

The Thomas Township Board and Staff would like to wish everyone a happy, and healthy New Year!



TODAY



Thomas Township Board of Trustees

Bob Weise
Supervisor

Vern Weber
Treasurer

Edward Brosofski
Clerk

Craig Monahan
Trustee

Mike Thayer
Trustee

Ellen Ryder-Petre
Trustee

David Sommers
Trustee

Russell Taylor
Manager

Municipal Offices
249 North Miller Road
781-0150

Thomas Township Parks
249 North Miller Road
781-0151

DPW Administration
251 Miller Court
781-6438

Police Department
8215 Shields Drive
781-1300

Fire Department
8215 Shields Drive
781-4141

Library
8207 Shields Drive
781-3770

Township Website
www.thomastwp.org

Library Website
www.thomastownshiplibrary.com

Shields Summer Festival Retiring After 61 Years

The Annual Shields Summer Festival has been a long standing tradition in Thomas Township. We would like to thank the Shields Men's Club for the last 61 years of the Annual Festival.

The Men's Club has made a tough decision to end the festival so let us take a moment to reminisce about the festival and how it all began.

The Shields Men's Club first began in 1956 with the intent of bringing the community together and that is exactly what they did. At first, the Men's Club organized several activities including knot hole baseball, the Letterman's Banquet, and the Shields Homecoming.



Shields Summer Festival 1976

The Shields Homecoming was a small event held in the local gym with different small vendor booths. As the years passed the event grew larger and the Shields Summer Festival, as we know it, was created.

The festival moved around before it settled permanently at the South Miller Road location. It began small in the local gym and then moved over to Gratiot & River Roads in the parking lot of the old Otersky Drug Store. At that time, the festival

consisted of a merry-go-round and pony rides with a small vendor booth here and there. The following year it moved behind the then Texaco gas station off of Gratiot, where it was much the same.

Approximately 50 years ago the Men's Club made a big purchase of 7 acres on S. Miller Road, and they along with the festival found a new home. The Shields Summer Festival has grown quite large over the years, and to think it all began with a pony ride and merry-go-round. In recent years, the festival has boasted car shows, amusement rides, motorcycle shows, games, vendors, food, a parade and more!



Shields Festival Parade 1975

The community came together just like the original members of the Shields Men's Club had wanted. We would like to give them a big thank you for all of the years and hard work they have put into planning the festival for our community. Thank You Shields Men's Club! The Shields Summer Festival will be missed.



Shields Summer Festival 2011

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Reminders & Important Dates

Sidewalk Snow and Ice Reminder



Now that leaves have fallen from the trees and we are starting to see snow it's time to remember some important safety tips as it relates to sidewalks. Thomas Township has a great number of walkers and runners that use the sidewalks on a daily basis. The number of walkers certainly decreases as the temperatures fall, but not as much as you may think. On most days, you can find residents of Thomas Township getting in a mile or two all winter long. Keeping that in mind, every winter as the first snow falls residents and businesses that have sidewalks in front of their property need to know what their responsibility is for keeping them clean.

After a snowfall, all residents and businesses must make certain that the sidewalk is cleared within 48 hours of the storm. Because Michigan weather is so unpredictable and sometimes it snows for days at a time, it is important to clean your sidewalk as soon as possible so it does not get packed down from an accumulation of several snow falls or from the walkers that use them.

More and more residents, young and old are using sidewalks to get around and for exercise. In fact, did you know that Thomas Township has over 10 miles of sidewalks connecting subdivisions, businesses, parks, libraries, and schools? If you use the sidewalks, make sure the next time you see someone shoveling them that you express your gratitude and tell them you appreciate what they are doing. Their efforts are a benefit to the entire community, from children walking to school, to those who use them for exercise. If you have a question about the snow removal ordinance, call the Thomas Township Code Enforcement Officer at 989-781-0150.

Holiday Trash Delay Dates for 2018

<u>Regular Pick Up</u>	<u>Delay Day Pickup</u>
Friday, January 5th	Saturday, January 6th
Friday, June 1st	Saturday, June 2nd
Friday, July 6th	Saturday, July 7th
Friday, September 7th	Saturday, September 8th
Friday, November 23rd	Saturday, November 24th
Friday, December 28th	Saturday, December 29th

Board of Trustees Meeting Dates 2018

Monday, January 8th	Monday, July 2nd
Monday, February 5th	Monday, August 6th
Monday, March 5th	Monday, September 10th
Monday, April 2nd	Monday, October 1st
Monday, May 7th	Monday, November 5th
Monday, June 4th	Monday, December 3rd

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held at the Public Safety Building located at 8215 Shields Drive.

Planning Commission Meeting Dates 2018

Wednesday, Jan. 17th	Wednesday, July 18th
Wednesday, Feb. 21st	Wednesday, Aug. 15th
Wednesday, March 21st	Wednesday, Sept. 19th
Wednesday, April 18th	Wednesday, Oct. 17th
Wednesday, May 16th	Wednesday, Nov. 28th
Wednesday, June 20th	Wednesday, Dec. 19th

All meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and are held at the Public Safety Building located at 8215 Shields Drive.

Downtown Development Authority Meeting Dates 2018

Tuesday, January 23rd	Tuesday, July 24th
Tuesday, March 27th	Tuesday, September 25th
Tuesday, May 22nd	Tuesday, November 27th

All meetings begin at 8:00 a.m. and are held at the Public Safety Building located at 8215 Shields Drive.

Zoning Board of Appeals Dates 2018

When needed, meetings will be held on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. Meetings begin at 4:00 p.m. and are held at the Public Safety Building located at 8215 Shields Drive.

Thomas Township Business Association

The Thomas Township Business Association Gives Back

The Thomas Township Business Association held its annual Children's Christmas Party on December 2, 2017 at the Thomas Township Public Safety Building and it was a great time for all involved. The



Freddie the Fire Truck with Santa

Thomas Township Fire Department escorted Santa to the event on the Township Fire Truck to the delight of the awaiting children. The Fire Department also provided a fun and very exciting remote controlled fire truck, named Freddie, which mingled with the children during the event. Annually over 100 children enjoy this event that is sponsored in part by Meijer in Thomas Township.

The Business Association also recently donated to the Swan Valley High School Varsity Baseball Program in order to purchase a teaching tool called a "FungoMan". This machine can pitch, throw infield, ground balls, throw outfield high fly balls, and all of this using an iPad to enter commands.

The FungoMan holds up to 250 baseballs, and will throw curveballs, fastballs, and knuckleballs in any location, and allows fielding players to get many more reps during a typical practice. Head Coach Craig Leddy said that the donation was very much appreciated. Coach Leddy and Coach Mark Jebb



FungoMan Teaching Tool

plan to hold clinics during the winter and spring in order to showcase the new baseball teaching device and to

help youngsters develop proper fielding technique. Leddy said that he has received over \$8,000.00 in donations to help cover the over \$14,500.00 cost of the machine. Coach Leddy will be holding a euchre tournament to raise further funds for the new machine. The tournament will take place on January 20th, 2018 at the Crooked Creek Banquet Center. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with the games beginning at 7:15 p.m.

The Business Association also donated to the Thomas Township Parks Department as part of its financial commitment to help build the new soccer complex in Roberts Park. The Business Association held their annual Steak Fry at the soccer complex during the spring last year and is planning to do the same again in 2018.

What is the Thomas Township Business Association?

The Thomas Township Business Association (TTBA) is an organization made up of local business representatives. The mission of the Thomas Township Business Association is to enhance the growth and quality of life of the community by encouraging cooperation between citizens, business and government.

The Business Association holds seasonal gatherings to strengthen business relationships and to foster new and exciting ideas for the future. Some of the projects the TTBA has done include the Christmas Lighting of the Gratiot Corridor, the Children's Christmas Program and the Tom Pekas Memorial Scholarship. They have also worked along with Thomas Township and the DDA to install streetlights along the Gratiot (M-46) corridor. In the fall of 2011, the DDA installed 98 streetlights from the Tittabawassee River along both sides of Gratiot to the west entrance of Meijer, which are decorated for Christmas every year by volunteers from the community.

This is Community

We hear the term "Community" used in many ways. In most cases, Community is a sense of belonging, a feeling of being a part of something larger than just yourself. I recently had the chance to see Community alive and well in Thomas Township during the recent Swan Valley High School's football team's year end success. As the team finished an awesome year, they qualified to play at FORD FIELD! This is the first time in the school's history they have gone this far. As they prepared, the Community rallied around them in support. Past football players (all the way back from 1974) showed up to provide support and to cheer them on. As they departed for



Photo Credit: Heidi McGrandy Photography
Swan Valley Varsity Football at Ford Field

Greenville then to Ford Field, our Community showed up in a big way to show their support. We all met in the cafeteria, the band played and the cheerleaders cheered all of which added to the excitement. The crowd's excitement was truly visible. As the time of their departure drew closer, so did the volume of the crowd.

Once the team and spectators went outside they had one more surprise, another group of supporters, both the Thomas Township Police and Fire Department and James Township Fire Department were there to show their community support. These emergency service agencies provided escorts for this group of athletes out of the high school parking lot. With lights flashing and sirens wailing, one couldn't help but get excited. I think I was just as excited about this community experience and everyone coming together for the common good as I was for the team's accomplishments. Being a part of and witnessing Community is really what a lot of what we do is all about. So many times it seems that all we hear about are the negative events from around the world. Well, there are a lot of positive things in life that are happening all around us. Sometimes, all we need to do is look around and look beyond the "half empty glass". The members of our emergency response agencies all volunteered their own time to participate in this Com-

munity event, because it is something that we care about and supporting young people is always worthwhile.

The Township Board and Manager supported our participation and were as happy with seeing the community turnout as well. Russ Taylor, Township Manager stated, "I'm very proud of the Community that we serve and live in. The belief that local government can and should work with local schools to support the residents and businesses of the Township is certainly part of the fabric of Thomas Township." Supporting a local school's State finalist team is a simple thing, but it's an important thing all the same. It won't be long and these young students will become adults. Setting an example now will help them to better realize the importance of being a part of a Community like Thomas Township. Belonging to something bigger than one's self takes work and a willingness to compromise sometimes. When we work together, we can, and do, accomplish great things. I will say that I very much appreciate the work invested by so many people to make Community happen here. Community is stepping up, helping and supporting each other in the good times and the bad times. Thank you to everyone who chooses to act and sees things in a positive manner and who also appreciate the true meaning of Community.

Yours for Community,

Michael Cousins
Fire Chief



Photo Credit: Heidi McGrandy Photography

Thomas Township Fire & Police and James Twp. Fire escorting the Swan Valley Football Team.

The Community rallying together to support the team as they headed out to State Finals

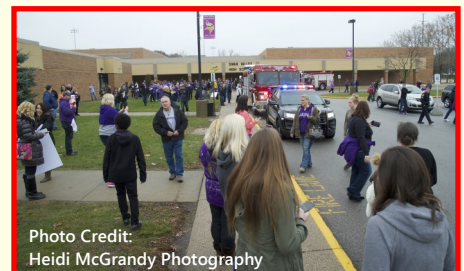


Photo Credit: Heidi McGrandy Photography

Trash & Treasures Community Wide Rummage Sales Will Continue This Year

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

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

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

Trash & Treasures Rummage Sale Registration 2018

**Register
Now!!!**

Name _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

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

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

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

From the Assessor

2018 Assessment Notices

Your 2018 Assessment Notices will be in your mailbox the last week of February, 2018. **THIS IS YOUR ONLY NOTICE OF WHAT YOUR ASSESSMENT (SEV); TAXABLE VALUE (TV) AND PRE EXEMPTION WILL BE FOR 2018.**

If you have questions about your assessment notice, you should contact the Assessor as soon as your assessment notice arrives in the mail. **DO NOT WAIT**, as you may lose your opportunity to appeal these values.

There is only one time in the year that your assessments can be protested, and that is at the March Board of Review. The 2018 March Board of Review is tentatively scheduled for March 12th and 13th (please call for times).

If there is not an error in your assessment, and you wish to appeal the values, which the Assessor has placed on your property, you ***must*** attend the March Board of Review. If the March Board of Review does not agree with your appeal, you may then protest to the Michigan Tax Tribunal; however, ***YOU MUST FIRST APPEAL YOUR ASSESSMENT TO THE LOCAL MARCH BOARD OF REVIEW.*** 2018 Tentative Values will be displayed on the Saginaw GIS website, www.sagagis.org, starting on February 1st thru May 1st, 2018. The Assessor can be reached Monday, Tuesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

Thank you,

Jill Peters
Thomas Township Assessor

From the Treasurer

Do You Know Where Your Tax Dollars Go?

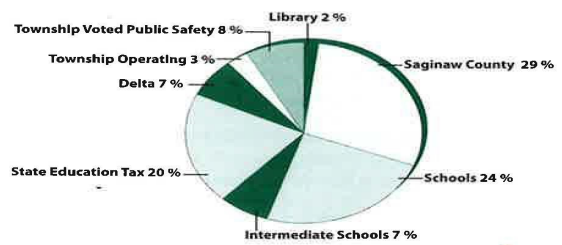
Listed below is a tax bill detail for an average home in Thomas Township. The only amount of your tax bill that the Township gets to keep for general operations is listed below as TOWNSHIP OPERATING. This amount is equal to about 3 to 4% of your total winter tax bill. Local Operating (general fund) is the amount of money the Township receives to operate everything in the Township, except the Library, the Water Department and the Sewer Department. While the Public Safety millage (8% of tax bill) and the Fire millage (1% of tax bill) offsets the majority of the Police Department and Fire Department expenses, the General Fund must still supplement a large percentage of their operations. This holds true for the Parks and Recreation Department as well.

The Township Library also receives its operating income from a local millage, which was voted in by Thomas Township residents. About 2.0% of each tax bill goes to operate the public Library in Thomas Township.

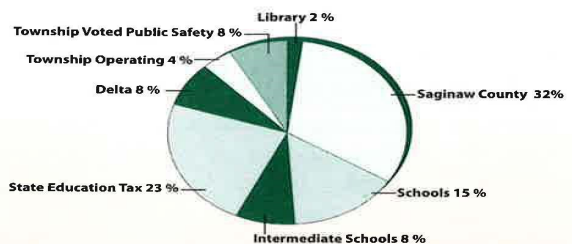
The remaining 85% of your tax bill is sent to various OTHER taxing jurisdictions such as the County of Saginaw, Delta College, solid waste pick up and the local Schools.

Vern Weber
Treasurer

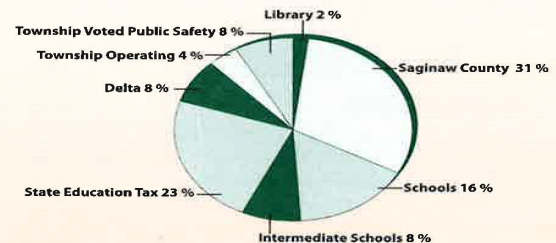
SWAN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT



HEMLOCK SCHOOL DISTRICT



FREELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT



SUMMER MILLAGE PER \$1000 OF TAXABLE VALUE FOR ALL SCHOOL DISTRICTS

County Operating	4.8558
State Education	6.0000
Total Millage	10.8558

Police News

The Thomas Township Police Department hopes everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. As 2017 ends and 2018 begins, the police department will continue to serve the citizens of Thomas Township with professionalism. We continue to strive for a safe community for you to live in, that is what we took an oath for, but we cannot do this alone.

It takes everyone in the community to make Thomas Township a safe place. If you see a suspicious situation or person, please call right away and do not wait until the next day. The quicker we can get to the situation or person, the chances are better for us to dispel it. Don't be afraid to call even if you're not sure if it's an emergency.

COFFEE WITH A COP

Your Thomas Township Police Department is starting a new program to try to enhance our relationship with residents and offer an opportunity to meet the Township officers personally. All you have to do is show up and the coffee is free! Please stop by Tim Horton's on January 9th, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. to say hello. We look forward to meeting you. If you can't attend in January, we will also be meeting February 13th and March 6th, same time, same place.

Thanks,

Sgt. Al Fong



Habitat for Humanity



Thomas Township
Habitat Home
Rehabilitation Week
July 30 – August 3, 2018

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

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

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

Deidre Frollo
Fiscal Services Director



Photo Credit: Habitat for Humanity

Photo Credit: Habitat for Humanity

Thomas Township employees & volunteers working Habitat for Humanity Rehabilitation week 2017

Parks and Recreation Winter Happenings

Thomas Township Parks and Recreation Commission Members and Staff

Commission Members

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

Staff

John Corriveau: Director
 Stacy Hable: Assistant Director
 Connie Smith: Secretary

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



Festival of Lights Display



Festival of Lights Display



Christmas Train

CHRISTMAS TRAIN AND FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Thomas Township wants to thank everyone who came out and supported the 2017 Christmas Train and Festival of Lights. It is hard to believe this is the 7th year of the event already! The event has grown every year and this year Mother Nature gave us some good weather for people to come out and enjoy themselves.

We need to thank the Thomas Township Business Association for sponsoring the event. The community support from local businesses and organizations helps make our events successful each year. Thank you Thomas Township Business Association for your continued support.

We also need to thank the businesses and individuals who helped set up the lights and make the train ride so enjoyable and beautiful.

A special thanks to our friends at Domagalski Photography who supplied free pictures with Santa Claus to everyone who attended this event!

Sponsor:

Thomas Township Business Association

Displays:

McDonald Ford Freeland
 Stanley Steemer
 Wolgast Restoration
 Thomas Township Kiwanis Club
 Shields Lions Club
 Hemlock Semiconductor
 Saginaw Community Education Center
 Swan Valley High School
 Hemlock Middle School Junior National Honor Society
 Hemlock High School National Honor Society
 Ferrelgas
 St. Peter Lutheran School
 Greenstone Financial Services
 Farmers Insurance
 Apple Mountain Resort
 Duclos Insurance

Parks and Recreation Programs



Soccer Clinic



Archery Class



Girls Basketball

ARCHERY CLASSES

Archery classes begins on January 4th, 2018, at the Saginaw Field and Stream Club. Classes are for both beginner and advanced archers. All archery classes are six (6) week programs taught every Thursday. Students learn about recurve, compound and crossbows. Instructors are certified through USA Archery and the National Field Archer's Association (NFAA).

To give each student individual attention, class size is limited to 12 students, so please sign up early! The next class, beginning February 15th, 2018, is taking registrations now until classes are full.

A third session will begin April, 5th, 2018 with registration continuing until classes are full. The cost is \$50 per resident student, \$55 per non-resident student, each student also receives a free T-Shirt.

GIRLS' BASKETBALL

Girls' basketball leagues are forming for 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 4th, 5th, 6th grades. Girl's in 4th grade can choose to play up with the 5th and 6th graders or down with the 2nd and 3rd graders. Sign up continues until January 19th, 2018. After this date, a \$10 late fee will be assessed, with no registrations taken after January 26th, 2018. Saturday games begin February 17th, 2018 at Swan Valley High School. Player fees are \$45 for Thomas Township residents and \$50 for non-residents. Volunteer coaches are needed for this program. The draft for girls in 4th-6th grades is February 3rd, 2018 at 1:00 pm in the Swan Valley High School Gym. Shirts will be provided.

NEW PROGRAM

RECREATIONAL DODGEBALL

Register Now! The deadline to register is January 19th, 2018, and will close on January 26th, 2018. The six week program starts on February 17th, 2018. Games will take place on Saturdays at Swan Valley High School. The teams will be mixed up weekly. No equipment is needed. Player fees are \$45 for Thomas Township residents and \$50 for non-residents.

2nd/3rd Grades: 12:00 p.m. - 12.45 p.m.

4th/5th Grades: 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

SOCCER CLINIC

Soccer Clinic registration is underway for both boys and girls. The clinic is an instructional program, where boys and girls will learn the fundamentals of soccer. The soccer clinic will be held on Saturday mornings Swan Valley High School, and will run for six weeks.

4-5 year olds will run from 9:00am-10:15am

6-7-8 year olds will run from 10:30am-11:45am.

Registration will continue until January 19th, 2018 with games beginning February 17th, 2018. Don't forget you can register online. A \$10 late fee will be charged after January 19th, 2018. No registration can be taken after January 26th, 2018.

Cost: \$45 Residents

\$50 for Non Residents

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

Parks and Recreation Programs and More

PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICE HOURS

The Thomas Township Parks and Recreation office is open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Occasionally, the park office will be closed when the parks office staff has to leave the office. In those cases, the main office staff will assist you with questions and registrations. Please call (989) 781-0151 to contact the parks office.

2018 PAVILION RENTALS

It's time to reserve your pavilion for the 2017 season. Only Residents can reserve pavilions in January. In February, we open up the registration process to non-residents. The fee for any of the four pavilions is \$50 for Thomas Township residents; \$80 for non-residents; and \$100 for companies. There are three pavilions at Roethke Park and one at Roberts Park.



Roethke Park Pavilion

SWINGIN' SENIORS

The Swingin' Seniors meet the first Wednesday of the month for a pot luck luncheon and to play bingo. Join in the fun! Meetings are at noon at the Thomas Township Public Safety Building, 8215 Shields Drive. Any questions please call the parks office at (989) 781-0151

SENIOR EUCHRE

Senior Euchre is the third Wednesday of every month except for July and August. Euchre beings at 1:00 p.m. at the Public Safety Building located at 8215 Shields Drive. The buy in is \$3.00 and goes towards the winnings! Thomas Township provides coffee, snacks and the cards.

WINTER FUN IN THE PARKS

SLEDDING

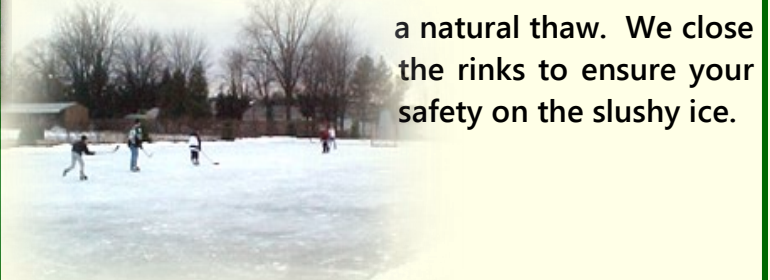
There is a lighted sled hill at Day Park on South River Road for your winter sledding FUN! Day Park is located on South River Road just north of Ronald Drive.



Day Park Lighted Sled Hill

ICE SKATING

There are two ice rinks in Community Park behind the Township Office buildings at 249 North Miller Road. Due to the unpredictable Michigan winter weather, and the fact that the temperature tends to climb during the day and fall at night, we cannot guarantee the quality of the ice. One rink is for hockey and one is for leisure skating. Please pay attention to the "Rink's are closed" signage if it is up. You will see the signs primarily after the rinks have been flooded and are not frozen solid or after a natural thaw. We close the rinks to ensure your safety on the slushy ice.



Thomas Township Ice Rink

These winter activities are not monitored by Township Staff, so parental supervision is mandatory for the safety of all participants.



Department of Public Works News

DPW Year in Review:

It is amazing how fast the year goes by. It seems like just yesterday, the spring flowers were blooming and now all of the leaves are gone. This time of year, we all seem to look back at ourselves and reminisce, so this article will highlight the efforts of the Department of Public Works over this past year.

Public Works operates and maintains the Township water distribution system that includes over 115 miles of water mains, 933 fire hydrants, 1,703 valves and services 4,756 residential, commercial, or industrial customers. From December 2016 through November 2017, we helped provide 838,089,000 gallons of water (or an average daily water use of 2,296,000 gallons per day). Over the past year, staff repaired or replaced 399 water meters, and added 25 new customers. And, your Public Works staff responded to 1,095 water related issues for the year that includes 186 "Check for Leaks" or follow-up requests, helping residents and business owners alike find the causes of high water uses through leaky fixtures and water services. These efforts saved those customers potentially thousands of dollars in wasted water use.

The Public Works staff also operates and maintains the sanitary sewer system that includes over 67 miles of sewer mains, 700 manhole structures and 15 sewage pumping stations that are located throughout the Township. The sewer system services 3,370 residential, commercial, or industrial customers. From December 2016 through November 2017, we discharged 402,490,000 gallons of sewage, or an average daily discharge of 1,103,000 gallons per day for treatment and disposal. Besides the maintenance and operation of the water and sewer system, staff also located 1,177 underground utility areas through the MISS DIG system.

Buildings and facilities generally fall within the responsibilities of the Public Works Department as well. This year staff performed landscape maintenance, painting and cleaning services to 7 different buildings or grounds including the Township's Owen Cemetery. We also inspected over 25 miles of sidewalk and

performed preventive maintenance on 26 sidewalk pads by removing tripping hazards. (These efforts saved residents and businesses the cost of having to replace the sidewalks at their expense). Public Works staff replaced the Gratiot Road Banners numerous times over the course of the year, and of course completed the Holiday decorations seen throughout the Township. A special shout out goes to our seasonal help this year that consisted of Mark, Dave and Noah. Without their hard work, Public Works would not have been able to accomplish the little extra things that make Thomas Township such a great place to live.

Transitions:

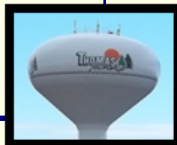
This year, we saw the departure of Alan Messing, Dan Flory and Brenda Pollard. All have taken positions elsewhere and are missed. But with those departures comes new faces. We welcome Tyler Branch, Jayson Graebner and Jerri Serocki to our staff.

In the Future:

What's coming up for next year? We are looking at completing some extensive sewer system maintenance and cleaning. We are planning to upgrade an aged sewage pumping station, and continue to install or update water meters under our water meter replacement program. Finally, your public works will continue to strive harder to provide the best possible service for the least cost possible. Thanks for your support and it is a pleasure to work for you. Rick, Jerri, Renee, Darold, Trevor, Darryl, Steve, Jayson, Tyler, Mark, and Dave.

Fire Hydrants need a little love too:

Fire hydrants are strategically located throughout the Township and are used in emergencies to combat fires of all sorts. With wintertime upon us, we ask that you help us keep snow away from any hydrant. Also, please do not plow snow against a fire hydrant as you are not only making it difficult to get to it in emergencies, you are likely damaging the water pipes connecting the hydrant to the water mains underground. You never know, the next time that hydrant is needed, it may be for your home.



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

Brush Drop Off Dates for 2018

Brush may be taken by the homeowner to the Township brush drop off site located at the northwest corner of Gleaner and Frost Roads. No stumps, leaves, grass or commercial brush will be accepted. The site will be open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Drop off Dates

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

May 5th and 19th

June 2nd, 16th and 30th

July 7th and 21st

August 11th and 25th

September 8th and 22nd

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

Yard Waste collection will begin again the first pick up of April, 2018