

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 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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Department of Public Works Update

In conformance with the Safe Drinking Water Act, Thomas Township is required to provide all users of the water system a Consumer Confidence Report before each July. This report outlines the drinking water quality that is delivered to your home or business. The 2024 report as well as all prior reports can be reviewed by visiting the City of Saginaw's website at:

www.saginaw-mi.com/447/Water-Quality

Please take time to read this important information regarding your drinking water quality. To request a paper copy of the Consumer Confidence Report, please contact us at 989-781-6438.

Beginning in late April, the DPW staff began its yearly maintenance work on both the water and sewer systems. For our water system, we will be completing preventive maintenance on all of our fire hydrants. This work will include flushing the water mains and testing the operation of each individual fire hydrant. The work is done to make sure that our hydrants operate properly in emergencies and to remove air, old water, or mineral buildup that may have become trapped within the water mains. Overall, these activities will ensure that the water that is delivered to your home or business is of the highest quality available. During the overall maintenance work, we will also be lubricating, painting and color coding each hydrant, while ensuring that the hydrants are un-obscured. In some areas, we will measure water pressure and flow rates of a particular water main while flushing a hydrant. The work will be completed in phases ending in October. Additionally, if you have a hydrant located in your yard, please make sure that plants and shrubs are at least 6 feet away from the centerline of the hydrant. This clear area is necessary so that the hydrant can be quickly located, connected to; and operated in emergency conditions. Thank you for your help.

Work on our sanitary sewers began in mid to late May and will continue through the summer months as we clean major portions of the sewer pipelines of grease and "other" built up materials. Cleaning will consist of high-pressure and velocity water and is necessary to ensure that the sewers continue to flow unobstructed. This work is expected to be completed by October 1st.

DPW also performs minimal maintenance on public owned sidewalks. Our staff inspects all of the sidewalks in the Township, and "scarifies" trip hazards. Additionally, if the sidewalks are noted to be in extreme disrepair, they will be turned in to Code Enforcement for potential replacement.

For those who have asked for an update regarding our construction efforts the past few years, please see these photos of Sewage Pump Station's #12, #4, #16, and the Water Booster Station under construction at the water tower. These improvements were required to support industrial development on the west side of the Township.



Pump Station #12

Department of Public Works Update (Cont.)



Pump Station #4



Pump Station #16



Water Booster Station

As always, if you have any questions or concerns with anything Public Works, please call the office at 989-781-6438, or you can email me at dpwdirector@thomastwp.org

Trevor Schultz – DPW Director

Cell Phones and Driving

It has been two years since Governor Whitmer signed Michigan's distracted driving law. As I drive around town, I am amazed at the number of people that I still see with their cell phones in hand while driving which leads me to this question; do people not understand the law, or do they just choose not to comply?

Michigan is now one of thirty states that have a ban on hand-held cell phone use while driving. Michigan's law specifically prohibits a driver from "holding or using a mobile electronic device while operating a motor vehicle." This includes, but is not limited to, holding a cell phone for any of the following activities: phone calls, texting, watching or sending videos, browsing the internet, or entering information into a GPS system. Level 1 or Level 2 graduate licenses are prohibited from using the cell phone in any form. People are encouraged to use the hands-free or voice-operated options, if necessary.

Statistically speaking, there has been an improvement in distracted driver related crashes, so the law appears to be helping. But there are still way too many crashes attributed to cell phone usage while driving. Continuing to bring awareness to the law and its penalties is needed to reduce these distracted driver related accidents.

Those that refuse to comply with the law may face community service, fines, and points on their driving record. Some experts put distracted drivers right up there with drunk driving in terms of danger. In addition, there are attorneys targeting those that have been injured in a distracted driver related accident in the hopes of helping them win large lawsuit settlements. None of these problems are worth the hassle when all you need to do is put your phone down until you reach your destination or use the hands-free options available in most vehicles. Let's follow the law and keep yourself and fellow drivers safe.

Chief Eric Cowles, Police Department

Annual Fire Department Awards Banquet

This past April, we held our annual awards banquet. This provided us with an opportunity to show our appreciation for the men and women who give so much of their time to the Fire Department and the community they live in.

Since we do this for our members, we equally acknowledge their spouses and significant others. The "lifestyle" of having a member of our fire department within a household is not necessarily an easy task. There are many interruptions throughout the day and night. Most can't honestly understand the lifestyle the entire family needs to adjust to, by living in the house of a paid-on-call first responder.

A number of responders were recognized for their achievements, certifications, years of service, and incident responses where teamwork played an integral part in an emergency response.

The recognition is as follows;

Completed probation – Tony Bell and Austin Krasewski

Emergency Medical Responder – Travis Leach and Mason Young

Fire Academy – Mason Young and Brian Beeckman

Fire Instructor I – Nick Chad, Jenna Stevenson, Samatha Garvie, and Ryan DeLong

Fire Officer 1 and 2 – Samantha Garvie, Jenna Stevenson, and Ryan DeLong

Drone Pilot certification – Ryan DeLong

NFPA Plan Reviewer – Nick Chad

Annual Fire Department Awards Banquet (Cont.)

Fire Chief Development – Brandon Rossi

CPR Instructors – Gary Salo, Nick Chad, Ryan DeLong, and Austin Kraszewski

Cardiac Arrest SAVES – Brandon Rossi, Jim Grove, Nathan Wachowicz, Jenna Stevenson, and Samantha Garvie.

Years of service: Allen Dalton 5 years, Dominic Georgen 20 years, and Scott Rousseau 25 years!

Saginaw Exchange Club- Fire Fighter of the Year was our last year's recipient, Jenna Stevenson.

The highlight of the evening is our highest honor, the Firefighter of the Year award. This award is selected by a secret ballot from the firefighters themselves. They elect the deserving individual who is one of their peers. They are also given the opportunity to provide some remarks about their vote. Here are a couple of those comments;

“He is an extremely hard worker! Always has a positive attitude, and is willing to show/teach new skills. He is very knowledgeable and has been a great addition to this department”.

“Gone out of his way to assist the department in so many ways. His efforts have helped us immensely”.

The person the membership selected is Firefighter/EMT, Ryan DeLong! Ryan is certainly a huge asset to our department and our community. He brings an enormous amount of professionalism, empathy, and skill set to make any fire chief happy to have on their team!



F.F. Ryan DeLong and Chief Cousins

THANK YOU to all the members of the Thomas Township Fire Department for your unwavering support and commitment to our Township.

If you wish to be part of this amazing team, please contact us for more information. The office number is 989-781-4141, or you can visit our website at <https://www.thomastwp.org/departments-services/fire-department/>

Mike Cousins – Fire Chief

Thank you - Community-wide Yard & Business Sales

Thomas Township would like to thank everyone who participated in the 16th Annual Trash & Treasures Yard Sales and Business Sidewalk Sales. We had a total of 111 combined sales on the map.

This year we advertised the sales on 94.5 The Moose, with the expectation of bringing more shoppers in.

We would like to thank Dan Hoffman from Saginaw GIS for producing the map, and 7-Eleven at 7970 Gratiot for helping us get the maps distributed. Thank you to the MMWA team for getting the trash picked up early before the sales started and the staff that worked the donation trucks that were provided by Oldtown Christian Outreach Center and Goodwill. This event is possible due to all of them and you. Again we thank you and hope to have your continued participation next year.

Russ Taylor Officially Retired

Thomas Township Manager, Russ Taylor, officially retired May 9th, 2025 after 23 years of service to our community. Prior to accepting the Thomas Township position, Russ served as the Tittabawassee Township (Freeland) Manager for seven years and Assistant Township Manager for Saginaw Township for nine years prior to that. In total, he has served area communities for over 39 years.

Russ started at Thomas Township on January 13th, 2002 upon the retirement of the previous manager, Marcia Strong. At that time, there were a lot of challenges facing the community. Starting off, much of the Township's infrastructure was in dire need of updates and it didn't have the funds necessary to make the needed improvements. The community's parks had not seen any upgrades for many years, union contracts had expired, and the Township found itself in a contentious lawsuit over the new sign ordinance with several of the area's business owners.

Russ brought the leadership, energy, and vision that the Thomas Township community needed to bring resolution to the outstanding challenges and to move the community forward. He became the catalyst to get numerous projects and changes accomplished that had failed in the past. The Township Board supported his vision and through all of the staff's hard work, the Township operations have transformed into one of the leading local governments in the State. The "Thomas TEAM" which was assembled under Mr. Taylor's guidance, has accomplished numerous projects and enacted countless changes throughout the Township operations.

One of the accomplishments in which he takes tremendous pride in as a part of the Thomas TEAM, is the large number of grants, donations, and outside funding that the team was able to acquire over the years for the Township. In total, the amount exceeded well over \$60 million, which allowed for the funding of most of the projects that were undertaken by the Township Board during his tenure. The impact of this TEAM effort effectively transformed the physical appearance of the Township facilities, upgraded the water and sewer systems, and created many more recreational opportunities that a community our size would never have been able to afford without dramatic tax increases.

During his career, Russ served on many Saginaw County Authorities which included the Waste Authority; Saginaw Metro Transit Committee; Mid-Michigan Waste Authority; Water Committee and the Saginaw Area GIS Authority. These county authorities were created to band area communities together to provide more efficient and sometimes new services to their residents. Russ was one of the founding members of the Saginaw Area GIS Authority (SAGA). The SAGA website is a free informational source which offers public access to property and tax information for all properties that are located within Saginaw County. Back in 2004, it was a new idea to create a public website that contained this information as well as providing aerial photography which displayed property boundary lines. To date, SAGA continues to be a valuable tool which many county residents rely upon for property and tax information. It continues to be an example and leader to communities around the country for this type of informational system.

In 2008, Thomas Township was the only urbanized area in Saginaw County without a Downtown Development Authority (DDA). So upon a challenge from then Board Member, Tom Radewahn, a DDA for the Gratiot Road business district was formed. Since its origination, the DDA has added the streetlights along the highway, the two Gateway signs at the east and west entry points, banners on the light poles and much more. It will continue to serve as an economic engine and community business supporter.

In 2002, the Department of Public Works (DPW) operated from the original Community Hall located on the corner of Lone and Frost Roads. An overhead door was installed into the side of the old building for access, while the oak dance floor was the parking area for all sorts of equipment. The arrangement was highly inefficient for crews to access equipment quickly and the location was not in a central location for serving the community. The Board agreed to set funds aside each year to construct a new facility, which would then become part of the Township's centralized campus located off Miller Rd. The new building was constructed in 2009 and the old site has now become home for our very popular Community Garden.

Russ Taylor Officially Retired (Cont.)

The Police and Fire Departments have evolved over the past twenty years as well. Both departments have become exemplary and are frequently contacted by other departments from around the State for advice and direction. Just like any other volunteer organization today, volunteerism is way down so it is a constant struggle to get new firefighters willing to commit the time and energy needed to be a firefighter. In order to ensure 24-hour coverage to our community, the Fire Department implemented a program utilizing four full-time firefighters to support the paid-on-call staff. This new program was very effective and a cost-benefit way of addressing the shortage. At the same time, the Police Department expanded to 10.5 full time officers which now includes a detective to get cases solved more quickly. Over the past 20+ years, both departments have acquired numerous new and more modern equipment and software programs to assist in the efficiencies of their respective operations. In particular, the Fire Department was able to expand both Fire Stations during Russ's tenure to help with their regular training requirements.

Finally, even though the "Central Campus" concept was started prior to his arrival in 2002, it hadn't been implemented. With the critical help of all of the Department Heads and the Township Board, the concept has now come to fruition. About ten years ago, a study by a local architect had identified all of the shortcomings of the then municipal office building and the extraordinary costs it would entail to address them. With this information, it was determined that a new building was the most cost-effective solution. So, under the Board's guidance, the Township began setting funds aside each year for that purpose. All of the Township staff, including Mr. Taylor are very proud of the new Municipal Office Building and the Community Park located next to it. These final projects were completed last year using the funds which had been saved up for that purpose and with donations from area organizations designated for the park. Today, residents and business owners can make a "one-stop-shop" for any services they need from the Township now that all departments are located within the centralized campus. He invites you to visit the new building, check out the library, visit the Community Park and take a walk on the lengthy trail system.

In most cases, managers tenure typically last about seven years. When asked about this, Mr. Taylor stated, "It was always my intent to stay with a community for the long haul. I wanted to show my commitment to them and to see my ideas through from start to finish. I didn't believe in using a community as a stepping stone for better pay or greater status. I think in many respects several of our accomplishments were made possible because of the longer tenure of both the Township Board and myself."

When asked about the future of Thomas Township, Russ was quick to comment that, "Not only have I been able to witness a tremendous amount of growth in our community, but I have also seen the Township Team accomplish an amazing list of projects. I know that the Township is in good hands with a Township Board that is made up of members who are fully committed to the community, employees who want to help people and the new Township Manager Deidre Frolo who brings the knowledge and expertise needed to lead this community. Together, I am sure they will continue to meet the challenges of a growing community." We wish Russ all the best with his retirement.



Russ Taylor giving his farewell speech.



Russ Taylor and his family.



Dave Sommers and Russ Taylor.



Russ receiving a proclamation from the Saginaw County Board of Commissioners.

Water and Sewer Billing Information

To ensure **timely** and accurate billing, please contact our office with any updates related to property ownership or tenant changes. If you have a renter moving out, let us know their **move-out** date and where to send their final bill. **It's important** we receive these updates so the correct party is billed and service is not disrupted. *Please note that only the property owner can make these changes, not **the** renter.* Also, please notify us of any name or mailing address changes associated with your account.

Billing & Due Dates

Water and sewer bills are issued quarterly, and billing cycles may vary. If you're unsure which cycle you're on or when to expect your next bill, feel free to call us - we're happy to help!

Cycle 1	Cycle 2	Cycle 3
August	March	January
November	June	April
February	September	July
May	December	October

Payments are typically due on the 25th of the month or the next business day. A **5% late fee** will be applied to any unpaid balance after that time.

Payment Options

Online - Pay conveniently at www.thomastwp.org. Ask us for instructions!

In Person - Visit the Municipal Office at the Water/Sewer Billing window (cash or check only), or use the Drop Box located at the north end of the building via our one-way drive-thru.

Direct Debit - Enrollment form can be picked up at the office or go to our website at www.thomastwp.org/departments-services/finance-department/

By Mail - Send payments to: *Thomas Township Water, 249 N Miller Rd., Saginaw, MI 48609*

Additional Billing Information

- **Shut-Off Policy:** Accounts with unpaid balances may be subject to service interruption. Please contact our office to arrange payment if needed.
- **Returned Check Policy:** A **\$35 fee** will be charged for any returned checks.
- **Email Notifications & E-Billing:** Want to go paperless? Sign up for e-billing by calling our office. A registration form can be picked up at the office or find a form on our website at www.thomastwp.org/departments-services/finance-department/forms/
- **Leak or Usage Alerts:** Noticing unusually high usage? Contact us - we can help identify potential leaks or issues with your service.
- **Late Payment Charges:** Failure to receive a bill does not exempt you from late payment penalties.

Property Tax Billing Information

2025 Summer Tax Bills

The 2025 Summer Tax Collection Season begins **July 1st, 2025** and payment is due by September 14th.

Payment Options:

Online: Pay securely by credit card, debit card, or e-check at www.thomastwp.org

In Person: Visit the Tax window at the Municipal Office building. We accept **cash** or **checks** made payable to **Thomas Township Treasurer**.

By Mail: Send your payment to:

Thomas Township Treasurer
249 N Miller Road
Saginaw, MI 48609

Direct Debit: An enrollment form for automatic payments can be picked up at the office or can be found on our website at www.thomastwp.org/departments-services/finance-department/forms/

Reminder: All tax bills are mailed prior to July 1st. If you do not receive your summer tax bill, please contact the Treasurer's Office at **989-781-0150** to request a copy. You may also call to update your name or address on file.

Allie Crowl, Fiscal Services Director

Thomas Township Today is Going Green

The Thomas Township quarterly newsletter will be transitioning to give residents the option to receive it via email beginning with our January 2026 newsletter. With the ever-rising costs of postage, the Township has committed itself to continuing to provide the same informative quarterly newsletter but providing it to those of you who would prefer to receive it via email as opposed to your mailbox. Thomas Township will begin to accept "sign-ups" for an emailed newsletter starting in August 2025. You can complete the form below and return it to the Township office to get on the list. We are anticipating that the transition will be a slow process and expect that many will still wish to receive a mailed copy. Rest assured, if you still prefer the mailed copy, Thomas Township will still be providing the newsletter to you in this format at least for the near future. Eventually the hope is to provide email copies to those who sign up to receive them and keep printed copies on-hand at the Township Municipal Office for those who prefer a "hard copy". The newsletter can be found on our website at thomastwp.org/community/newsletters for review and updates. This will be a cost saving measure as well as a contribution to reducing paper waste. If you have any questions regarding the upcoming change, please do not hesitate to contact our office at (989) 781-0150.

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

New Business in Thomas Township

Indian Spices and Grocery

Please join us in welcoming Indian Spices and Grocery to Thomas Township. Located at 7566 Gratiot Road. Hours of operation are Monday thru Sunday from 9 am to 9 pm. Indian Spices & Grocery is managed by Ravi and is a family-owned business. Ravi and his family also run the liquor store (Tobacco & Liquor 1). Products that they offer are beans, flour, rice, all spices, lentils, and fresh vegetables. Ravi and his family decided to open the store due to not many other places offering these items. Stop in and see what different spices and goods they have.



Tabacco & Liquor 1 and Indian Spices and Grocery

Shields Lions Club Recycles for Sight

Shields Lions Club has been serving the community for over 60 years. They have accomplished many projects in the Township. One of the many projects is recycling old eye glasses to help children read and learn. You can donate your usable eyeglasses at the Thomas Township Municipal Office building Monday through Friday. There is a donation box to the left when you step into the office, located on a little table near the window. Make a positive difference in helping someone see better. To find out more about the Lions Club you can visit shieldslions@charter.net.



Thomas Township has Little Free Libraries

The local Thomas Township Kiwanis Club took on the challenge of constructing six Free Little Libraries that would be installed throughout the Township's Parks and Trail systems. They began the construction last winter and installed them at the end of April. Although people are not always familiar with Kiwanis, our local Club has been contributing to the community and local children for 44 years now. Kiwanis is an international organization that focuses on local children and their community, while also supporting children worldwide. The Thomas Township Club consists of residents and business owners who freely give their time and money to the important cause of helping our local kids and community. The well-known "Haunted Train" in Roethke Park began because the Kiwanis members in 1984 decided to organize it. They ran it until 2005 when the Township Park staff took it over. They have also been very instrumental in accomplishing many community improvements including playscapes, pavilions, trails, and more in addition to the tens of thousands of scholarships that they have given to students. They are very proud of the fact that every penny they raise goes directly back to area children or community causes. They meet weekly on Thursdays at 7:40 a.m. at the Swan Valley High School. If you have any interest in joining them, please stop in. Your first breakfast is free.

The libraries are all registered with the Little Free Library Association so that they can be found and used by anyone simply using the **Little Free Library App**. The library locations are:

Roberts Park
Trailhead Building

Day Park
Trail Entrance at Miller Road

Community Garden
Community Park

Each library has three shelves. The bottom shelf is all children's books. The middle shelf is filled with teen and adult books, and the top shelf is a mixture of both. The Club is excited to provide this service to all of the Township residents. They ask that you please stop by to take a book and from time to time add a book of your own to one of the libraries. You will certainly be able to identify the libraries with their bright blue and yellow paint. The colors were chosen as they reflect the club colors and represent them as a fun place for anyone to visit.



High Grass and Noxious Weeds

In Thomas Township, it is the responsibility of the property owner to keep their lawn to a height of no more than ten inches (10"). Exceeding this is a violation of the "Noxious Weeds and Uncontrolled Plant Growth Ordinance". If you receive a notification that you are in violation of the ordinance, please bring the property into compliance promptly. Working together will help to keep the appearance of the neighborhood and Township to a higher standard as well as deterring any vermin from finding a habitat to live. Contact the Code Enforcement Officer at (989) 781-0150 for any questions, concerns, or if you need extra time to get the issue corrected. Additional time may be provided as long as you are making progress to correct the violation. Let's do our best to enhance the quality of living in our Township.



Hometown Hero

Thomas Township along with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) are proud to honor the men and women who have served or are currently serving the United States of America by instituting the **HOMETOWN HEROES BANNER PROGRAM**. This program is a way for a service person and/or family member to honor and recognize their contribution. The Hometown Hero must be a current or previous resident of Thomas Township. The banners will be displayed on the light poles along Gratiot Road (M-46) for Veteran's Day and Memorial Day holidays. Times are approximate. The cost for the banner is \$157.00.

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 Miller Rd. for more information.

Community Development Department



"Alone we can do so little; Together we can do so much"

– Helen Keller

Thomas Township Nature Center & Preserve

As summer goes by, things are growing at the Thomas Township Nature Preserve. The gravel trail, fishing platform, and picnic pavilion that were installed last fall are in place and being used regularly. The newly installed observation area/bridge on the west side of the preserve is finished, but will remain closed while the Great Blue Herons that make their homes there raise their babies in privacy. The field is beginning to look like a flood-plain prairie - we are in year two of growth and it is taking shape. In the Nature Center, weekly programs are running. We host F.U.N. (Families United in Nature) on Tuesdays from 5-7 pm, Grown-Up Visit and Game time on Wednesdays from 12-2 pm, and Thursdays from 1-2 pm we host Little Acorns Preschool Group. Check out the Thomas Township website under Departments, you will find more information about everything. This summer, we are hosting three Nature Discovery Camps. When this newsletter comes out, camp might be done - check it out on the Thomas Township website.

Questions that we get asked about the preserve:

Will the gravel trail ever extend to be a full loop? The gravel trail ends at the observation deck on the east side and the bridge on the west side. The berm along the north end of the preserve has some erosion issues. If you follow the line of the berm to the north end, you can see that it disappears. The berm was eroding slowly, but took a major hit during the Flood of 2020. We are working with U.S. Fish and Wildlife to conduct a feasibility study to see what our options are. We will save our time, funds, and effort until we see the recommendations and move forward. We will be patient and proceed when we have the information in hand that will suit our needs.

Why aren't pets (especially dogs) not allowed in the preserve? We love dogs, just not here! We did a lot of research on this and believe it is in the best interest of the Nature Preserve to not allow dogs. Dogs are viewed as predators, leaving their scent, and marking their territory. This can cause disturbances for the native wild animals that we are developing habitat areas for. A lot of work goes into the planning of a nature preserve; we are not a park whose sole mission is to provide recreation. We are trying to provide habitat for native animals and a safe and tranquil place to observe the natural life in our 67-acre preserve. If you need a place to exercise your dog, Roberts Park, Roethke Park, and the Thomas Trail provide great recreational activities for that. Please respect the rule and understand that we are trying to do what is right for the preserve.

What's next? We are monitoring the native plants that were planted last year with the assistance of Chippewa Nature Center. We will follow recommended protocols to develop a flood plain prairie. Sunflowers will be back this year and should be looking good by mid - late August, depending on how the summer goes. Forty more trees will be added too. We are looking to develop an interactive loop in the preserve area closest to the building. A storybook trail, bug hotel, and serenity area are in the works. As we grow, we hope to add additional programs and opportunities for our community. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Lynda at naturecenter1@thomastwp.org or call (989) 245-0801.



Our Little Acorns group went on a turtle hunt and we found a bunch, including this little one on the trail!



The ribbon cutting ceremony with members of Altrusa, who donated funds for the Little Library and additional supplies.



The bridge on the west side of the preserve is finished, but will be closed for the Great Blue Heron baby season.

Thomas Township Parks

Thomas Township Parks and Recreation has a variety of parks for our residents to enjoy. From fishing ponds to ball diamonds, from miniature trains to concerts, from soccer fields to bike trails, we have it all.

Roberts Park 455 South Miller Road

Four softball diamonds, playgrounds, walking trails, fishing pond, Farmers Market, soccer fields, sand volleyball, pavilions, and disc golf.

Roethke Park 400 Leddy Road

Swimming pool, sand volleyball courts, bandshell, fishing pond, three pavilions, two miniature trains, playground, hiking trails, and the home of Roethke Park Day Camp and the Haunted Train Ride.

Day Park 700 South River Road

Known for its sledding hill during winter. Day Park is a beautiful green space that offers plenty of room for kids to run around.

Community Park 249 North Miller Road

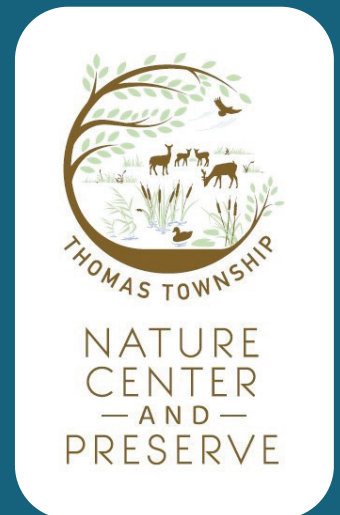
The park has six brand new pickleball courts, new basketball court, and two new playscapes.

The Nature Center 6660 Gratiot Road

Come visit our little part of “Up North” at the Nature Center. Our walking trails are available along with our fishing pier, kayak launch, and walking bridge.

Farmer’s Market 455 South Miller Road

In 2022, with the help from Schomaker Farms, the Thomas Township Farmer’s Market was established and found a home in Roberts Park under the former “Men’s Club Pavilion” which was restored by the Parks and Recreation department in 2018 - 2019. We added a fifty foot by 100 foot concrete slab to expand the market space and we have filled it with new vendors! The Farmer’s Market has plans for a couple events in 2025 to help grow the communities support and give families a place to gather and enjoy their time at the market. The market season started on June 23rd and it will run every Monday from 4pm - 7pm through October 13th, except Labor Day, Monday, September 1st.



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*

*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. If the office is closed for any reason, please see the receptionist for further assistance.

Archery Classes 2026

Archery classes will begin Thursday, January 22nd, 2026 and will continue through May 2026. There will be three, six week sessions with classes being held on Thursdays. Registrations will begin in November of 2025 and run through December of 2025. Call the Parks and Recreation Office for more information about the program at (989) 781-0151 or check our website for updates, www.thomastwp.org.



Classes for beginners work on safety, form, equipment, and the fundamentals to become 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.

Sessions will be at the following times:

Beginner: 4:30 - 5:15 pm 5:30 - 6:15 pm 6:30 - 7:15 pm

Advanced: 7:30 - 8:15 pm

Fall Soccer Leagues

Registration for fall soccer leagues for boys and girls in grade young 5's through 8th grade are currently being accepted.

The fall soccer season runs for six weeks beginning September 6th and will continue until October 11th, 2025. For more information please call the Parks and Recreation office at (989) 781-0151.

Registration Fee:

Resident: \$60

Non-Resident: \$70



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 option 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 the 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.



249 N. Miller Road
Saginaw, MI 48609-4896

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Brush Drop Off

Cameras are installed to monitor use.

Brush may be taken by the homeowner to the Township brush drop off site located at the northwest corner of N. Gleaner & Frost Road. No stumps, leaves, grass, or commercial brush of any kind will be accepted. The site will be open the entire weekend, Saturday and Sunday, and closed back up first thing Monday morning.

2025 Drop Off Dates:

July 12/13 & 26/27
August 9/10 & 23/24
September 6/7 & 20/21
October 4/5, 11/12, 18/19 & 25/26

Yard Waste Pick-up will end December 5th, 2025