTRIC UPGRADE

Beginning October 15, 2019, the East Tawas City Park Campground underwent an upgrade to the Park electrical system. As a result of the upgrade, each campsite will now be outfitted with new electric pedestals. Each pedestal will feature a 20, 30 and 50-amp outlet for the camper's use. Each pedestal is also equipped with its' own electric meter in the event that, sometime down the road, electric usage can be tracked on a site by site basis. The contractor still needs to come back in the next few weeks to complete the cleanup and landscaping finish work. They will also need to check sewer and water lines to make sure none were damaged during construction. Charter will be coming in during the next few weeks as well to install new cable lines to the campsites as some were damaged during construction.

BATHHOUSE PROJECT CONTINUES TO MOVE TOWARD COMPLETION

With the warmer spring weather moving in, work on the Park Day Use Area Bathhouse is beginning to kick back into full force. Crews have been on site recently installing the cupola on the roof, soffit and fascia. As soon as the winds die down, they hope to begin installing the metal roofing. During the last week of March, shower walls and door frames were installed. It is anticipated that the project will be complete and ready for use in time for the Memorial Holiday.

DOWNTOWN RESTROOMS TO OPEN SOON

Finishing touches will also soon be added to the new Downtown Restroom to prepare it for its' grand opening. New restroom panels had to be ordered to replace the original composite panels that arrived warped and in unusable condition.

In the next few weeks, Garage Floor Coatings of Midland will be installing the floor coating. It consists of an epoxy paint with quartz chips mixed in on top. Several coats of clear coat are then applied to the finished product in order to achieve the proper level of non-slip texture desired for the finished floor.

Help Your **CHILD** be Ready to **READ!**

Talk, sing, read, write, and play when
engaging with your young child,
as you are your child's first teacher!

Children learn so much as they enjoy music, explore games, build together, create art, and celebrate their families! Get inspired by the activities below and visit the East Tawas Library for a great selection of books for you to take home and read together. Enter your child's name in a drawing for a chance to win a free copy of "A Parade of Elephants" by award-winning author and illustrator Kevin Henkes. Up and down, over and under, through and around ... five big and colorful elephants are on a mission in this picture book for young children. Where are they going? What will they do when they get there? It's a surprise. Read and find out!

TALK

Talking to your child and giving them opportunities to talk helps them build a large vocabulary and increases their ability to describe events and tell stories.

- ▷ Take a "picture walk" with your child when reading, taking turns in the conversation with your child. Picture walks help your child to make connections to stories.
- ▷ Ask your child questions that encourage longer answers, not just "yes" or "no."
- ▷ Use new words with your child, repeating them in different conversations.

SING

Singing helps your child learn language, as it slows language down and allows children to hear and play with the smaller sounds in words.

- ▷ Songs have notes for different syllables, which helps your child break down words.
- ▷ Clapping along with nursery rhymes and songs helps break down the syllables.
- ▷ Use different voices and volumes as you sing to call attention to the sounds in words.
- ▷ You don't need a perfect voice, just some enthusiasm!

READ

Reading aloud is the single most important activity for your child's reading success.

- ▷ Make reading engaging and interactive. Read early and often and look for books related to your child's interests.
- ▷ Remember, very young children do not sit still long. Let them move around as you read aloud for short periods of time.
- ▷ Books provide new words that you do not use in every day conversations.
- ▷ Ask open-ended questions when reading, such as, "What do you think is going to happen next?" Give your child time to respond before giving them a cue to turn the page.

WRITE



Reading and writing go together, as they represent language. Children learn about letters, words and stories when given the chance to try writing on their own.

- ▷ Once your child is old enough to grasp a thick crayon, give them blank paper and plenty of opportunities to scribble. As children scribble and draw, they practice eye-hand coordination and exercise muscles in their fingers and hands.
- ▷ Talk with your child about what they are drawing and make up stories with them about art and pictures.
- ▷ Encourage your young child to start “signing” their names on their artwork.
- ▷ Make letter-shaped cookies or write your names in a tray of rice, colored sand, or shaving cream.

PLAY



Children learn a lot through play, as it is a powerful way for children to connect what they know to the world, using language and imagination.

- ▷ Provide plenty of play time for your child, where they can use their imaginations to create stories.
- ▷ Through pretend play your child is practicing putting thoughts into words.
- ▷ Dramatic play develops your child’s narrative skills as they make up stories with order (first, next, last).
- ▷ Use puppets, stuffed animals, and props to re-tell stories your child knows.

The Library of Michigan’s Ready to Read Michigan program encourages the practices of singing, talking, writing, playing, and reading regularly to children during the early stages of life (birth up to age 5), as these practices ensure the development of early literacy skills and instill a love of reading.

Stop by the East Tawas Library or visit us online at www.ioscoarenaclibrary.org to check out our extensive selection. We look forward to seeing you!

Monday	9:00AM – 6:00PM
Tuesday	9:00AM – 6:30PM
Wednesday	1:00PM – 6:00PM
Thursday	9:00AM – 6:00PM
Friday	9:00AM – 6:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM – 12:00PM

Phone: (989) 362-6162
Email: library@easttawas.com

Like many, we’re following the COVID-19 outbreak closely and taking steps to stay as safe and healthy as we can. At this time, we plan to reopen on April 13th. Be sure to call ahead or check our website for updates.



Adapted from the Library of Michigan’s Ready to Read 2020 program.

How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond



Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Nearly every household will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census from either a postal worker or a census worker.

 **95%** of households will receive their census invitation in the mail.



 **Almost 5%** of households will receive their census invitation when a census taker drops it off. In these areas, the majority of households may not receive mail at their home's physical location (like households that use PO boxes or areas recently affected by natural disasters).

 **Less than 1%** of households will be counted in person by a census taker, instead of being invited to respond on their own. We do this in very remote areas like parts of northern Maine, remote Alaska, and in select American Indian areas that ask to be counted in person.

(This is separate from our follow-up efforts; census takers will visit all households that were invited to respond on their own and haven't.)

Note: We have special procedures to count people who don't live in households, such as students living in university housing or people experiencing homelessness.

How the 2020 Census will invite everyone to respond



What to Expect in the Mail

When it's time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail.

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail, or by phone.

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you'll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

Letter Invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking you to go online to complete the census questionnaire (or to respond by phone).
- We plan on working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we'll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

Letter Invitation and Paper Questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their invitation. The invitation will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

WHAT WE WILL SEND IN THE MAIL	
On or between	You'll receive:
March 12-20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
March 16-24	A reminder letter.
	If you haven't responded yet:
March 26-April 3	A reminder postcard.
April 8-16	A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.
April 20-27	A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

We understand you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn't already responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- It doesn't matter which initial invitation you get or how you get it—we will follow up in person with all households that don't respond.