

Winter 2026

Volume 31 Issue 1



**Thomas Township
Board of Trustees**

- David Sommers.....Supervisor
Michael Thayer.....Clerk
Steven Witt..... Treasurer
Katie McDonald.....Trustee
Nate List.....Trustee
Craig Monahan.....Trustee
Tara DeLine.....Trustee
Deidre Frollo.....Manager

Departments

- Municipal Office.....781-0150
249 N. Miller Road
Parks & Recreation..781-0151
249 N. Miller Road
DPW Admin.....781-6438
251 Miller Court
Police Department ..781-1300
8215 Shields Drive
Fire Department781-4141
8215 Shields Drive
Library781-3770
8207 Shields Drive
Nature Center245-0801
6660 Gratiot Road

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Where Do Your Property Tax Dollars Go?

Property taxes can be confusing, so we've put together a simple, easy-to-read guide to show you what your summer and winter property taxes pay for.

Summer Tax Bill

State Education Tax (SET): MI State Education Tax Act requires 6 mills. Component of Proposal A of 1994 that funds elementary and secondary education.

County Operating: General operation, public safety, parks, DPW, and administration.

Winter Tax Bill

Important to know: Winter 2025 property tax collection started on December 1, 2025, and payments will be accepted through March 2, 2026.

County Millages

- **Event Center** – Supports Dow Event Center and Jolt Credit Union Park.
- **Hospital Debt** – Supports HealthSource infrastructure.
- **Mosquito Control** – Mosquito management and treatment.
- **Castle Museum** – County history programs and exhibits.
- **County Parks** – Staffing and maintenance of parks and trails.
- **Senior Citizens** – Programs and services to keep adults living independently.
- **Animal Control** – Stray animals, adoption, shelter, and enforcement.
- **Sheriff Service** – Road patrol, training, jail operations, crime tips, and house checks.
- **Children's Zoo** – Animal care, staffing, education programs, and reduced entry cost.
- **911 Authority** – Emergency notifications and central dispatch.
- **Health Department** – Inspections, disease prevention, environmental health, and WIC/nutrition.
- **Roads** – Maintenance and improvement of county roads within Thomas Township jurisdiction.

Education Millages

- **Delta College** – Supports general operations, including instructional programs and workforce training.
- **INT SCH SAG** – Saginaw ISD programs.
- **SPECL ED SAG** – Supports academic and functional growth and runs programs for low-incidence disabilities.
- **CAREER TECH SAG** – Connects students to career and college opportunities.
(Hemlock, Swan Valley, Freeland)
- **School Operating** – General operation and maintenance.
- **Debt** – Payments on voter-approved school bonds.
- **Sinking Fund** – Renovations/repairs for buildings.

Local Township Millages

- **Library** – Programs, operations, materials, utilities.
- **Local Operating** – Township operations and maintenance.
- **Public Safety** – Fire and police operations and maintenance.
- **Fire** – Fire equipment.

Continued on page 3

Where Do Your Property Tax Dollars Go? (Cont.)

Special Assessments

- **Trash** – Annual cost for weekly trash pickup.
- **Streetlights (LGT)** – Based on Consumers Energy rates.
- **Drain** – Contact Saginaw County Drain Commission for more information.
- **Road Assessments** – Determined via township board proposals.

Administrative Fee

- **Covers costs of assessing property, collection, review, and appeals.**

Allie Crawl - Fiscal Services Director

Thomas Township Today Quarterly Newsletter News

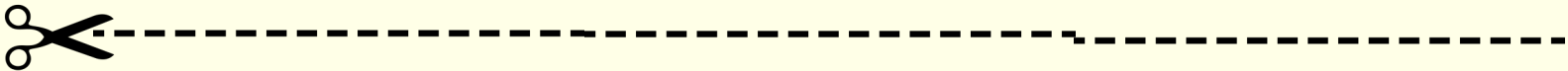
For the residents of Thomas Township, the Thomas Township Today newsletter has been mailed quarterly for several years. The newsletter is packed with information for our residents, including updates on Parks and Recreation programs, details on improvements to the water and sewer systems, as well as articles offering valuable insights into the community.

As of **October 2026**, the final Thomas Township Today newsletter will be mailed out. Due to the ever-increasing price of postage and reductions in revenue sharing, costs had to be reduced, and a new means of continuing the newsletter established. For the Township to continue to provide the important information the newsletter contains to the residents, we will be sending the newsletter via email. This will still be done every quarter, starting with the January 2027 edition.

Residents are urged to sign up as soon as possible for the emailed newsletter and can do so by contacting the Township Office at (989) 781-0150 or by stopping in and providing the email information to us. A sign-up link is also available on our website, www.thomastwp.org, by scrolling to the bottom of the home page.

For those who provide an email address to send the newsletter to, we will begin to send the newsletter to you via the email address as we begin navigating the new process. We ask for your patience as we complete this changeover.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the Thomas Township Office.



Please add my email address to the list to receive the Thomas Township quarterly newsletter in my inbox.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Return to the Receptionist: Thomas Township Office at 249 North Miller Road, Saginaw 48609

Thomas Township Department of Public Works

As 2025 comes to a close, the Thomas Township Department of Public Works would like to share an inside look at the work we perform every day to keep our community running safely, efficiently, and reliably. Much of what we do happens behind the scenes, but the impact is felt in every home and business across the Township.

Our most significant responsibility is the operation and maintenance of the Township's drinking water system and sanitary sewer collection system. These essential services require constant attention, and our staff works around the clock to ensure both systems operate smoothly. Over the past year, approximately 1.1 billion gallons of drinking water moved through the Township's distribution system, while more than 400 million gallons of sewage were collected and transported. Maintaining this infrastructure is no small task - we oversee about 125 miles of water main, nearly 5,100 individual water service connections, and more than 1,000 fire hydrants. On the sewer side, our team monitors sixteen sewage pumping stations around the clock and maintains over 70 miles of sewer mains.

Beyond water and sewer operations, the DPW plays a vital role in several other community services. We manage Owen Cemetery, located on North River Road, where we assist families in their time of need by handling grave sales, preparing sites for burials, and maintaining the grounds throughout the year. In the heart of the Township along M-46, our staff is responsible for the upkeep of Township-owned streetlights and the overhead banner system. We also install seasonal roadside banners during the holiday season, all Township Christmas decorations and lighting that help brighten our community.

The DPW also maintains all Township-owned buildings and properties, ensuring they remain welcoming, safe, and functional. Our involvement extends to the Township parks as well, where we support ongoing maintenance and improvements. On North Gleaner Road, we operate the Township's brush site, accepting brush from residents throughout the year and conducting the annual January burn. Additionally, the community garden on Frost Road is managed by our department, offering a place for residents to garden, grow, and connect. Each spring, DPW staff inspect Township sidewalks and grind down tripping hazards to improve pedestrian safety across the community.

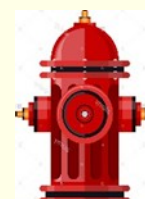
The work we do would not be possible without the dedication of our staff. I am deeply proud of the team that serves Thomas Township with such commitment and professionalism. My sincere thanks go to Chris Cousins, Darryl Eaves, Steve Everett, Tyler Branch, Ty Sharp, Kito Sharper, Andy Skiendziel, John Donahue, Mike Messisco, Bob Seeber, and Mark Foy, as well as custodial staff members Marcia Hupfer and Kris Ross. Their efforts keep our community strong every single day.

As winter settles in, we also want to remind residents that fire hydrants need attention this time of year. Hydrants are critical during emergencies, and accessibility can make all the difference when seconds matter. We ask that residents keep snow cleared from around hydrants near their homes and avoid piling or plowing snow against them. Snowbanks not only slow emergency access but can also damage the underground pipes that feed the hydrants. A little care now can help protect lives and property later - possibly even your own.

Thank you for your continued support of the Thomas Township Department of Public Works. We're proud to serve this community and look forward to another year of keeping our Township safe, reliable, and thriving.

Thank you for your continued support.

Trevor Schultz – DPW Director



Helpful Tips for Michigan Winter Driving

Winter weather is in full force, and there is no avoiding the snowy and sometimes icy roads. There are many safety tips that people share when driving in snowy conditions, but are you aware of the laws that affect you as a Michigan driver? The following are laws that every motorist should know before tackling treacherous roads brought to us by Mother Nature.

- The Michigan basic speed limit law requires motorists to drive “at a careful and prudent speed not greater than nor less than what is reasonable and proper.” Even if you are at or under the posted speed limit, you can still be ticketed if a Police Officer believes your speed is not reasonable given the conditions of the road. Often, motorists who crash due to poor road conditions believe they are exempt from penalty because they were not exceeding the posted speed limit. This is not true. According to the Motor Vehicle Code, your speed must not be “greater than that which will permit a stop within the assured, clear distance ahead.” Snowy or icy roads often require speed that is less than the posted speed limit to ensure safety for the motorist.
- According to the Michigan Department of Transportation, it is illegal to pass a snowplow on the right side. It is not wise to pass on the left either, and motorists should proceed with “extreme caution” if doing so. It is not always possible to predict the movement of a snowplow. They make wide turns and sometimes overlap lanes. According to Michigan.gov, a snowplow can weigh as much as thirty tons. Compare this to an average passenger vehicle weight of two tons, and you have a significant, uneven match. Stay well behind snowplows as they are working to clear roads (at least six to ten car lengths behind). Let them finish their job so you can have safer roads to travel.
- Snowplows are covered under Michigan’s Move Over Law, which requires motorists to “slow down and move over for stationary authorized vehicles with flashing, rotating, or oscillating lights (that are) activated.” If you encounter a snowplow stopped at the side of the road with its lights activated, you must reduce your speed to at least 10mph under the speed limit and move over to another lane. If you are unable to change lanes, then slow down and proceed with caution, providing as much room as possible to the snowplow. This is true for other emergency vehicles as well, any time of year, including Police, Fire, Rescue, Ambulance, and Tow Trucks.
- Michigan law requires that you remove snow from your vehicle before driving on public roads. Clear your windshield and the back and side windows to make sure your vision is not obstructed. Keep your vehicle’s roof clear of snow so you are not depositing snow on the roadways or having snow hit vehicles traveling behind you. Remove snow from your hood so it does not end up on your windshield and obstruct your view. Lastly, clear snow from headlights and taillights so when you are braking or signaling, you can be seen by other motorists. Police Officers can, and will, stop vehicles if they are not adequately cleared of snow according to the law.
- When clearing snow from your driveway, remember that Michigan’s vehicle code prohibits you from leaving snow, slush, or ice in the roadway. I have experienced many times in my law enforcement career people pushing snow across the road from their driveway, leaving a trail of snow on the road. This is a violation of Michigan law and may result in a ticket. Be sure not to leave snow in the roadway, and keep snow piles down so you can see to exit your driveway.
- These are just some of the Michigan laws related to snow that motorists should keep in mind. In addition, everyone should review winter driving tips, which can be found on the Michigan.gov website. Be prepared before venturing out on Michigan’s snow-covered roads and have a safe 2026 winter driving season.

Police Chief Eric Cowles



Staffing Changes in the Fire Department

The one thing we can all count on is change. Change is inevitable, and I, too, can be frustrated when a change is made without reason or for the wrong reasons. In the example I have today, the changes are both good and bad. The topic is personnel. I like to end on a good note, so I'll start with the bad, so to speak.

Over the last few months, we had to say goodbye to a few members; those included Mason Young, Peter Stevens, Nathan Wachowicz, Jacob Lounsbury, and most recently, Dominic Georgen. These members served our community very well and although we don't want to see them leave, we can understand that our lives don't stand still. While we were able to have Mason for a short year, the others served several years, with the most being 21 years! On behalf of our Fire Department and our entire community, I wish to say THANK YOU to these men for serving here in Thomas Township!

Now for the good news. We had two new members decide to help serve our community. These two additional members will join the six members we brought on over the past several months to help maintain a strong membership. We typically maintain around 30 members in the department. The two newest members are Emiliano Gutierrez and Andrew Arvanitis. Emiliano proudly served in the United States Marines, and Andrew comes to us as a licensed EMT and certified Firefighter.



Emiliano Gutierrez



Andrew Arvanitis

I am very proud of all our members and the dedication and work they put into serving our community. As I've said many times, they all have other regular jobs and choose to help by serving on our fire department. There is a lot of training to attend, we have a high call volume, and the expectations are high. Being a member of this department is a lifestyle, not just a hobby you do whenever you feel like it. People's lives depend on our members making an impact in our community. Our members are a great dedicated group of professionals that I get to work with! They don't, nor would they expect any glamour or accolades for what they do. They serve in the humblest way possible and do this for the right reasons. I am extremely proud to serve alongside these members.

Yours for Fire Safety,
Fire Chief Mike Cousins

Gary Salo Awarded Fire Instructor of the Year

We are pleased to announce that our Fire Department's Training Officer, Gary Salo, was awarded the East Region's Fire Instructor of the Year award by the Michigan Fire Service Instructors Association. This region is from Genesee County to Bay County and from Isabella to Huron Counties. This award was presented at their annual conference.

Gary Salo has been a solid member of the Fire Department since 2010. He is currently a Lieutenant as well as the Training Officer. Gary was selected for this prestigious award due to his passion for teaching our current and future firefighters. He has made significant improvements to our training program, and also ensures our members have available to them all the continuing education requirements we are required to maintain. He has transformed our onboarding process to ensure a state of preparedness. Gary cares about our people and is willing to go above and beyond to train them. He will go one-on-one with anyone who needs a more focused training. Gary has also introduced and organized an annual training that brings many skill sets together in a hands-on setting. We are pleased he was recognized for his efforts and are proud to have him on OUR Fire Department!



Gary Salo

Sincerely,

Mike Cousins – Fire Chief



Thomas Township Library Art Gallery

The Thomas Township Library has recently set up a Free Little Art Gallery just outside the Thomas Township Library. This small space allows artists to display their work and patrons to take home pieces to enjoy. It aims to celebrate local talent, promote the arts, and strengthen community connections. Drop by and check it out. If you see something you like, feel free to take it home. Alternatively, create something you'd like to share and leave it for someone else. For more information, visit freelittlelibraries.com or call Jennifer at 989-245-3950.



FREE LITTLE ART GALLERY

*Everyone can create art,
and anyone can own art!*

Professionals, hobbyists or students:
Create something you want to share and leave it in the gallery
for someone else to take away and love.

Anyone can visit the gallery at any time to drop off or take a piece of art!



Location: THOMAS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY

Questions: JENNY BOEHLER | 989.245.3950

More Information: freelittleartgalleries.art

New Thomas Township Nature Center & Preserve Coordinator

The Nature Center welcomes the new coordinator, Kailey Irish. Kailey grew up around the Chesaning/Birch Run area. After graduating from Chesaning Union High School in 2022 she began working on her family farm and gained an interest for agriculture. She is currently enrolled with Delta College and Michigan State University to obtain an associate in Agricultural Technology. Kailey has experiences in a wide variety of careers such as agronomy, teaching, and business management. These experiences have made her gain an appreciation and passion for taking care of the environment. Outside of work, Kailey enjoys many hobbies such as gardening, sourdough baking, and attending craft shows to sell her crafts, jewelry, and baked goods. Please stop by and welcome Kailey.



Kailey Irish

MMWA Curbside Christmas Tree Guidelines

After Christmas and during the month of January, MMWA will offer live, unadorned Christmas tree recycling as part of its yard waste program. Please remove all decorations, ornaments, lights, and tree stands and place the tree out at the curb on your normal service day by 7:00 am for collection.

Artificial and adorned Christmas trees will be collected as bulk waste in all MMWA member communities.



Trees can be put to the curb with or without a tree bag. Trees that are frozen to the ground or covered with snow will not be collected until they can be safely accessed by the driver. Large or heavy trees may have to be picked up by the bulk truck, and in those cases, trees should be collected within one to two days of the resident's regular service day.

2025 Business/Organization of the Year Awards

In October the Thomas Township Planning Commission, represented by Rod Iamurri, Chairman; Doug Bird, and Samantha Garvie, Planning Commission members; and David Sommers, Township Supervisor presented the 2025 Business/Organization of the Year awards. These awards are presented to businesses or organizations selected by the Planning Commission as best demonstrating aesthetic excellence and setting a positive example within the Township. These awards are divided into two categories that reflect "small" and "large" businesses in the community. The winners for 2025 are:

Schark Heating & Cooling

Small Business of the Year



Pictured left to right are Doug Bird, Samantha Garvie, David Schark, Scott Hash, Chad Mitchell, Rod Iamurri, Dave Sharkey, Kristen Platte, Mary Schark, David Sommers, and Andy Simpson.

Schark Heating and Cooling, located at 125 South Miller Rd., moved to Thomas Township in 2023 from their previous location in James Township. Founded in 1954, Schark is a multigenerational family-owned business that offers furnace and air conditioning installation and service throughout Thomas Township and the surrounding communities. With the help of their entire team, the Scharks have transformed what was essentially an empty garage and a vacant lot into a beautiful and well-maintained facility that will serve the community for years to come.

JJ's Roadhouse

Small Business of the Year Honorable Mention

According to their website, "Founded in September 2023 by father-and-son duo John and Johnny, JJ's was built on the dream of creating a fun, welcoming atmosphere that everyone in the community could enjoy." JJ's Roadhouse quickly realized this dream, and became a staple for dining and live entertainment in Thomas Township. Located at 9620 Gratiot Rd, JJ's plays host to a variety of live musical acts, trivia nights, and more.



Pictured left to right are David Sommers, Doug Bird, John Wesolek, Rod Iamurri, Johnny Wesolek, and Samantha Garvie.

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2025 Business/Organization of the Year Awards (Cont.)

Jimmy John's

Large Business of the Year



Pictured left to right are Devan Thompson, Doug Bird, Joshua Maldonado, Adam Triplett, Rusty Elias, Leland Shearer, Rod Iamurri, Aaron Kaufman, David Sommers, and Samantha Garvie

Opened in January of 2025, Jimmy John's is the newest addition to the variety of fast-food options in Thomas Township. Located at 7834 Gratiot Rd, they offer deli-style sandwiches on freshly baked bread, party platters, and freaky-fast delivery. With their newly constructed building and pristine landscaping, Jimmy John's was the obvious choice for the 2025 Large Business of the Year Award.

Starbucks

Large Business of the Year Honorable Mention



Pictured left to right are David Sommers, Doug Bird, Jake Theisen, Amy Humphrey, Rod Iamurri, Robert Denha, Anthony Denha, Nathan Denha, Brendan Lacy, and Samantha Garvie.

In 2024, Starbucks opened for business in Thomas Township at 7868 Gratiot Rd. As the world's largest coffeehouse chain, they were a welcome addition to the community. Their menu has something for everyone, from plain hot coffee to the fall-time classic Pumpkin Spice Latte. They even offer two new electric vehicle charging stations so you can recharge your car's battery and your own battery at the same time.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR WINNERS!

Community Development Department

Sidewalks during the Winter Season

Winter season is here, please remember to clear the sidewalks at your home or business of any snow and/or ice to prevent a potential hazardous situation.

Thomas Township mandates that the snow and/or ice be cleared within 24 hours of a storm. If the ice and snow have not been cleared after a warning is sent, Thomas Township will have the sidewalk cleared, and the property owner will be assessed the cost.

Allowing the snow or ice to build up creates a safety issue for those who regularly utilize the sidewalks, and under the ordinance, the Township will be able to ensure safe sidewalks for all.

Remember, your efforts at keeping the sidewalks clear benefit the entire community and the residents appreciate your hard work keeping the sidewalks cleared and safe. If you have any questions, call the Thomas Township Code Enforcement Officer at 989-781-0150.

Thomas Township Business Association Celebrates 50 Years!

TTBA strives for a prosperous, safe community.

Thomas Township has more than 240 businesses motivated in various business and community activities. The 100-member plus Thomas Township Business Association's purpose is to help the local businesses work together for a stronger community. TTBA began in the late 1970's as the Shields Civic Association.

This membership year (September 1, 2025 - August 31, 2026) TTBA celebrates its 50th Golden Anniversary of community service to the Greater Thomas Township area. Its mission is to enhance growth and quality of life of the community by encouraging and promoting cooperation between its citizens, businesses, schools, and government.

Meetings are held on the second Wednesday monthly except in March, June, July, August, and December from noon to 1 p.m. or so. Meetings feature a guest speaker with topics ranging from business strategy, government of all levels, election review, education, etc. A holiday business after hours is held in December.

TTBA thanks its loyal members and community partners. Current board consists of President—Lynn McCoy, First Area Credit Union; Vice-President—Ronda Henderson, Huntington Bank; Treasurer—Andrew Matuzak, Yeo & Yeo; Secretary—Shelley Hanson, Swan Valley Schools, and board members—Fred Gray, Gray Financial Services; Jennifer Howie, Farm Bureau Insurance Agent; Dan Sika, Thomas Township Community Development Director; Angie Schreiner, Garber Chevrolet Saginaw; Michael Modola, Hemlock Semiconductor Operations, L.L.C.; and Executive Secretary—Bob Grnak.

The group's major fundraiser is its Annual Golf Outing, held for the past 25 years in Thomas Township. More than \$155,000 has been generated from the golf outings with all net funds earmarked for local programs. Fred Gray and Steve Witt were integral in the event formation and have assisted annually. The TTBA membership fields teams, donates prizes, and volunteers to make sure the event is a success each August.

TTBA funds many projects yearly from membership dues, golf outing, sponsorships, and other special funding programs. TTBA donations have assisted in the creation of the Thomas Township Downtown Development Authority, Gratiot Road Streetscape Project, endowing the high school scholarships given annually, state highway safety leadership, donations to Roethke and Roberts parks, beautification projects, to help hold local member Business After Hours, youth programs related to local festivals, local school sports, other educational programs, Thomas Township Fire Department, Rail to Trail, Swan Valley Pay it Forward, local scouting and TTBA sponsored Christmas Party for many years, along with the newly formed Thomas Township Winter Wonderland.

The TTBA donated \$15,000 over three years as part of the cost of the Thomas Township Parks & Recreation Department's Roberts Park multi-year purpose pavilion. The TTBA board authorized a multi-year contribution for refurbishing the newly acquired Roethke Park train cars and engine car. In 2022 and 2023 TTBA has donated a total of \$33,000 to the developing Thomas Township Nature Center & Preserve from its golf outing and Buy Local programs. In 2023, TTBA earmarked a total of \$25,000 up to three years to the Thomas Township Parks and Recreation's latest project—a Community Park pod project on North Miller Road. In 2025 TTBA donated \$10,000 to the Shields Elementary Playground project.

In recent years TTBA sponsored a Greater Thomas Township Buy Local program, featured by a 24 to 32 page all-color printed section that has generated \$27,000 in net profit, earmarked for local community projects. Approximately \$7,000 in local TTBA member gift certificates were donated to area residents thanks to the program.

Membership and other TTBA related information is available at ttbami.com.

Thomas Township Winter Wonderland

The Thomas Township Winter Wonderland had another successful weekend on December 12th and 13th. Roberts Park was decorated by our Parks and Recreation Department, DPW staff, along with volunteers, local businesses, and schools. This year we brought back in the reindeer from Rooftop Landings for the 2nd year in a row and even a few craft vendors. We want to give a HUGE THANKS to all the volunteers and businesses who participated, and the community for showing their support.

Along with the lights, music, Santa, and Jingles the Elf, there were food vendors, hay rides, a craft tent, bonfires, and s'mores. The hay ride through the lighted park was included with a \$5 admission into the event. At the conclusion of the event on Saturday, December 13th, fireworks were lit wishing residents and guests a happy holiday season.



A Special Thank You

For 2025, we welcomed back **Garber Chevrolet on Gratiot** as our main event sponsor.

Additional Sponsors:

Hemlock Semiconductor	Apple Mountain	Thomas Township
Choice One Bank	Bierlein	Kiwanis
Spicer Group	Totten Tires	Thomas Township
Dave & Edith Sommers	My Member Insurance	Business Association
Stroebe Automotive	Frankenmuth Credit	Saginaw Control &
Mid Valley Insurance	Union	Engineering
Schomaker Farms	Yeo & Yeo	Wobig
Culvers	Leddy Electric	Brown & Brown of
	Fullerton Tool	Mid-Michigan

Parks & Recreation Commission Members

Scott Branch, Chair
Craig Aimar, Secretary
Angela Alworden
Craig Blower
Dean Rusch
DJ Sova
Ann Hoffman

Parks & Recreation Staff Members

John Corriveau,
Director

Dylan Pattullo
Asst. Director

Sharon Karl,
Receptionist

The Parks & Recreation Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm and can be reached at (989) 781-0151 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.



ONLINE REGISTRATION is available for Parks and Recreation Programming. You can access the online registration at thomastwp.org. 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. From there you should receive a confirmation email of payment. If you do not receive a confirmation, then your payment was not able to be processed and registration will not be able to be completed.

Not all programs are available for online registration. If you have any questions feel free to call the Parks and Recreation office at (989) 781-0151 or stop into the Parks and Rec office at 249 North Miller Road.

Join an Archery Class!

Archery classes are held at the Saginaw Field and Stream Club, located at 1296 N. Gleaner Road. To give each student individual attention, class sizes are limited to 12 students, so please sign up early!

All archery classes are six week programs that are taught every Wednesday. Students learn about recurve and compound. Instructors are certified through USA Archery and the National Field Archer's Association (NFAA).



There are 4 class sessions offered with the first session beginning on January 10th. **Registration for the first session has ended. The second session offered will begin in February and registrations are being taken now until the classes are full. A third session will begin in March, with registration continuing until classes are full. Dates are subject to some changes based on weather cancellations.**

Registration Fees: Resident: \$70 Non-Resident: \$75



4th - 6th Grade Basketball

Basketball leagues are forming for boys and girls in 4th - 6th grades. Boys and girls will play in separate leagues. **Registration has ended.** A draft was held at Swan Valley High School to determine teams on Saturday, December 13th. All kids will be assigned a coach who will set up practices during the week. Season dates are January 10th - February 14th.

2nd - 4th Grade Basketball

Registration for boys and girls in 2nd - 4th grade is now open. Boys and girls will play in separate leagues. **The registration deadline is January 31st.** All kids will be assigned a coach who will set up practices during the week. Season dates are March 7th - April 18th. **No games over spring break week.**

Games are held on Saturdays at Swan Valley High School. Volunteer coaches are needed for both programs! To volunteer please call (989) 781-0151 to coach a team!



Registration Fees: Resident: \$60 Non-Resident: \$70

Pavilion Rentals 2026

Starting January 5th, 2026 at 8:30 am Thomas Township **Residents Only** can begin renting pavilions for the 2026 year. Pavilion rentals will open up to **Non-Residents** beginning in February. Make sure to get your reservation in as early as possible because the pavilions rent out fast!



Roethke Park
Pavilion

Winter Fun

Sledding

There is a lighted sledding hill at Day Park, located on S. River Road just north of Ronald Drive.

These winter activities are not monitored by Township Staff. Parental supervision is mandatory.



Community Calendar 2026

- **February 16th**

Office Closed in observance of President's Day

- **Last week of February**

Assessment Change Notices will be mailed

- **March 2nd**

Winter Taxes due in the office without penalty

- **December 1st - February 28th**

Dog Licenses available at Township Office with proof of Rabies Vaccination

- **March 10th**

(Tentative Date)
March Board of Review

- **April 10th**

Yard Waste Pick-Up Begins



Boys & Girls Basketball Clinic

This six week program is held at Swan Valley High School and is for kids aged 4 - 8. Our recreational staff, which consists of high school athletes, will guide the kids through skill drills that will help them take the next step in basketball. We also like to encourage the participants in the basketball clinic to attend the local high school games and cheer their instructors on as they play. **Registration is closed.** The clinic will begin on January 10th.

Registration Fees:

Resident: \$60 Non-Resident: \$70

Soccer Clinic

Soccer Clinic is for 4 - 8 year olds. **Registration is underway for both boys and girls.** You can send in your registration to the Parks Office or register online. The start date of our soccer clinic is scheduled for the fourth Saturday in February.

The clinic is an instructional program. Participants will be taught the fundamentals of soccer. The soccer clinic will be held on Saturday mornings at Swan Valley High School, located at 8400 O'Hern Road.

Ages 4 - 5: 9:00 am to 10:00 am
Ages 6 - 8: 10:15 am to 11:15 am

Registration Fees:

Resident: \$60 Non-Resident: \$70

Thomas Township Nature Center & Preserve

The Nature Center has new operating hours. Open 2pm – 8pm Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am – 4pm Wednesdays and Fridays. The first and third Saturday of the month the Nature Center will be open 10am – 3pm. Moving forward with programs, Little Acorns and Families United in Nature (F.U.N) are still being held. There are no set repeating times and days for these events at this time. The dates and times might look different depending on the week. Check the Thomas Township website, under departments you will find the Nature Center & Preserve. There will be a calendar posted with the events for that month. You can also follow the Thomas Township Nature Center & Preserve Facebook page for updates and posts.



Basketball Clinic Coach with team



Trash & Treasures Yard Sales

June 4th – June 7th, 2026

**Thank you for choosing to participate in the
17th Annual Trash & Treasures Yard Sales!**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Zip code: _____ **Phone:** _____

Email: _____



Your completed form can be returned to:

Thomas Township

Attn: Karen Hitz

249 N. Miller Rd

Saginaw, MI 48609

Place in the drop box on the north side of the office building, or email the form to: operator@thomastwp.org, and please put in the subject: Community-wide sales. If you don't receive an email confirmation, please double-check with us to make sure we received it. To have your sale included on the map, please submit the form by Friday, May 22nd, 2026, at 5 p.m.



***If you are not a Thomas Township resident, you may register your sale. It will be displayed in the address list section, but may not appear on the map.**

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

***Please be considerate of your neighbors during the sale.**

***Please remove your signs after the sales.**

***For questions, please call 989-781-0150.**



249 N. Miller Road
Saginaw, MI 48609-4896

PRSRT MKT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAGINAW, MI
PERMIT NO. 273

Brush Drop Off

Brush may be taken by the homeowner to the Township brush drop off site located at the northwest corner of N. Gleaner & Frost Roads (Access drive from N. Gleaner). No stumps, leaves, grass, or commercial brush of any kind will be accepted. The site will be open on the following dates starting Saturday at 8 am and closing Monday at 8 am.

2026 Drop Off Dates:

April 4-5, 11-12, 18-19, & 25-26
May 2-3, 16-17, & 30-31
June 13-14 & 27-28
July 11-12 & 25-26
August 8-9 & 22-23
September 5-6 & 19-20
October 3-4, 10-11, 17-18, & 24-25

Yard Waste Pick-up will begin on April 10, 2026