

THOMAS Township TODAY

Trash Cart Distribution

Like many other communities throughout Saginaw County and the State, Thomas Township will be switching to cart service this year for both trash and recycling collection. Please note there will be **NO CHANGE** to yard waste service. The new trash carts will be distributed to all residents the week of June 5th, prior to the distribution, we will be sending you more information to help you with the transition. Watch your mailbox. In addition, there will be instructions with each cart when they are delivered. Any questions, call the Mid-Michigan Waste Authority (MMWA) at 989-781-9555.



Hometown Heroes Banner Program

Honor a service person or a family member who has served or is currently serving the United States of America. Thomas Township along with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) are proud to offer this program to help honor and recognize a service person. The Hometown Hero must be a current or previous resident of Thomas Township. The banners are displayed on the light poles along Gratiot Road (M-46) for Memorial Day and Veteran's Day holidays. You will need to fill out an application and provide a picture of the honoree preferably in their military uniform to be placed on the banner (picture to be in digital format). The cost for the banner is \$110.00 and taking part in the program will ensure your banner will be part of the display for five (5) years. After the five (5) years the banner will have to be replaced or if you wish to continue to have a banner as part of the display, you would need to purchase a new banner.

If you would like to honor and recognize someone, please contact the Thomas Township Community Development Department at (989) 781-0150, visit our website thomastwp.org, or stop in the main office at 249 N. Miller Rd. for more information.



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 249 N. Miller Road
 Parks & Recreation . 781-0151
 249 N. Miller Road
 DPW Administration 781-6438
 251 Miller Court
 Police Department.. 781-1300
 8215 Shields Drive
 Fire Department 781-4141
 8215 Shields Drive
 Library..... 781-3770
 8207 Shields Drive

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Trash Pickup the week of Trash & Treasures Yard Sales - June 9th

Trash pick-up will run at a different time during the yard sales so that the drivers can easily pass down streets and pick up trash before the roads become congested with traffic. If the driver is unable to go down a road due to traffic congestion, the driver must turn around and your trash will not be picked up until the following week. Some of our roads are narrow or dead ends which would make it difficult if not impossible for the driver to safely navigate the truck.

On **THURSDAY, June 8th**, please put your trash to the road **BEFORE** going to bed. Trash pick-up will run overnight into Friday morning.



The Hazards of Melting Snow



Winters can have a lot of snow accumulation, but in our mid-state region, the thermometer can hit 45° in February or March which brings the possibility of a few warm days. This means melting snow can produce muddy roads and soggy yards in the Saginaw Valley.

The snow melt unfortunately can wreak as much havoc on our local rivers, ponds, and the Saginaw Bay as it does in our yards. That snow which has sat for the last three or four-months accumulating dust, trash, and other debris, will melt and carry its dirt and garbage down the street, into the gutters or ditches, and into our local waterways. The sheer volume of stormwater created by melting snow can often overwhelm local drainage systems potentially resulting in flooding, stream bank erosion, and dirty water.

HERE ARE SOME STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO COMBAT THE DAMAGE OF THE MELTING SNOW:

- During the winter you can choose environmentally friendly de-icing products with all natural ingredients and use them sparingly.
- As you are winterizing your vehicle, make sure you properly dispose of anti-freeze... don't ever dump it down a drain or onto the ground! Also check and fix any fluid leaks, because even a small amount of oil can pollute a large amount of water.
- Increase the ability of your yard to absorb water by aerating your lawn, planting trees and deep-rooted plants, and building raingardens. A mature tree canopy will capture 1600 gallons of water per year, while a 100 sq. ft. raingarden will absorb another 9000 gallons.



With few exceptions, the Saginaw County Road Commission is responsible for the operations and maintenance of the storm water system. If you have a storm sewer problem and require assistance, please call the Road Commission at 989-752-6140. For additional storm water information, please visit the Saginaw Area Stormwater Association webpage at: www.saswa.org

Trevor Schultz,
DPW Assistant Director



Dog Control in Thomas Township

As warm weather approaches, the Police Department will field a greater number of calls regarding loose or barking dogs. It seems that most of those complaints are repeat complaints directed at a few houses. If you are on Facebook, you'll also see a number of posts of pets that are either lost or have been found.

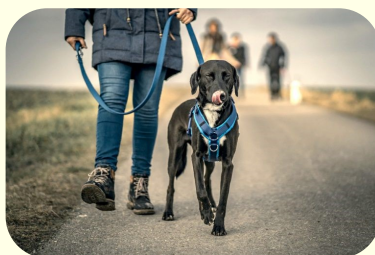
Owning/caring for a dog comes with big responsibilities; they're almost like having a child. Dogs rely on their humans for many things such as food, shelter, and keeping them safe and out of harms way. When dogs escape from their yards, there's a potential danger not only for them but possibly for an innocent bystander as well. If they get loose and run into the road they could get hit by a vehicle, they could unintentionally bite someone, or get hurt by someone who may be afraid of a dog they're not familiar with. It is the owner/care givers responsibility to keep their dogs contained on their own property in hopes of preventing these dangers.

Barking dogs is another frequent complaint we get. Yes, dogs naturally bark but when you live in a suburban setting you need to be considerate of your neighbors and others. No one wants to hear the constant barking of a dog when they are trying to enjoy the warm sun or relaxing after a hard day of work. It is the owner/care givers responsibility to control your dog. It is your responsibility as a dog owner to know how to control your dogs barking, so that it doesn't become a noise disturbance.

The Township does have an ordinance regarding loose or barking dogs. If we get a substantiated complaint and it's the first one, a warning letter with a copy of the ordinance will be mailed to the dog owner/care giver. If there's a second substantiated complaint, the owner/care giver will be given a municipal civil infraction consisting of a fine. For each additional substantiated complaint, the fine will increase. A substantiated complaint is when an officer physically hears the dog(s) barking. If an officer does not hear the dog(s) barking, but the complainant is willing to testify, then a warning letter or citation will be issued, depending on if it's a first or subsequent offense. We don't like to issue citations, but if the owner/care giver does not comply, then we are forced to take action.

A copy of the loose or barking dog ordinance is available on the Township's website at www.thomastwp.org or you can request a printed copy at policesec@thomastwp.org to be emailed to you. Please call the Central Dispatch non-emergency number at (989)797-4580 if you have a complaint regarding a loose or barking dog.

Al Fong,
Police Chief



Outdoor Water Restrictions Start June 1st

Beginning June 1st the annual outdoor water restrictions will be taking effect. The outdoor water restriction will continue until August 31st, 2023. During the restrictions using outdoor water for washing the car, watering the garden or grass, and other summer activities will be limited according to your address.

Even number addresses may use outdoor water on even days and odd number addresses may use water on odd days. By putting these restrictions in place, we can control excessive demands for water, which helps keep our water rates lower. Thomas Township greatly appreciates your cooperation as we conserve our water resources.



High Grass and Noxious Weeds

In Thomas Township, it is the responsibility of the property owner to keep lawns to a height of no more than ten inches (10") beginning May 1st. Exceeding this is a violation of the "Noxious Weed Ordinance". If you happen to receive a notification that your property is in violation and do not bring the property into compliance, Thomas Township may enter the property and cut the weed/plant growth. Any expenses incurred to do so will be the responsibility of the property owner and they will be charged accordingly. Upkeep of the property including taking care of regular lawn maintenance helps to keep the appearance of the neighborhood and Township as well as deterring any vermin from finding a habitat to live. Contact the Code Enforcement Officer at (989) 781-0150 for any questions or concerns.



Millage Yields Results

As you know, this past August the residents of Thomas Township voted in favor of a millage increase for Public Safety. This vote of support was a great "shot in the arm" to improve our fire and medical responses to our residents. I want to provide you with an update on the promise we made to you in August.

Our promise, if you approved the public safety millage, was that we would invest that money into hiring two additional full-time, first responders for the department. As reported by Chief Fong in the last newsletter, the Police Department has fulfilled its promise also by hiring two new officers who are currently in the police academy. Likewise the Fire Department has hired two full-time, first responders. They are both now on duty and ready to serve when needed.

Our two recently hired fire responders are **GARY SALO** and **RYAN DELONG**. Gary has served in our fire department for over 12 years. He has been a member of the on-call ranks and is currently a Lieutenant and Training Officer. Recently, he completed his Fire Officer and State Fire Instructor certifications.

Ryan comes to us from the MBS Airport Fire Department. He also serves as a paid-on-call firefighter in Larkin Township, which is in Midland County. His experience and skill sets are a great addition to our team.



Ryan Delong

Gary Salo

Currently, all four of our full-time responders are working 10-hour shifts to cover all seven days of the week during the daytime hours. When they are not responding to calls, each of them have several other tasks assigned to them. All of these tasks are part of an effort to make our community safer. We continue to need and utilize our paid-on-call responders. They are a huge part of our department and we could not perform the job without them. As we go forward, the added full-time staff will help ease the load placed upon the paid on-call crews and ensure quick responses in your time of need.

We continue to need first responders at our fire stations. These paid-on-call positions are open to those who want to be firefighters/medical responders OR just medical responders. If you have questions about these roles or are interested in serving your community in this way, please visit our website (www.thomastwp.org) or call our office at 989-781-4141 Monday-Friday, 8 am-5 pm. We would be more than happy to schedule a meeting to discuss your interest in serving Thomas Township as a paid-on-call first responder.

Thank you,
Mike Cousins,
Fire Chief

Trash & Treasures Yard Sales

June 8th - June 11th, 2023

**Thank you for choosing to participate in the
14th 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 out front of the office, or
you may email the form to: operator@thomastwp.org
or fax it to (989) 781-0290.**

**In order to have your sale included on the map you
must have the form turned in by **May 26th, 2023!**
Please be considerate of your neighbors during the
sale.**



***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.**

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

Parks & Recreation Commission Members

Scott Branch, Chair

Craig Aimar, Secretary

Angela Alworden

Craig Blower

Dean Rusch

DJ Sova

Annie Hoffman

Parks & Recreation Staff Members

John Corriveau,
Director

Tyler Sutherlund,
Asst. Director

Susan Prevost,
Receptionist

The Parks & Recreation Office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm by phone at (989) 781-0151. Walk-in hours from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. If the office is closed for any reason, please stop into the main office for further assistance.



Day Camp

Thomas Township has nine exciting week-long day camp 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 its 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.

This years themes are:

June 12th - 16th	Safari Season
June 19th - 23rd	Lost in Space
June 26th - June 30th	Enchanted Forest
*July 5th - 7th Mini Camp *	*Subject to Change*
July 10th - 14th	Under the Sea
July 17th - 21st	Fairytale Fantasy
July 24th - 28th	Dino Week
July 31st - Aug. 4th	Camps got Talent
Aug. 7th - 11th	Mission Impossible
Aug 14th - 18th	Spirit Week



Registration Fees:

Resident: \$125

Non-Resident: \$135

There is a reduced fee for a 2nd child of the same family registered in the same week. This also applies to the mini camp.

Mini Camp *Subject to Change *

Mini camp is a 3-day session, Wednesday through Friday, for children ages 4-6. The sessions run from 10 am to 3 pm. This outdoor orientated day camp is fun and includes all of the activities that Day Camp has to offer. All activities are geared towards the age level of the children. The theme for Mini Camp this year is Barnyard Palooza and will take place July 5th through July 7th. There is a limit of 20 campers!

Registration Fees:

Resident: \$90

Non-Resident: \$100

Before & After Camp Care

Before and After Camp Care is for parents who need to drop off or pick up their child before or after the scheduled camp time. A counselor will stay with any children that need to be dropped off early or stay late. Before and After Camp Care begins at 7:30 am and ends at 5:30 pm.

Fees:

\$30 per week per child

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

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 processed and registration will not 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.

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons are taught by certified instructors. Each session consists of eight lessons. Classes are Monday through Thursday with both morning and evening sessions.

Fees:

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

Level 1: Water Exploration (Ages 4-6) Introduction to aquatic skills & water safety.

First Session: June 19th - 30th Second Session: July 10th - 21st
Third Session: July 24th - Aug. 4th Fourth Session: Aug. 7th - 18th
Morning Session: 10:00 am - 10:45 am 11:00 am - 11:45 am
Evening Session: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm (Not offered every session)

Level 2: Primary Skills (Ages 5-9) Passed level 1 or a skill test. Working on basic strokes and aquatic safety.

First Session: June 19th - 30th Second Session: July 10th - 21st
Third Session: July 24th - Aug. 4th Fourth Session: Aug. 7th - 18th
Morning Session: 10:00 am - 10:45 am 11:00 am - 11:45 am
Evening Session: 6:15 pm - 7:00 pm 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm (Not offered every session)

Level 3: Stroke Readiness (Ages 6-10) Passed level 2 or a skill test. Continue working on strokes, water safety, and diving skills.

First Session: June 19th - 30th Second Session: July 10th - 21st
Third Session: July 24th - Aug. 4th Fourth Session: Aug. 7th - 18th
Morning Sessions: 11:00 am - 11:45 am Evening Sessions: 7:15 pm - 8:00 pm

Pool Schedule

The pool will be opening up for recreational swimming, Monday through Sunday on June 10th, 2023 and will remain open until August 18th, 2023. *Closing date subject to change*

Open Swim Monday - Sunday: 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Fees :

Resident: \$5
Non - Resident: \$10
Family of 5:
Resident: \$15
Non- Resident: \$25

Season Passes:

Resident: \$60
Non - Resident: \$80
Family of 5:
Resident: \$85
Non - Resident: \$115

There will be an additional \$25 fee on family passes for each additional family member over the limit of 5. Season passes are available at the Thomas Township Office, located at 249 N. Miller Road.



Park Reminders

As the temperature rises and everyone flockes to the parks this summer, Thomas Township Parks and Recreation would like to highlight some of the park rules so that everyone can enjoy the parks and have fun. Per Township ordinance, park hours are from 7:00 am to 9:00 pm. Vehicles must park in designated parking lots and spaces only. **Dogs MUST be kept on a 6 ft leash at all times.** This is also a township ordinance and it will be enforced more strictly. When enjoying the park please be respectful of other park users and do not allow your fun to impede the fun of those around you. Have fun and enjoy your summer in Thomas Township parks!

Job Opportunities:

Thomas Township Parks and Recreation is constantly looking for sports officials and instructors. An application can be found online at www.thomastwp.org/employmentopportunities or one can be picked up in the office at 249 N. Miller Rd.

For the Seniors:

Swingin' Seniors

The Swingin' Seniors typically meet the first Wednesday of the month for a potluck luncheon and to play bingo. Lunches are held at noon at the Thomas Township Public Safety Building, located at 8215 Shields Drive. Scheduled lunches are April 5th and May 3rd, **NO** lunches will be held during the months of June, July, or August. For any questions please call the parks office at (989) 781-0151.

Ride the Roethke Mini Train

The Roethke Mini Train runs Tuesday evenings from 6:00 pm until 8:30 pm and every Saturday and Sunday from June 11th through August 26th from noon until 4:00 pm. (Schedule subject to change and weather permitting) If you're planning a large family or group event, please call ahead and verify the availability of the train by calling (989) 781-0151.



Movies in the Park

The Thomas Township Parks and Recreation Department will be hosting FREE movies in the park again this summer. The movies will be held at Roberts Park on S. Miller Road. The movies will begin around 9:30 pm and the concession stand at the pavilion will be open to purchase snacks and drinks to enjoy during the movie! There will be two family friendly movies played this summer. Movie selection and dates will be announced later this spring! Keep an eye on the Thomas Township Website and Facebook page for the selections.



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 pm - 8:30 pm.

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 13th	CEYX	July 25th	Toppermost (Beatles Tribute)
June 20th	Bob Marshall Band	Aug. 1st	Laurie & The Lefties
June 27th	Michele Spitz	Aug. 8th	The Rock Show
July 11th	Todd Michael Band	Aug. 15th	Dave's Not Here
July 18th	Voortex Jazz & Blues W/ Papa Kiszka		

Rainouts will be rescheduled for August 22nd, 2023.

Sand Volleyball Leagues

Sand Volleyball Leagues are now forming. The leagues will be held at Roethke Park and Roberts Park based on the number of teams registered. Currently leagues are held on Tuesday nights at Roethke Park, and Monday - Thursday nights at Roberts Park. Leagues are mainly coed except for two nights designated for men and women leagues. Games are played 4 v 4. For more information please check out the Parks and Recreation page on our website, stop in our office at 249 N. Miller Rd., or contact us by phone at (989) 781-0151.

Archery

Classes are for beginners to work on safety, form, equipment, and the fundamentals of becoming a good archer. Classes for advanced archers are based on using their own 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.

Archery classes begin the 2nd or 3rd Thursday in April and run every Thursday for 6 weeks.

Class Times:

Beginner: 4:30 pm - 5:15 pm

Beginner: 6:30 pm - 7:15 pm

Fees: Resident: \$70

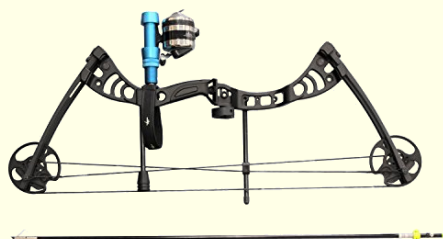
Beginner: 5:30 pm - 6:15 pm

Advanced: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Non-Resident: \$75

Bow Fishing

Our bow fishing program is a three day session taking place at Roberts Park. In order to take this class, you must have taken one of the winter archery classes. Parks and Recreation will provide all bows, arrows, targets, and materials needed for the program. This program is geared to educate individuals on how to bow fish as well as educating them on the different equipment used. ***Real fish are NOT shot in this program* *Program is subject to change***



Class Sessions: Dates to be determined.

Fees: Resident: \$35 Non-Resident: \$40

Men's Softball Leagues



This year Thomas Township Parks and Rec will be offering a Tuesday and Wednesday night softball leagues. Each league will consist of no more than 8 teams with a minimum of 4 teams. The registration deadline is Friday, May 5th, 2023. The season will begin on Tuesday, May 23rd, and Wednesday, May 24th.

Registration Fee: Team: \$325

Player Fee: Resident: \$10 Non-Resident: \$15

Men's Softball Tournament

On August 19th, 2023 (Tentative Date*), Thomas Township Parks and Recreation will be holding a Slow Pitch Softball Tournament! All teams are guaranteed 4 games. The registration deadline is July 31st, 2023. For more information contact our office at (989) 781-0151. *Tournament subject to the number of teams registered.

Team Fee: \$250



Sand Volleyball League

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

League Times:

Roethke: Tuesday Night

Season Starts: June 13th

Team Fee: \$90

Roberts:

Mon. - Thurs. Nights

Season Starts: June 5th

Team Fee \$130



Pavilion Rentals

We are currently taking pavilion rental agreements for the 2023 season. The pavilions are available for rent from May through August. A copy of the homeowner's insurance showing personal liability coverage is required from renters and a \$200 deposit along with a completed rental agreement form.

For rental fees and availability, please call the Parks and Rec office at (989) 751-0151.

Thomas Township

249 N. Miller Road
Saginaw, MI 48609-4896

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Brush Drop Off

Brush may be taken by the homeowner to the Township brush drop off site located at the north-west corner of N. Gleaner & Frost Roads (Access drive from N. Gleaner). No leaves, grass, or commercial brush will be accepted. The site will be open unmanned Saturday and Sunday beginning on the following dates:

2023 Drop Off Dates:

April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

May 6 & 20

June 10 & 24

July 8 & 22

August 12 & 26

September 9 & 23

October 7, 14, 21, 28

November 4

Yard Waste Pick-up will begin April 7, 2023

Phone: (989) 781-0150 • Fax: (989) 781-0290 • Web: www.thomastwp.org • Editor: Karen Hitz
For Property Information: www.sagagis.org