

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

## IMPORTANT DATES IN 2015-16

### Oct

12.....Columbus Day  
*City offices will be closed*  
17 .....Recycling Day 9am-11am  
31 ..... Halloween Parade 4:30p,  
Trick or Treating 5pm-8pm

### Nov

21 .....Recycling Day 9am-11am  
26-27. Thanksgiving  
*City offices will be closed*  
27 .....Christmas parade & tree lighting 6pm

### Dec

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

### Jan

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

### Feb

5-7 ..Perchville USA  
16 .... Winter Taxes due  
20 .... Recycling Day 9am-11am

### Mar

19 .... Recycling Day 9am-11am

### Apr

3 .....Good Friday  
*City offices close at noon*  
16 .... Recycling Day 9am-11am

# 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 2015-16

### SAW GRANT UPDATE

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. Terra Contracting Services has been cleaning and televising all of the sanitary sewer and storm sewer mains throughout the city as the first step in the planning process to evaluate these systems. We are now in the second year of this process. Within the next few months smoke testing of the wastewater lines will be conducted. This testing helps determine where stormwater is getting into the wastewater system. Identifying these locations will help devise a plan to correct the problems. Residents will be given advance notice of when this testing will occur.

### NEW POSITIONS, SAME FACES

With the retirement of Ron Leslie from the City Manager position, there have been some changes in the staff at City Hall. Blinda Baker, who served as Clerk/Treasurer for almost 30 years, was promoted to City Manager. Julie Potts, who has worked for the City since 2004 and served as Deputy Clerk/Treasurer since 2011, was promoted to Clerk/Treasurer. Stephanie Loew, who has served as Water and Sewer Administrative Clerk since 2011, was promoted to Deputy Clerk/Treasurer. Brenda Allen continues as a part-time Administrative Assistant. These public servants are dedicated to meeting the needs of our citizens. Please look for their smiling faces when you stop by City Hall.



### 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.

### 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!"



### 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.

"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)

## UPDATE ON NEW LIBRARY

We're still planning to build a new library adjacent to the City Hall/Community Center but the project has been temporarily delayed. The project was put out for bids in June and bids were opened in July. Unfortunately fewer bids than expected were received and the majority of bids that were received were much higher than anticipated. The City's Construction Manager felt that contractors were very busy and perhaps were too busy to even bid on the project. Some modifications to the building design were made and the project was put out for bids again in September. Bids were opened on Tuesday, October 13th and are currently being reviewed. Once the Library Committee meets, they will make a recommendation to the City Council and hopefully we'll be on our way to building a new library!

Donations for the furniture and fixtures are still needed. As of Wednesday, October 14, 2015 \$49,127 has been donated toward the \$250,000 needed for furniture for the new library. If you haven't made your donation or pledge yet, libraries take you anywhere so be part of the journey! Donations can be made to the City of East Tawas Library Construction Fund and sent to East Tawas City Hall, P.O. Box 672, East Tawas, Michigan 48730-0672. If you have any questions please contact City Manager Blinda Baker or Clerk/Treasurer Julie Potts.

The Library Fund-raising Committee has commemorative bricks for sale that will be used within the new library project. The bricks provide a win-win situation as a perfect way to honor or memorialize a loved one and also benefit the new library. Profit from the brick sales will be used to help furnish the new library. Engraving space is limited to four lines with a maximum of 15 characters per line. Please remember that a space counts as a character.

### 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 16, 2015.

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 COMMUNITY CENTER

#### Rates for Recreation Passes

Resident:

Individual	\$12.50
2-Member Family	\$20.00
Family	\$25.00

Nonresident:

Individual	\$25.00
2-Member Family	\$40.00
Family	\$50.00

Day Pass: \$3.00

*(All recreation passes expire on September 30th)*

\*Family Pass includes any children under the age of 18

For Hall rental availability and pricing please call 989-362-3537

## LARGE PRINT PERIODICALS AT THE EAST TAWAS LIBRARY

*Reader's Digest Large Print* is now available at the East Tawas Library. The large print edition contains all the same articles, features, and even the ads that are published in the 'regular' monthly edition of Reader's Digest. The type font and the page size are larger for ease in reading.

*Guideposts Large Print* is now available for easier reading. It contains all the same inspirational and interfaith articles and features as the 'regular' monthly edition but without the ads.

*New York Times Large Print Weekly* will soon be available at the East Tawas Library. The first issue of the weekly newspaper subscription should arrive soon. The weekly paper contains national and world news, as well as a variety of articles and editorials from the previous week's daily papers.

If you enjoy magazines and newspapers but find the print too small for easy reading, please stop by the East Tawas Library. The library also has an extensive collection of large print books.

### 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](mailto:libraryet@yahoo.com) or 989-362-6162*



### REMINDER

Garbage pickup for East Tawas residents is Thursday, unless following a holidays listed below. 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, 2016. 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.*

## **TAWAS BACKPACK PROGRAM**

The Tawas Backpack program is a community effort to make sure that less fortunate children have something to eat on the weekend. Backpacks are sent home with approximately 100 children each week.

City employees are once again helping this program by collecting items for the Christmas break backpack that will be sent home with eligible students just before Christmas vacation starts. The Tawas Backpack program organizers are requesting plastic 16-18 oz. jars of peanut butter and 20-22 oz. plastic containers of jelly. Because the children take the backpacks home with them and many ride the bus, no glass jars are allowed. Donations can be brought to the East Tawas City Hall or Community Center any time the building is open. Our goal is 100 16-18 oz. plastic containers of peanut butter and 100 20-22 oz. plastic bottles of jelly so that each child can be given one container of peanut butter and one bottle of jelly. All donations will be greatly appreciated and must be received by December 10, 2015.

## **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 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 homeowner. 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](mailto:cityhall@easttawas.com) to update contact information or set up an appointment.**

## THANKS TO FRIENDS OF EAST TAWAS LIBRARY

A HUGE THANK YOU to the Friends of the East Tawas Library (FOETL) for their donation of \$12,5000 to the Library Construction Fund from their very successful Wine Festival this past summer. FOETL has not only been very generous in helping to make a new East Tawas Library a reality, they also provide many other services to the community. Thanks to FOETL, every baby born at Tawas St. Joseph Hospital is given a new book to encourage the love of reading through the Baby's First Book program. FOETL also conducts a summer reading program called "Booked 4 Lunch". This program is a joint effort with the Friends of the Tawas City Library and alternates between the Day Use Area of the East Tawas City Park and Shoreline Park in Tawas City. Different members of the community read to the children at noon on Thursdays during the summer months. Each child that attends the program is given a free book each week. FOETL also sponsors a book mark contest for area 4th Graders. The book marks are judged and prizes awarded. The Cabin Fever Series celebrates a Michigan author during the winter months and gets people out for some fun and enriching community fellowship. The Friends are looking for new members to help with their fund-raising events and programs. A membership application is included in this newsletter. Please consider joining—it's fun and rewarding!

---

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I wish to become a member or renew my membership with the Friends of the East Tawas Library.

Membership fees are as follows: **\$15.00** for a single **\$20.00** for a family.

We have several fund-raisers during the year including Book Sales and Wine Festival.

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to volunteer. Here is my email:\_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check or money order out to FOETL and mail it to:

Patty Phillips, 412 W. Westover St., East Tawas, Mi. 48730