

**City of East Tawas**  
**760 Newman Street**  
**East Tawas, MI 48730**  
*www.easttawas.com*  
*cityhall@easttawas.com*

## IMPORTANT DATES IN 2023

### April

17.... Cemetery Clean up starts  
24-28.... Hydrant Flushing

### May

1 ..... Compost pickup begins  
29 ..... Memorial Day & Parade  
*City offices will be closed*

### June

Tuesday Night Live Begins

### July

**1.....Summer taxes mailed**  
4 .....Fourth of July  
*City offices will be closed*  
14-16..... Summerfest 2023

### Aug

5 .....Tawas Uncork'd Wine, Ale and Food Festival  
25-27..... Blues by the Bay Festival

### Sept

4 .....Labor Day  
*City offices will be closed*  
9 .....Tawas Triathlon  
15 .....**Summer taxes due**

### Oct

31 .....Downtown Halloween Parade 4:30 p.m.  
Trick or Treating 5pm-8pm

Please see our Spring/Summer Local Events page for additional information

# ~ CITY OF EAST TAWAS ~

760 NEWMAN STREET • EAST TAWAS, MI 48730

PHONE: 989-362-6161 • FAX: 989-362-6736 • [cityhall@easttawas.com](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com)

[www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com)

## SPRING/SUMMER 2023

### 2023 ELECTION NEWS

There will be a May 2, 2023 Special Election to vote on proposals for Tawas Area Schools and Iosco County. Absentee Ballot APPLICATIONS have been sent to those voters who had previously signed up for the permanent absentee voter list or checked the box on the previous election absentee ballot application. The new application states that, for future elections, you may check the box stating “I want to vote absentee in all future elections. Automatically send me an absent voter BALLOT for every election.” This is a change due to the passing of Proposal 2 in the November 2022 General Election.

If you do not want to automatically receive a ballot in the future, please do not check the box or state on the application that you do not want to automatically receive a ballot and the City Clerk will remove you from the permanent Absentee Voter list. THIS IS YOUR CHOICE.

**Please visit our website for the Tawas Area Schools proposal and to view the Iosco County proposal, contact the Iosco County Clerk at (989) 362-3497.**

### 2023 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

The City has plans to continue our road and sidewalk improvement projects, complete the fiber internet project, finalize our facility management assessment and implement several other improvements that are part of our annual capital objectives.

### RECYCLING

Recycling is available to only City of East Tawas property owners and residents. The recycling is located in the North Parking lot of City Hall. The bins are available everyday and are monitored by cameras. The bins are removed and emptied on Thursday or Friday each week and are returned by that same evening.

### REQUEST FOR TURN ON AND TURN OFF

When requesting a water turn on or off, please contact City Hall at (989)362-6161 to schedule an appointment, and make sure to give a 24-hour notice. This service costs \$25 each time the water is turned on or off and is applied to your monthly water bill. Someone must be present at the home for the water to be turned on.

### COLLECTING WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM DATA FOR GIS

The Department of Public works will be collecting data this spring and summer to input our water distribution system onto our GIS program. You may see them in your front yard locating the water service shut off. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161. This will not disrupt water service.

### UPDATED CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have recently changed your contact information please reach out to City Hall to verify we have the correct information on file. This information is used to reach you regarding payments and utility concerns.

### CITY HALL MAILING ADDRESS CHANGE

We have permanently discontinued the use of our PO Box as our mailing address. Please be sure to change our mailing address to 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, MI 48730 on any banking information you have set up for your bank for payments to avoid delays in payment or any other type of correspondence. If you have any questions, please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161.

## VALVE TURNING HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will be turning water valves beginning April 17th through April 21st and flushing fire hydrants starting April 24th through April 28th. 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.

## 2023 SUMMER TAXES

Summer tax bills will be mailed on July 1, 2023 and will be due on Friday, September 15th. Interest will be added at 1% per month after the due date. Summer taxes may be paid in person in our office at East Tawas City Hall, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas; deposited in our drop box located at the north side of the building; by mail addressed to City of East Tawas, 760 Newman Street, East Tawas, Michigan 48730; or by credit or debit card online, over the phone 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 (ACH) initiated by the City at no cost to you, please contact our office or visit our website ([www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com)) to complete the required form.



## CLEANING GREENWOOD CEMETERY

We will begin the spring cleanup at the Greenwood Cemetery on Monday, April 17th (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 17th will be removed and disposed of. Decorations may be returned to the cemetery beginning May 15th. Please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or [cityhall@easttawas.com](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com) if you have any questions or concerns.

## 2023 SUMMER TAX DEFERMENT

Eligible taxpayers can defer their payment of summer taxes on their principal residence until February 14, 2024 by completing an Application for Deferment of Summer Taxes and submitting the application by September 15, 2023. Due to the changes in income requirements every year, the deferment application form must be submitted each year to defer your taxes. Additional information is available at City Hall or on the Michigan Department of Treasury website at [www.michigan.gov/treasury](http://www.michigan.gov/treasury).



## US-23 AND NEWMAN TRAFFIC LIGHT AND CROSSWALK UPGRADES

In the fall of 2022, the Michigan Department of Transportation upgraded the US-23 and Newman Street intersection street light and crosswalk. Previously the street light and crosswalk were activated through a timer. The new light was updated to LED and is video censored, meaning that US-23 will stay running green unless a vehicle activates the light on Newman Street. The crosswalk has also been upgraded to a push button that will activate the US-23 light so pedestrians can cross safely. The crosswalk will not signal pedestrian crossing if the button has not been pushed, even if a car signals the change.

## AUTOMATIC TAX AND UTILITY PAYMENT AND ELECTRONIC BILLING

The City of East Tawas offers an automatic payment option for both water and sewer billing and taxes. You may also have your water and sewer bills electronically mailed. For more information contact City Hall at (989)362-6161 or visit our website at [www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com).

*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, 2023. If you're not sure if you have filed the form or if you have any questions, please contact the Assessor's Office at 989-734-3555.*



## REMINDER

Garbage pickup for East Tawas residents is Thursday, unless there is a holiday during the week.

### Holiday Schedule

*Collection will be delayed one day when the holiday falls on a weekday.*

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

## **EAST TAWAS POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

Our East Tawas Police Department welcomed two new officers in the last year. Officer Dakota Grise began serving our community in May 2022, as a full-time police officer. He is our training coordinator, firearms and taser instructor and field training officer. Officer Cody Kennedy-Brock began serving our community in December 2022 as a full-time police officer. He serves as our property and evidence manager as well as patrol vehicle fleet manager.

We also continue to enjoy great service and support from our two part-time officers, Wayne Snyder and Dan Klukowski. They fill in when officers need a day off and during our local events. All officers also serve on the East Tawas Fire Department.

The East Tawas Police Department has just committed to becoming an Accredited agency through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. The process clearly defines organizational expectations and supports strong service delivery. It requires internal reviews and external validation by outside parties to increase trust and transparency with those we serve and our team.

Accreditation is a proactive and ongoing "health check" of our organization's defined processes and their execution. It supports a culture of continuous improvement, commitment to review best practices and to apply them, as well as identify areas of excellence and where growth is needed. This is a 24-month process to build best practices to meet the 108 standards. The Accreditation Assessors will conduct audits to verify and validate that we are operating at professional best practices and all standards are being met on an ongoing basis.

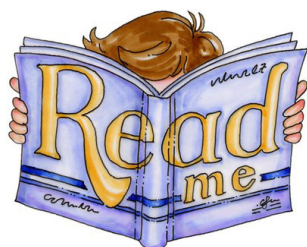
We look forward to keeping you updated on our progress and continuing to serve our great community.

Chief Anthony  
East Tawas Police Department  
214 W. Westover St  
(989)930-1526

## **EAST TAWAS LIBRARY UPDATES**

Our staff has continued to work hard in organizing our library materials to create a user-friendly experience for our patrons. We have also been dedicated to adding programming for adults and children along with adding hours in the evenings. Starting in January we have extended hours on Thursdays and are now open until 8:00 p.m.!

Soon, an after-hours hold pickup service will be added as an option for our patrons. Call or stop in the library to learn more information on this new option.



## **EAST TAWAS LIBRARY HOURS**

Sunday	CLOSED
Monday	9:00 am - 6:00 pm
Tuesday	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Wednesday	CLOSED
Thursday	9:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday	9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - Noon

(989) 362-6162  
[library@easttawas.com](mailto:library@easttawas.com)

## **COMPOST**

The East Tawas Compost facility is only available to East Tawas property owners. No commercial drop off is allowed. Regular Monday curbside collection will begin on Monday, May 1, 2023, and will run through November 13, 2023. If you wish to make an appointment to deliver yard waste to the compost site, a 24-hour notice must be made by contacting City Hall at (989)362-6161.

Yard waste must be placed in biodegradable paper bags, or in 30-gallon trash containers clearly marked “**compostable**”. Brush and branches will only be picked up if meeting the requirements of less than 3 inches in diameter and no more than 4 feet long and are required to be tied into bundles no larger than 18 inches in diameter. Any brush piles, bags or containers that do not meet the size and weight requirements, will be tagged with a green sticker, and not picked up. If you believe that your compost has been missed, check to see if you have a green sticker before contacting City Hall. All bags are picked up before the brush and branches and this may result in a multiple trips to your home.

In addition to regular Monday pickup, GFL, our waste pick up provider, will be providing a Spring and Fall compost pickup. They will only accept biodegradable bags no heavier than 30 pounds and will not take wet bags. Spring pickup will be the last two Fridays in May and Fall pickup will run every Friday in October.

## **EAST TAWAS FIRE DEPARTMENT TRAINING UPDATES**

This time of year, the East Tawas Fire Department is active in multiple trainings to help serve our community. As winter starts to loosen its grip and the ice on area lakes and streams starts to soften there is always a chance of an ice rescue call. At a recent training, department members (including the East Tawas Police Department) practiced donning ice rescue suits while everyone practiced using a "throw bag" which can get a rope out to a victim in distress. In a matter of just a few days after the snow disappears, wildfire threats can arise. The U.S. Forest Service came to the Fire Department to give their annual wildfire training. The two departments share strategies, tactics, manpower numbers and equipment lists. All these things help the Forest Service and local fire departments work together in the event of a wildfire. Especially important is discussion about what is called the Wildland-Urban Interface, where the forest areas abut homes and businesses. Having a plan is important so a lot is gained from this training each year. The Fire Department values having the Forest Service as a partner.

## **RESIDENTIAL WATER CROSS CONNECTION PROGRAM**

Under the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) institutes rules to protect drinking water and to prevent cross connections that may contaminate public drinking water systems. All communities are required to implement a program for removal of ALL existing and possible cross connections and the prevention of all future cross connections.

The City of East Tawas currently requires cross connection testing on all commercial facilities due to their perceived greater risk of contaminants. While the testing of these facilities will continue, the City is now required to address the residential sector. Most residential contamination risks come from underground irrigation systems and outside hose connections. In 2016, the City started requiring all irrigation systems to have their backflow device tested and submit results at least once every five years. This program will continue along with adding additional testing for other residential connections.

The Department of Public works is working to establish a program for all residential cross-connection testing and additional information will be made available to our residents. If your property requires inspections or testing the City will notify property owners by mail. Please direct questions to City Hall at (989) 362-6161.

# ZONING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

## **ZONING PERMITS**

Please remember that the City of East Tawas is a zoned community, and you are required to obtain a zoning permit for any construction including, but not limited to, decks, pools, fences, sheds, garages, additions, houses, etc. or tearing down any structures regardless of size. Permits and guidelines are available at City Hall or online at [www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com). 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. Permits received will require a minimum of 48 hours for review. Please contact City Hall to make an appointment to speak with the Zoning Administrator.

Any commercial permits must be approved by the Planning Commission which meets 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. If a site plan review is required, two weeks notice prior to a meeting is required for review.

## **ACCESSORY STRUCTURES**

The City of East Tawas permits all accessory structures if in compliance with setbacks and lot coverage requirements. An accessory building or structure means a supplementary building or structure on the same lot or parcel as the principal building occupied by or devoted exclusively to an accessory use. This may include but is not limited to a shed, garage, carport, and pergola. Chapter 44, Article VIII, section 44-269 of the East Tawas Zoning ordinance states all regulations regarding an accessory building. It is available online at [www.easttawas.com](http://www.easttawas.com) by clicking "Code of Ordinances" on the homepage or at City Hall 760 Newman Street. An accessory building would require a land use permit and has a fee of \$40.00.

## **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](http://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.



### **“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.

# SPRING/SUMMER LOCAL EVENTS

Check the Tawas Area Chamber of Commerce ([www.tawas.com](http://www.tawas.com)) or our City of East Tawas Facebook page for further details prior to each event.

Tawas Point Birding Festival (May 12-13)

Annual Memorial Day Arts and Crafts Show (May 27-28)

Memorial Day Parade (May 29)

Tuesday Night Live (June through August)

4th of July Parade and Fireworks (4th of July)

Summerfest 2023 (July 14-16th) [www.tawassummerfest.com](http://www.tawassummerfest.com)

Tawas Uncorked Wine, Ale and Food Festival (August 5)

Tawas Bay Waterfront Fine Arts Festival (August)

Sidewalk Sales on Newman Street (August 11-13)

Blues by the Bay (August 25-27) [www.bluesbythebaytawas.org](http://www.bluesbythebaytawas.org)

Labor Day Arts & Craft Show (September 2-3)

Tawas Triathlon (September 9) [www.3disciplines.com](http://www.3disciplines.com)

Tawas Point Haunted Lighthouse (October)

East Tawas Customer Appreciation Days (October)

Halloween Parade on Newman Street (October 31)

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Parade (December 2)

Perchville USA (February 2-4)



## Other Community Events:

Community Band Concerts in the Park (East Tawas Day-use Park)

Farm Market, Gateway Park Every Sat. 8 a.m- 1 p.m. (May - October)

Iosco County Fair (July 24-29) [www.ioscocountyfair.com](http://www.ioscocountyfair.com)

Michigan Free Fishing Weekend June 10-11

**Tawas Bay Players** [www.tawasbayplayers.com](http://www.tawasbayplayers.com)

*Always a Bridesmaid- May 5,6,11,12,13 at 7:00 pm.*

*May 7, 14 at 2:00pm*

*Run for your Wife - July 21,22,23,27,28,29,30 at 7:00 pm.*

## **PARK PAVILIONS AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL**

Are you having a graduation party, family reunion, or other large gathering? 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. The rental rate for all three pavilions for residents living in the Tawas Area School District is \$50.00 per day Mondays through Fridays and \$75.00 per day for weekends and holidays.

The park begins taking requests for reservations on January 1st annually for the upcoming year. The park offers the local little league and softball organizations until April 30th each year to submit their schedules to reserve the Park pavilions 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 make your payment to reserve the pavilion of your choice. 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 Museum, this facility rents for \$50.00 per day. The gazebo comes with a minimum of six picnic tables with charcoal grills located for your use throughout the Day-Use Area. You can also bring your own gas grills if you prefer. Hours for all park facilities are from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. daily.

### **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 \$128.43 a month. (Again, not including your regular monthly use.)

Is your lawn worth it?



### **SEASONAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

SUMMER HELP - City of East Tawas is now accepting applications for summer employees for the Department of Public Works and East Tawas City Park. Applicants must 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](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com) or on our website at [www.easttawas.com](http://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.

### **SPRING CLEANING**

This is the time of year when many people begin spring cleaning. Please keep in mind that our contract with GLF allows for your 95 gallon tote, an additional 3 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 they will not be picked up. You will need to make additional arrangements to dispose of your items.

