

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

IMPORTANT DATES IN 2014-15

Oct

13.....Columbus Day
City offices will be closed
18Recycling Day 9am-11am
31Trick or Treating 5pm-8pm

Nov

4 General Election 7am-8pm
15Recycling Day 9am-11am
27-28. Thanksgiving
City offices will be closed
28.....Christmas parade & tree lighting 6pm

Dec

1Winter taxes mailed
20.....Recycling Day 9am-11am
24-25 Christmas Eve & Christmas Day
City offices will be closed

Jan

1New Year's Day
City offices will be closed
17Recycling Day 9am-11am

Feb

17 Winter Taxes due
21 Recycling Day 9am-11am

Mar

21 Recycling Day 9am-11am

Apr

3Good Friday
City offices close at noon
18 Recycling Day 9am-11am

May

16Recycling Day 8am-11am
25Memorial Day
City offices will be closed

~ 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

WINTER 2014-15

UPDATE ON NEW LIBRARY

The City is excited to announce that R. C. Hendrick and Son has been chosen to serve as construction manager for the new library project. R.C. Hendrick and Son is the firm that provided construction management services for the City Hall/Community Center project and the downtown Streetscape project. They are currently seeking proposals from architectural firms to provide architectural services for the new library. Once an architect is selected, work will begin on the final design and the City expects to begin construction of the new library in Spring 2015. The community will be invited to the ground-breaking ceremony. Thanks to a \$250,000 donation from Aileen Elliott, a total pledge from the City Council for \$400,000 and additional donations and pledges totaling \$350,000, the City now has the funding in place for the construction of the building. The Library Fund-raising Committee is busy raising an additional \$250,000 for furniture and fixtures for the new library. The Committee is planning some special fund-raising events so please watch the local paper and the City's website for details. Anyone interested in making a donation toward the new library project can contact City Manager Ron Leslie or Clerk/Treasurer Blinda Baker for more information or send a donation to East Tawas Library Construction Fund, P.O. Box 672, East Tawas, Michigan 48730-0672. All donations to the library are tax deductible.

SANITARY SEWER AND STORM SEWER CLEANING AND TELEVISIONING

The City recently received a grant of \$1,119,048 matched with \$150,794 in local funding to inventory, assess, evaluate and plan for future improvements to the sanitary sewer and storm sewer systems. Over the next couple months Terra Contracting Services will be cleaning and televising all of the sanitary sewer and storm sewer mains throughout the city. This is the first step in the planning process to evaluate these systems. The Stormwater, Asset Management, and Wastewater (SAW) program is a three-year evaluation process that will guide the City Council in making decisions to update our aging sanitary sewer and storm sewer systems.

ELECTION NEWS

The General Election will take place on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 in the East Tawas Community Center gymnasium. Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. Please remember to bring your valid Driver's License or other valid Michigan identification in order to receive your ballot. Absentee ballots are now available. Voters requesting an absentee ballot in person at City Hall must present a valid Driver's License or other valid Michigan identification in order to receive the ballot. City Hall will be open from 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 1st and the deadline for requesting a ballot by mail is 2:00 p.m. on that day. All absentee ballots must be received by the City Clerk by 8:00 p.m. on election night. Voters eligible for an absentee ballot may vote in person at City Hall until 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 3rd.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The City will be resurfacing the following streets this fall:

- Sawyer Street from Bay Street to State Street
- Wood Street from North Tawas Lake Road to Geller Road
- Alice Street from Bay Street to Franklin Street

" 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)



SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN

Santa Claus will be making his annual trip to the East Tawas Fire Hall to visit with area children on Wednesday, December 17, 2014.

Santa will be arriving by sleigh in an undisclosed wooded area somewhere north of East Tawas where he will be picked up by members of the East Tawas Volunteer Fire Department. From there, he will be transported to the Fire Hall in an East Tawas fire truck. Following a brief trip through the downtown business district, Santa should arrive at the Fire Hall around 7:00 p.m. where he will remain until the last child has had an opportunity to visit with him.

Coffee, cookies and hot chocolate will be available to all who visit and each child who talks with Santa will receive a bag of goodies to take home.

Santa's visit each year is sponsored by the East Tawas City Park and the East Tawas Volunteer Fire Department.

EAST TAWAS ZONING

The City of East Tawas is a "Zoned Community". Zoning and nuisance ordinances were created to protect the safety, health and welfare of the citizens who live here. These ordinances are often ignored or misunderstood until they are needed. The City's Zoning Administrator is at your service to answer your questions and help with your concerns. Call James Miner at 362-6161, via email at zoning@easttawas.com or at the office in City Hall. Link to all the ordinances at www.easttawas.com.

FIRE PREVENTION



East Tawas Fire Chief Bill Deckett wants to remind you that your smoke alarms should be checked monthly and the batteries changed twice a year. A perfect time is when you change your clocks for daylight savings time. You are more than twice as likely to survive a house fire if you have working smoke alarms. So, remember, "CHANGE YOUR CLOCK, CHANGE YOUR BATTERIES!"

CLEAR SNOW FOR READING

During the winter months, the Department of Public Works would like to remind all homeowners and landlords to maintain a path to your meter pad for monthly meter readings. If your meter pad becomes buried with snow or ice, an estimate reading will be taken.

SAWDUST TO SAND CASTLES

A big THANK YOU to everyone who helped make the City's week-long Sesquicentennial celebration a success!

SNOW PLOWING

With winter drawing near, we are asking for your cooperation in keeping the City streets cleared of vehicles from 3:00 a.m.-6:00 a.m. allowing our Department of Public Works to efficiently plow snow off the City streets and downtown parking spaces.

COMPOST PICKUP

Employees of the Department of Public Works will be picking up compost on Mondays through November 10, 2014. Compost must be contained in paper composting bags or a plastic trash bin specifically marked "Compost". 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 residents only. 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.

HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works will begin flushing fire hydrants the first part of May. You may experience rusty water or low water pressure during this flushing period. Flushing of the hydrants is necessary to provide better water quality. Please watch our website or the Iosco County News Herald for our flushing schedule.



RECYCLING



Recycling is available to East Tawas and Tawas City residents and property owners the third Saturday of the month at our DPW garage located at 810 West Westover Street. Winter months, October through April, will be from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and May through September from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. You must show a recycling card, which can be obtained at City Hall, before entering the recycling location.

CAREGIVING RESOURCES AT THE EAST TAWAS LIBRARY

If you are providing physical or emotional care for a friend or loved one, the East Tawas Library has a Caregiving Collection that may help. The collection consists of more than 25 different books on a variety of subjects with another 15 books on order. Featured topics include:

- ☺ Cooking for those with chewing and swallowing difficulties.
- ☺ Coping with the challenge of declining memory.
- ☺ Dealing with your 'grown' children's problems.
- ☺ For Men: Supporting the woman in your life as she fights breast cancer.
- ☺ Keeping yourself from becoming overwhelmed.
- ☺ Making hard decisions.
- ☺ Promoting as much independence as feasibly possible.
- ☺ Providing actual physical, hands on care.
- ☺ Raising all your children when one child has special needs.
- ☺ Respectfully helping seniors downsize and move.
- ☺ Tempting appetites during cancer treatment.
- ☺ Turning your house into two homes when a loved one has to move in.

The East Tawas Library also has a large variety of children's books to help you explain these life changes and challenges to your children and grandchildren.

Spare time is especially precious and in short supply if you are a caregiver, however, please stop by the East Tawas Library for assistance with the Caregiving Collection. The books do not have to be read in their entirety. If you find even one single tip or hint that makes your caregiving journey easier, the Caregiving Collection will have been a success for all involved.

EAST TAWAS LIBRARY

LIBRARY HOURS:

Monday, Thursday & Friday: 8-11:30am & 12:30-5pm

Tuesday: 12-4pm & 5-8:30pm

Wednesday: Closed

Saturday: 8am-12pm

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



REMINDER

Garbage pickup for East Tawas residents is Thursday, unless following a holiday. 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

Memorial Day

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Day

New Year's Day 2015

DOG LICENSES

Dog licenses may be purchased at City Hall from December 1st to March 1st. The fee is \$10.00 for male and female dogs, and \$5.00 for unsexed dogs. Proof of Rabies Vaccination is required. After March 1st dog licenses may be purchased at the County Treasurer's Office.

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, 2015. 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.

DISABLED VETERAN'S AND SURVIVING SPOUSE EXEMPTIONS

To the Disabled Veterans and Surviving Spouses that have met the qualifications and are already receiving the exemption, this is a reminder who you must file an affidavit annually. The assessing office will mail affidavits in January of 2015 to those who already have the exemptions. We ask that these affidavits be completed and returned as quickly as possible.

If you feel that you qualify for the Disabled Veterans Exemptions or are a surviving spouse, please call or stop by the assessing office to request further information.

You can also visit the State Tax Commission website's frequently asked questions by using this link:

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/taxes/Disabled_Veterans_Exemption_FAQ_082614_466519_7.pdf

WATER METER MAINTENANCE

We are asking for the cooperation of residents in maintaining water meters in the upcoming winter months. The Department of Public Works has been hard at work this summer updating water meters. The first initial meter is free of charge to the home owner, but a replacement meter due to any damages will be at the cost of the home-owner. The cost of a new meter is a minimum of \$150.00.

Our main concern is keeping meters and water lines from freezing and breaking. The first step would be to locate your water meter. (Water meters are normally located in a crawl space or basement)

Suggestions for homeowners are listed below:

- ▶ Make sure that there are no drafts of cold air hitting the meter. Meters that are located in a crawl space can sometimes be located in direct relation to the crawl space access door. If there is any air leaking through the access it could result in freezing the meter.
 - Insulate around the meter or around the access door to keep the cold draft away.
 - Make sure to shut any crawl space vents around the house.
- ▶ Summer homes and cottages that aren't in use during the winter, or not used as often:
 - If the home is not in use during winter months have it properly winterized.
 - If only used on occasion, make sure you take the proper steps to keep the meter clear of cold drafts. Keeping your heat up, keeping it insulated, or during extreme temperatures keeping a pencil lead size stream of water running at one faucet will help prevent meters and lines from freezing.



← What your new meter looks like

UPDATES TO WATER AND SEWER METERS

On January 4, 2011, President Obama revised the definition for "lead free" within the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This act pertains to "pipe, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures" and is designed to protect the quality of drinking water in the U.S. With these new regulations in place, any meters replaced after January 4, 2014, MUST be lead free. In August 2010 our Department of Public Works began replacing existing meters with plans to have all meters updated by 2018. Because we do not have outside access to all meters, arrangements with the home owners may need to be made.

Please contact the City Hall at (989) 362-6161 or email us at cityhall@easttawas.com to update contact information or set up an appointment.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NEW EAST TAWAS LIBRARY
WILL HELP PROVIDE A VENUE FOR EXPANDED SERVICES
AND INCREASED RESOURCES INCLUDING:**

- ▶ Space to increase the size of the book, CD, magazine, and newspaper collections
- ▶ Access to meeting space for community groups and for programs for all ages
- ▶ Space for visitors to “plug in” devices
- ▶ More public-access computers
- ▶ Comfortable seating for reading and relaxing with friends and family
- ▶ Tables and chairs for tutoring, studying and small group meetings
- ▶ Displays for local history, community information, library programs and “hot reads”

WHY WE NEED A NEW LIBRARY?

The current East Tawas Library is not adequate to serve our needs. Studies have shown that a larger library is needed to meet the requirements of our community.

The current library has the following:

- Insufficient space for the children’s area
- No space for teens
- No meeting space for activities or programs
- Inadequate space for technology and computers
- No space for special collections and displays

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Make a donation to help us build a new library

- ▶ A one-time cash gift
- ▶ A multi-year pledge commitment
- ▶ A gift of appreciated assets
- ▶ An estate gift

Checks can be made payable to the City of East Tawas Library Construction Fund.

Mail to P.O. Box 672, East Tawas, MI 48730

Like us at
www.facebook.com/friendsofeast-tawaslibrary



Please accept my gift in the amount of \$_____ to help support the new East Tawas Library Construction.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ My gift is made in memory or in honor of _____

_____ I would like to remain anonymous in any donor publications

Checks can be made payable to the City of East Tawas Library Construction Fund.

Mail check and this form to : P.O. Box 672, East Tawas, MI 48730

Questions? Please contact Blinda Baker at (989) 362-6161 or bbaker@easttawas.com