

The Thomas Township Board and Staff would like to wish everyone a Happy Spring!



TODAY



April 2018

Volume 23 Issue 1

Thomas Township Board of Trustees

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Edward Brosowski
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Manager

Municipal Offices
249 North Miller Road
781-0150

Thomas Township Parks
249 North Miller Road
781-0151

DPW Administration
251 Miller Court
781-6438

Police Department
8215 Shields Drive
781-1300

Fire Department
8215 Shields Drive
781-4141

Library
8207 Shields Drive
781-3770

Township Website
www.thomastwp.org

Library Website
www.thomastownshiplibrary.com

SUPERHERO FUN RUN!

Come join us in the Superhero Fun Run, supporting our Parks one runner at a time on Saturday, June 2nd at 6:30pm! Don't forget to wear your costume so you can be entered into the costume contest where the top three costumes take home a prize!

The course will be within Roberts Park, located at 455 S. Miller Road. You can choose to run either one lap at 1.5 miles or two laps for a total of 3 miles. The run takes place before the free Movie in the Park Event which will be Thor: Ragnarok to continue our Super Hero night.

The sign up cost is just \$15 for an individual or \$40 for the whole family to race. Each entry will receive a free t-shirt (Add \$2 for size 2xl & up) and all race entries will also receive a voucher for a free popcorn during the movie!

Registering is easy! Simply fill out the form on page 5 in this newsletter, or pick one up at our office and return it to the Parks Office, located at 249 N. Miller Road. You can also leave it in our drop box out front if it is after hours.

Lions Club Parade 2018

The Lions Club will still be holding their annual Lions Club Parade this year. The Parade will be on Saturday, July 7th, 2018 beginning at 11am. The parade route will begin on S. River Road, travel to Gratiot and head west down Gratiot on the south side, and head down S. Miller Road ending at Roberts Park. Bring the kids to watch the parade, collect some candy and have fun!

The Parade will kick off a Car Show held at Roberts Park that is sponsored by the Lions Club. There is the possibility of more fun activities as well. The Entrance fell will be \$10 to enter your car in the show and there will be chances to win prizes during the day.



Lions Club Float: 2014 Lions Club Parade

Lions Club Mini Planes: Lions Club Parade 2014



Inside Features

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Mid Michigan Waste Authority - New Trial Recycling Program



A NOTE FROM THE MID MICHIGAN WASTE AUTHORITY



From April 16 through July 27, some of the recycling drivers in select areas of our community will be using two new stickers to help educate residents about the MMWA curbside recycling program. (Please note that depending upon the participating drivers' daily routes, this pilot program will not cover the *entire* community.) Currently, when a resident's recycling bin or can contains a non-recyclable material, the driver places an orange sticker on the container to inform the resident why the item was not collected. You are probably familiar with the orange sticker, it is also used to inform residents of issues with their trash, yard waste, and bulky items. For the duration of the curbside education pilot, recycling drivers will instead use two new stickers:

1.) The green "Oops!" sticker will focus only on the three most common recycling container contaminants: foam, plastic bags, and greasy pizza boxes. When drivers encounter these items in recycling containers, they will leave an Oops Sticker on the bin or can.

2.) The blue "Gold Medal" sticker will be left on the recycling containers of residents who are demonstrating good recycling behavior, recycling the correct items and properly preparing them for curbside collection. The Gold Medal sticker will let them know their efforts are recognized and appreciated.

There will also be a link to a brief online survey, through which the Mid Michigan Waste Authority hopes to gain information about residents' understanding of the MMWA recycling program. The survey will be anonymous, and respondents will be entered to win a \$100 gift card from a local business. The stickers will be easy for the residents to remove from their containers, as they are similar to a large Post-it note. If you have any questions, please call (989) 781-9555 or email mmwa@recyclemotion.org.

Police News

Coffee with a Cop

The Thomas Township Police Department is continuing the "Coffee with a Cop" Program as a way to enhance their relationship with the residents of Thomas Township. Residents have a chance to meet with Township Officers personally and express any concerns or even to give kudos to the Department. Just show up and the coffee is free!

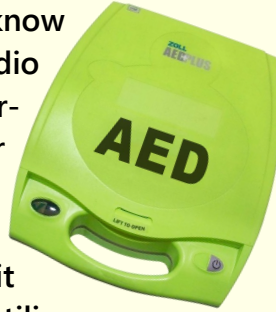


The Coffee with a Cop Program is held at Tim Hortons, located at 8099 Gratiot Road, and the next meeting will be at 8:00 a.m. on May 1st, 2018. If you can't make that one, please try to attend the next meeting at 8:00 a.m. on June 5th, 2018.

Fire Department News

FIRST RESPONDERS ISSUED AED's

I believe many of us know the importance of fast Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation otherwise known as CPR. After your heart stops beating you only have minutes to "get it back running". In addition to CPR, it is imperative to deploy and utilize an Automatic External Defibrillator also known as an AED. These literally can make the difference between life and death.



We have an AED on each of our trucks so no matter where they are located in our Community they can be quickly be utilized on an incident. We have just purchased 10 additional AED's to deploy with our first responders. These medical responders and fire fighters are all licensed as medical professionals. By having an AED assigned to them, whether they are at their homes or wherever they may be in our community, they will be able to respond with the AED quickly. This could save precious minutes before the rescue truck, ambulance or police car arrives. The purchase of these life saving devices is being funded by a local, anonymous family trust fund. The goal is to assign an AED in every member within two years. Any one of the AED's could save the life of someone we know.

Mike Cousins,
Fire Chief



Thomas Township Fire and First Response Vehicles

Habitat for Humanity



Thomas Township
Habitat Home
Rehabilitation Week
July 30th - August 3rd,
2018

The Thomas Township employees will once again be joining forces with Habitat for Humanity (HFH) in an effort to improve the lives of some of our neighbors.

We are seeking applicants within Thomas Township who own their homes and who are in need of basic home repairs or handicapped access updates, but cannot afford them. We are also seeking any local business who would like to participate with Habitat for Humanity. For further information on how your business can help please contact Deidre at (989) 781-0150.

You may qualify for one of several available grant opportunities! If you are interested, or know of someone who may qualify, please act right away and contact Lizz Gluchowski, Saginaw-Shiawassee HFH, 315 W. Holland Avenue, Saginaw, Michigan 48602, by calling (989) 753-5200, ext. 500 or by email at lizz@sshfh.org. Feel Free to call and ask any questions.

Deidre Frollo,
Fiscal Services Director



Photo Credit: Habitat for Humanity
Thomas Township working with Habitat for Humanity 2017

Trash & Treasures Community Wide Rummage Sales

Though we are sad to see the Festival come to an end, Thomas Township wanted to let everyone know that we will continue having the community wide Trash & Treasures Rummage Sales. The sales are scheduled to continue June 1st through June 3rd, 2018. We are hoping to see just as many, if not even more sales listed on our map this year!

A donation truck will be provided by Old Town Christian Outreach Center for any items that haven't sold and you would like to donate. There will also be dumpsters available for your use as well. Both of these items will be available at the Thomas Township Public Safety Building during the event.

Registration is *FREE* and starting now! Once registered, your sale will be listed on a map provided by Thomas Township and distributed the week of the sales. Copies of the map will be printed in local newspapers, as well as available at local businesses and on our website www.thomastwp.org. In order to have your sale included on the map you **MUST** have the form turned in by *May 17th, 2018*.

Trash & Treasures Rummage Sale Registration 2018

**Register
Now!!!**

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Due to limited spacing, we cannot list specific times or individual items for sale on the map

To return your completed form to Thomas Township you may drop it off at our office located at 249 N. Miller Road (You may use drop box out front) or by emailing it to operator@thomastwp.org. You may also fax the form back at (989) 781-0290. In order to have your sale included on the map you **MUST** have the form turned in by **May 17th, 2018.**

Please remember, this is a community event. Please be considerate of your neighbors during the sale. Please allow parking for shoppers at your home and consider asking your neighbors if they would like to stake off their yard to avoid shoppers walking through it. Let's make this event enjoyable for everyone!

SUPERHERO FUN RUN!

Superheroes Supporting Our Parks

Saturday, June 2nd, 2018 at 6:30 pm

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!

WEAR A SUPERHERO OR VILLAIN COSTUME!

Where:

Roberts Park
455 S. Miller Road

Course:

Within Roberts Park
One Lap = 1.5 miles
2 Laps = 3 miles

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Shirt Size(s): _____

*Add \$2 for sizes 2xl & up

X _____

Signature (If under 18 years of age, signed by parent or guardian)



Individual \$15



Family \$40



FREE movie after the race: THOR: RAGNAROK

Race entries receive a voucher for FREE popcorn during the movie!

EVENT DISCLAIMER: Please review the following waiver and disclaimer. *By adding your signature, you accept this waiver and disclaimer.*

Waiver and Release: By participating in this event, I do so at my own risk. I assume all risk of injury, illness, damage or loss to me or my property that might result, including without limitation, any loss or theft of personal property. I consent to medical treatment in the event of injury, accident and\ or illness during the event. I agree on behalf of myself (and my personal representatives, heirs, executors, administrators, agents and assigns) to release and discharge the organizers of this event, its principals, its officers and directors, its employees, all sponsors and their representatives and employees from any and all claims or causes of action (known or unknown) arising out of their negligence. I acknowledge that I have carefully read that "Waiver and Release" and fully understand that it is a release of liability. By my signature above, I am waiving any right that I may have to bring legal action to assert a claim against any and all event sponsors for their negligence. I hereby grant full permission to any and all of the foregoing to use my name and likeness in any broadcast, telecast, video or print media reporting or advertising of the event without compensation.

Parks & Recreation Summer Happenings

Commission Members

Scott Branch (Chairman),
Tara DeLine, Carly Rusch,
Craig Blower, Chad Brooks,
Dean Rusch, Angela Alworden

Staff

John Corriveau, Director
Stacy Hable, Assistant Director

*The Parks Office is open:
Monday thru Friday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*



Camps & Camp Care

Day Camps

Thomas Township has nine exciting week-long day camps sessions this summer for children ages 7-12. The Day Camp runs five days a week, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

This year each week will have it's own new theme for campers to explore, while still offering some of the activities that campers have come to love, such as, swimming, train rides and crafts. Themes are subject to change.

This years themes are:

June 11-15	Wonder Emporium
June 18-22	Hangin' With My Gnomies
June 25-29	Nature Unleashed
July 16-20	Safari Adventure
July 23-27	Park Rangers
July 30-Aug. 3	Mad Science
Aug. 6-10	Time Travelers
Aug 13-17	Top Chef
Aug 20-24	Water World

Registration Fee:

Resident: \$110 Non Resident: \$120

* Camp fees reduced by 25% for each child after the first child is registered in the same week of camp. Also applies to mini camps.*

Mini Camps

Mini Camp is a one week session (Monday-Friday) for children ages 4-6. The sessions run from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. This outdoor oriented day camp is fun and includes all of the activities that Day Camp has to offer. All activities are geared to the age level of the children. The theme for Mini Camp this year is Under The Sea and will take place July 9th through the 13th. There is a limit of 20 campers. Wednesday is cook-out day!

Registration Fee:

Resident: \$80 Non Resident: \$90

Before & After Camp Care

Before and After Camp Care is for parents who need to drop off or pick up their children before or after the scheduled camp time. A counselor will stay with any children if they need to be dropped off early or stay late. Before and After Camp Care begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 5:30 pm. There is a \$30 fee per week per child for this service.

* All Children must be registered and paid in advance for this service.*

Parks & Recreations Roethke Pool

Swimming Lessons

Taught by certified water safety instructors according to the Red Cross Swim Program. Each session consists of eight lessons. Classes are Monday - Thursday with both morning & evening sessions.

Registration Fee:

Resident: \$45 Non Resident: \$50

Level 1: Water Exploration (Ages 4-6)

Introduction to aquatic skills & water safety.

First Session: June 18-28

Second Session: July 9-19

Third Session: July 23- August 2

Fourth Session: August 6-16
9:00am-9:45am or 6:00pm-6:45pm

Level 2: Primary Skills (Ages 5-9)

Passed level 1 or a skill test. Working on basic strokes & aquatic safety.

First Session: June 18-28

Second Session: July 9-19

Third Session: July 23- August 2

Fourth Session: August 6-16
10:00am-10:45am or 5:00pm-5:45pm

Level 3: Stroke Readiness (Ages 6-10)

Passed level 2 or skill test. Continue working on strokes, water safety & diving skills.

First Session: June 18-28

Second Session: July 9-19

Third Session: July 23- August 2

Fourth Session: August 6-16
Morning: 9:00am-9:45am, 10:00am-10:45am
Evening: 5:00pm-5:45pm, 6:00pm-6:45 pm

Level 4: Stroke Development

For those who've passed level 3 or a skill test. Endurance & Confidence in various skills.

Only Session: July 23rd-August 2nd

Mornings: 9:00-9:45am or 10:00-10:45am

Evenings: 5:00-5:45 pm or 6:00-6:45pm

Pool Schedule

The pool will be opening up for recreational swimming Monday-Sunday on June 8, 2018 and will remain open until August 24, 2018.

* Closing Date subject to change*

Open Swim Sessions

Monday-Thursday:

11:00 am - 1:30 pm

2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Friday & Saturday:

Noon - 3:00 pm

3:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Fees for all sessions

Individual: \$5.00

Individual All Day \$10.00

Family Per Session \$10.00

Season Passes

Individual Resident \$55.00

Individual Non-Resident \$75.00

Family Resident \$80.00

Family Non-Resident \$110.00

\$20.00 extra on family passes for each additional family member over 5. Season passes are available at the Thomas Township Office located at 249 N. Miller Road.

* Open swim days: Pool will close at 8:00 pm if no swimmers are in the pool*



REMEMBER, ONLINE registration is available for Parks and Recreation Programming. When using the online registration system to register for Parks and Recreation Programming, you MUST pay for the program you are registering for at the time you fill out the registration form or you will not be considered enrolled in that program. Registration is a two step process. Once you hit REGISTER NOW, you will register, agree to the terms and hit SEND. You will then be redirected to the payment options on the next screen. If you have not received a confirmation of payment, you are not registered. Some program sizes are limited, and make sure the form you are using is not out of date.

Movies in The Park

The Thomas Township Parks & Recreation Department will be hosting **FREE** movies in the park this summer. The movies will be held at Roberts Park on South Miller Road. The movies will begin around dusk and the concession stand at the pavilion will be available to purchase snacks and drinks to enjoy during the movie! There will be two family friendly movies played during the summer. Movies are subject to be re-scheduled due to weather.



Thor: Ragnarok

June 2nd, 2018

Roberts Park Soccer Field
on South Miller Road
Begins around 9:30 p.m.
(Subject to change due to
weather)



Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle

July 14th, 2018

Roberts Park Soccer Field
on South Miller Road
Begins around 9:30 p.m.
(Subject to change due to
weather)

Concert Series at Roethke Park

Join us for a summer picnic and a **FREE** concert at Roethke Park, located at 400 Leddy Road. Enjoy great music and many more special events on Tuesdays from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Rainouts will be rescheduled for Tuesday, August 21st, 2018.

The Roethke Mini Train will be ready to roll for the kids during the concert series for just \$1 per person! Come on over and have a nice family night out at Roethke Park.

- June 12: The Savior Machines
- June 19: Brush Street with Julie Mulady
- June 26: The Rock Show
- July 10: The Beets
- July 17: The Yesterday's Country Band
- July 24: Manic Revolver
- July 31: CEYX
- August 7: Laurie & The Lefties
- August 14: Todd Michael Band



Concert in the Park Series at Roethke Park

Roethke Mini Train

The Roethke Park mini train runs Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and every Saturday & Sunday from June 9th - August 18th (Schedule subject to change and weather permitting) from Noon until 4:00 pm. If you are planning a large family or group event, please call ahead to verify availability of the train. Please call the parks office at (989) 781-0151.

Haunted Train

The Haunted Train will run on October 12th-13th and October 19th-20th. The train starts running at dark. Tickets are \$6 each for the train or the Hunted House or \$10 for both!

Christmas Train

The Christmas Train will run on November 30th-December 1st and on December 7th and 8th. Come and ride the train and see lighted scenes created by local businesses and individuals who love Christmas lights! If you are interested in volunteering for either event please call the Parks Department at (989) 781-0151.

Parks & Recreations Leagues & Classes



Archery Class



Men's Softball: Roberts Park



Soccer at Roberts Park

Men's Slow Pitch Softball Leagues

The Tuesday & Thursday Night Double Header League registration deadline is Friday, May 4th, 2018. The season starts May 22nd, 2018.

Registration Fee:

Team: \$325 Resident: \$10 Non Resident: \$15

Sand Volleyball Leagues

Leagues for sand volleyball are now forming for play at Roethke Park, located at 400 Leddy Road. Two 6 week seasons will be played.

Coed Fours: Tuesday Night
First Season: May 29th, 2018
Second Season: July 17th, 2018

Entry Fee: \$80

Men's Softball Tournament

June 16th, 2018 is the 30th Annual Slow-pitch Softball Tournament! All teams are guaranteed four games. The registration deadline is June 1st, 2018.

Entry Fee: \$200

Soccer Leagues

Registration for the fall soccer leagues will begin in August 2018. Fall soccer runs from September 15th, 2018 through October 20th, 2018.

Registration Fee:

Resident: \$45 Non Resident: \$50

Regular Archery Classes

Archery classes begin on Thursday, April 5th, 2018 and run every Thursday until May 10th, 2018.

Beginner: 4:30 pm - 5:15 pm
Beginner: 5:15 pm - 6:00 pm
Beginner: 6:00 pm - 6:45 pm
Advanced: 6:45 pm - 7:30 pm
Advanced: 7:30 pm - 8:15 pm

Classes for beginners work on safety, form, equipment and the fundamentals of becoming a good archer. Classes for advanced archers are based on using their equipment if they have it or using advanced set up bows. We have both fully set up compound bows or longbows available for your use.

Pavilion Rentals

Pavilion rentals for the 2018 season to residents started at 8:00 am on the first business day in January. Non-Resident rentals began renting on the first business day in February. A copy of homeowner's insurance showing personal liability coverage is required of renters along with a completed pavilion rental agreement.

Rental Fee's per Day

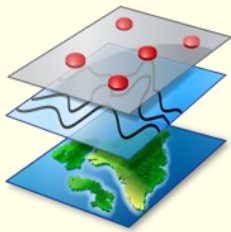
Residents: \$50 Non-Residents: \$80
Corporations: \$100

Department of Public Works News

Sewer Systems in the Township and how to distinguish them

Now that springtime has sprung, we can also expect those pesky thunderstorms. With the additional rainfall, you might notice slow storm runoff and drainage from our roads or even your yards. Every season, Public Works fields numerous questions and concerns from residents and business owners about storm sewers not working properly. This article will describe the differences in sanitary and storm sewage systems, their operation and maintenance requirements, which is responsible if there is a problem and what you can do to help ensure that these critical pieces of infrastructure do their jobs as they are designed to do.

There are two different collection systems throughout Thomas Township. The first one is a Storm Water Sewer System. This type of system



collects rainwater and snow melt runoff from many types of areas ranging from farm fields to parking lots. Most commonly though are the drains for the roads. Storm sewers are comprised of enclosed pipes, swales, open ditches, and semi open culverts and are operated and maintained by numerous agencies, depending upon what area is being drained. In many cases, dewatering sump pumps, field drains, irrigation runoff and foundation drains are also directly discharged to these systems. Storm sewers discharge its waters directly to the environment, without treatment.

You can help with protecting our environment and keeping the storm system operating freely by ensuring the drains in your yards are not plugged with debris, make sure that the

drainage culverts under your driveways are clean, and that you maintain the proper grading of your property to encourage the water to shed properly. And always remember, we all have to be mindful and not dump any sort of chemicals, oils, paints, or antifreeze into any sewer, especially a storm sewer. With few exceptions, the Saginaw County Road Commission is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the storm water system is the Sanitary Sewer system.

The second type of sewer system is the Sanitary Sewer System. Sanitary sewers are



designed to convey what we normally generate as wastes through the use of toilets, housekeeping and bathing activities. And each day, it is estimated that every individual uses approximately 110 gallons of

water per day! These types of wastes pose specific dangers to the environment and to the public health if they are improperly handled or discharged without being adequately treated and cleaned up first. Thomas Township is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the sanitary sewer system.

Common problems associated with sanitary sewers are typically "owner generated" ones. Inappropriate or excessive materials being dumped or flushed can cause restrictions in your piping, leading to backups. Garbage disposals, grease, even hair and soap scum can create or compound problems. Especially in light of the water conserving plumbing fixtures that are commonplace in today's homes and businesses. Sometimes, you may not have enough water flow to carry or scour the pipeline coming from your home or business.

Department of Public Works News Continued

Because there is the propensity for solid material to build up in the sewers, the DPW staff routinely cleans the sewers as we flush the fire hydrants in your area. Especially where there are dead-ended sewers. Township wide, there are over 150 sites that staff cleans each spring. So here are a few pointers.

To protect your home or business's sewer system, you should not dump greases, oils or fats down any drain.



- You should not grind extremely fibrous or stringy food wastes in your garbage disposal (banana peels and potato skins are notorious!!). And when you do run your disposal, run your kitchen faucets a little longer to make sure you have enough water to force the disposal grindings down to the sewer.
- You should always use "flushable" wipes and sanitary materials in your toilets. These materials are designed to break down in the water and not cause clogs in plumbing. Simply check the packaging of the supplies that you buy and make sure they are safe for sewage systems before you flush them. If not, dispose of them in the proper waste receptacles. One of the biggest problems you may face is caused from flushing the standard diaper wipes, disposable diapers or adult hygiene materials down your toilet.

Public Works also recommends that you check your floor drains in your basement and ensure that they are not connected to the sanitary sewer. An easy way to check is to put dye into the drain, flush the drain, and see if the dye shows up in your sump crock. If it does, your

drains are connected to the storm water system. If it does not show up, then the drain is most likely tied to the sanitary sewer. Floor drains in basements that are connected to the sanitary sewer system are accidents ready to happen. They can easily back up if there is a problem with your sewer line, or even if the Township or a contractor is performing maintenance on the sewer pipes outside of your home. If you have floor drains connected to the Township's sanitary sewer, you have some decisions to make.

First question yourself as to why you have the floor drains. If you can't come up with a good answer, then most likely you don't need them in the first place. If you don't need them, you can plug them up with removable drain plugs (purchased from any home improvement store), or permanently seal them with concrete. Should you wish to keep the drains, the Township highly recommends that you install a check valve on your sewer line to protect against inadvertent backups.

If you experience sewer problems and cannot clear your drains yourself, there are numerous services available. Simply check your local phone directory under "Sewer Cleaners". If you believe you are experiencing problems with the Township's sewer system, please contact us immediately at 781-0150 or any time after normal hours at (989) 529-0041 and one of our staff will assist you.



Thomas Township Department of Public Works Truck

THOMAS TOWNSHIP
249 NORTH MILLER ROAD
SAGINAW, MI 48609-4896



Brush Drop Off Dates for 2018

Brush may be taken by the homeowner to the Township brush drop off site located at the northwest corner of Gleaner and Frost Roads. No stumps, leaves, grass or commercial brush will be accepted.

The site will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Drop off Dates

April 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

May 5th and 19th

June 2nd, 16th and 30th

July 7th and 21st

August 11th and 25th

September 8th and 22nd

October 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th

Yard Waste collection will run through November 30th, 2018