

*Welcome to the
City of East Tawas!*



We are glad you have chosen our City to call home and are sure that you will enjoy the many fine things East Tawas has to offer.

This package includes basic information about the City of East Tawas that we are sure you will find helpful. There is also a wealth of information available on our Web site at www.easttawas.com. On the main page of the site, there's an "East Tawas News" section that we post public notices, changes to garbage collection and other important information for our residents. If you find that you still have questions regarding any aspect of our City or if you need information of some kind, please do not hesitate to contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161. The City staff members are here to serve the citizens of East Tawas and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. If necessary, we can also direct you to the agency and/or person that can supply you with the information you seek.

Once again, welcome to the City of East Tawas.

Sincerely,

Bruce P. Bolen
Mayor

**Find more information at
www.easttawas.com**

GOVERNMENT MEETINGS

City Council:

1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00 pm
760 Newman Street, East Tawas

Planning Commission:

2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 pm
760 Newman Street, East Tawas

Parks Board:

2nd Thursday of each month at 4:00 pm
407 West Bay Street, East Tawas

Housing Commission:

3rd Monday of each month at 7:30 am
304 West Bay Street, East Tawas

Tax Increment Finance Authority:

2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 am
760 Newman Street, East Tawas

Zoning Board of Appeals:

scheduled as needed
760 Newman Street, East Tawas

Board of Review:

2nd Monday of March, and in July and December
760 Newman Street, East Tawas

Urban Development Action Grant:

scheduled as needed
760 Newman Street, East Tawas

Tawas Utilities Authority:

Monday after the 1st Tuesday of every month at 4:00 pm
alternates every July between 760 Newman Street, East Tawas
and 550 West Lake Street, Tawas City

Huron Shore Regional Utility Authority:

1st Tuesday of every month at 9:00 am
247 Baldwin Resort Road, Baldwin Township

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

760 Newman Street
(989) 362-6161
cityhall@easttawas.com
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

760 Newman Street
(989) 362-6161
cityhall@easttawas.com
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Minutes of all City meetings are available for review at the Clerk's office or online at www.easttawas.com.

Individuals must be registered to vote at least 30 days prior to an election. Registered voters of the City of East Tawas vote at the East Tawas City Hall and Community Center, 760 Newman Street for all City, School, County, State and Federal elections. The polls are open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Absentee ballots are available at City Hall at least 45 days prior to any election. A written request or a completed absentee ballot application is required in order to receive an absentee ballot.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

760 Newman Street
(989) 362-6161
cityhall@easttawas.com
Hours: Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Summer tax bills are mailed July 1st and are due by September 15th.
Winter tax bills are mailed December 1st and are due by February 14th.

Taxes remaining unpaid on March 1st must be paid to the Iosco County Treasurer, PO Box 538, Tawas City, Michigan 48764-0538. Call the County Treasurer's Office at (989) 362-4409 for the exact amount owing after March 1st.

The cost of residential garbage collection is part of the City's operational budget and is included in the City's millage rate.

WATER AND SEWER DEPARTMENT

760 Newman Street
(989) 362-6161
cityhall@easttawas.com
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Water and sewer bills are mailed every month around the 25th of the month and are due on the 15th of the following month. Payments may be made by any of the following:

Payment by Mail

City of East Tawas
760 Newman St
East Tawas, Michigan 48730

Payment in Person

East Tawas City Hall
760 Newman Street

There is a drop box available for checks or money orders, located in the north parking lot.

Automated Payment

Call (989) 362-6161 for more information on this free service.

Credit Card or Debit Card

Payment by credit card or debit card is available for a fee at www.easttawas.com or call (989) 362-6161.

Owners may request that the water be turned on or off at any time. There is a \$25 fee for each and you will continue to receive a bill for the ready to serve charges, which are charged every month regardless of how much water is used. Someone must be present at the house when the water is turned back on. Sorry, there are no exceptions to this policy and it is for your protection as well as ours.

Go green! Go paperless! East Tawas residents have the option of receiving their utility bills electronically. Please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or cityhall@easttawas.com for more information or for an authorization form.

CITY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

City of East Tawas
Assessing Department
PO Box 25
Rogers City, MI 49779
info@assessingoffice.com
(989) 734-3555

Frequent Forms Available for Download:
<http://assessingoffice.com/formdownload/>

If you are requesting an in person appointment, please call or email to setup this request. We will need to understand the nature of the request and how to prepare for the appointment. Appointments will be made and held at East Tawas City Hall. We are unable to assist walk in traffic.

Please reach out and leave a voicemail or send an email, and allow 1-2 business days for a reply.

What the new homeowner needs to know regarding property taxes: The most important thing to realize is that what the previous owner paid in taxes can vary greatly from what you will be paying. Let me explain why and how you can estimate your tax amount.

The Michigan Constitution limits how much a property's taxable value can increase while owned by the same person. Once the property is transferred, the Assessor must change the taxable value to 50% of the property's *usual* selling price. In other words, in the year following the sale, the taxable value equals the current state equalized value.

Example: 2010 Assessed value = \$50,000 and Taxable value = \$41,387
Property sold 10/21/2010, which is a "transfer of ownership."
2011 Assessed value= \$49,000 and Taxable value= \$49,000

Continuing with the same example, the property sold 10/21/2010 for \$89,000 but the assessed and taxable values are \$49,000. Why isn't the property assessed at 50% of the sales price? Michigan law prohibits assessors from basing values on one sale price. We are required to value your property based on mass appraisal methods. The same methods are used to value all properties. While we hope our value estimate is close to your sale price, it is an estimate and may not be the same as your recent sale.

What is the Principal Residence Exemption and how do I qualify? State law grants a principal residence exemption from local school operating taxes for your principal residence and qualified agricultural properties. Currently this is a reduction of 18 mills of school operating tax levy. To qualify, by law you must own and occupy the property as your legal, primary residence by May 1st. Buyers who close and/or occupy the residence after May 1st are eligible for exemption the following year.

How are my taxes computed? Taxes are computed by multiplying your taxable value times the total mills. A mill is \$1.00 per thousand dollars of taxable value. An easy formula to

calculate taxes is shown below:

Taxable Value x Mills / 1,000 = Taxes

$\$50,000 \times 50.4169 = 2,520,845 / 1000 = \2520.85 (non-PRE rate)

$\$50,000 \times 32.4169 = 1,620,845 / 1000 = \1620.85 (PRE rate)

Remember: A principal residence (PRE) is exempt from 18 mills of school operating taxes.
(This is only meant as an example formula, not necessarily an accurate estimate of your taxes.)

Call the assessing office for the current millage at (989) 734-3555 or with any questions.

EAST TAWAS CITY PARKS

407 West Bay Street
(989) 362-5562
parks@easttawas.com

EAST TAWAS COMMUNITY CENTER

760 Newman Street
(989) 362-3537
parks@easttawas.com
Hours: Monday - Saturday, 8:00 am to 9:00 pm
Sunday, Noon - 9:00 pm
Hours are subject to change as a result of private rentals

EAST TAWAS FIRE DEPARTMENT

122 Main Street
Emergency - 911
Non-emergency - (989) 362-1430
Administrative - (989) 362-3685

EAST TAWAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

214 West Westover Street
Emergency - 911
Non-emergency - (989) 362-1430
Administrative - (989) 930-1526

EAST TAWAS LIBRARY

760 Newman Street
(989) 362-6162

Hours: Monday, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Tuesday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Wednesday, closed
Thursday, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm
Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm
Saturday, 8:00 am to Noon
Sunday, closed

A branch of the Iosco-Arenac District Library

GARBAGE COLLECTION

Garbage collection is provided by Green for Life (GFL). Garbage day is Thursday unless a holiday falls on Monday-Thursday and then garbage will be collected on Friday. The holidays referenced are New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

Garbage is picked up on only one side of the street so you may have to place your garbage across from your house. If you are new to the area, please observe where your neighbors are placing their garbage. You are allowed one 95-gal tote and two 30-gal bags outside your tote. The two 30-gal bags must be tied and cannot exceed 35 pounds or 30-gal in capacity. The State has regulations that prohibit GFL from collecting certain items including carbonated beverage containers, used oil, motor vehicle tires, lead acid batteries, yard clippings, medical waste, sewage, asbestos and items containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs). Information on proper disposal of these items may be obtained from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality's Web site.

The City hasn't had a City-wide cleanup day in many years but our latest contract with GFL allows residents to put out one bulk item per week. Acceptable bulk items materials are couches, chairs, benches, one bundle of construction/building material, one bundle of dry carpet that is bundled in lengths no longer than 3ft and weighing no more than 35lbs, and appliance such as washers, dryers, and water heaters. Appliances containing Freon will not be accepted. The bulk item can be placed at the same location as regular garbage but may not be picked up at the same time. Depending on whether or not the driver needs help to lift the item, GFL may pick up the large item at a different time.

RECYCLING

The City offers recycling in the north parking lot of City Hall. The bins are available everyday and are monitored by cameras. Fridays the bins are taken and emptied and are returned by Friday evening.

Information on items that can be recycled is available on our web site at www.easttawas.com/community/services/_recycling.php.

COMPOSTING

The City of East Tawas will pick up grass, leaves, brush, and other yard wastes with the following guidelines:

- ✧ This pick-up is for residential houses only. Commercial uses may make arrangements with City Hall to get a key and haul their own brush to the City-owned compost site.
- ✧ Items will be picked up on a regular schedule every Monday from beginning of May (weather providing) through the second Monday of November beginning at 7:00 am. If Monday is a holiday, pick up will be on Tuesday instead.
- ✧ Grass and leaves must be placed in biodegradable paper bags or in 30 gallon trash containers clearly marked "compost" on the side. Plastic bags will not be accepted. Please limit the size of your bags to 30 gallons and no heavier than 35 pounds.
- ✧ Please don't mix household trash with compost materials. We will not pick up mixed bags or cans.
- ✧ We will pick up brush and branches up to 3 inches in diameter and no more than 4 feet long. Please tie them into bundles no larger than 20 inches around.
- ✧ Place all items at the roadside on your own property. It is not necessary to place items across the street as is required for some garbage collections.
- ✧ Items should not be put out until late Sunday. Please do not leave items out all week.
- ✧ If you would like to haul your own yard waste materials to the compost area, you may schedule an appointment with City Hall. Appointments are scheduled only one day a week, so please call to set up an appointment before loading any materials.

Please keep in mind that we pick up bags of yard waste first and then route back and pick up brush and branches. Occasionally there is so much to pick up that we carry over to Tuesday. Please be patient with us - we will get to you. If you feel that we have forgotten or missed any items in front of your property, please contact City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or at cityhall@easttawas.com.

If your items have not been picked up please verify that it has not been tagged before calling City Hall. Tagged items will not be picked up, as they do not meet the above criteria.

ZONING ADMINISTRATOR

760 Newman Street
989-362-6161
sloew@easttawas.com

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.