



**Thomas
Township Board of
Trustees**

Bob Weise
Supervisor

Vern Weber
Treasurer

Edward Brosofski
Clerk

Tom Radewahn
Trustee

Mike Thayer
Trustee

Ellen Ryder-Petre
Trustee

Chris Thompson
Trustee

Russell Taylor
Manager

Municipal Offices
249 North Miller Road
781-0150

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

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July 2012



TODAY

Maybe you haven't noticed, but our overall construction projects finally beginning to end!

As of June 15th, all of the steel construction for the elevated water storage tank has been completed. Painting and a little bit of piping, electrical work, and site-work remains to be completed. We expect the tower to be in service by Labor Day. When we place the new system on line, it will represent the culmination of many years of planning and hard work. Our next newsletter will be all about the tower, so stay tuned.....



Engineers rendering of the water tower once it is completed

We are currently in the clean up phase of the Gratiot Road sanitary sewer improvement, Graham Road improvements and the Great Lakes Technology Park development. These projects were built to provide the necessary infrastructure needed to help support development near the Graham and Gratiot Road corridors.

We have finished the Gratiot Road Water Main project. This improvement spanned nearly 7 miles and incorporated new water main installation on the south side of Gratiot Road from River Road to the new elevated tank site and provides for better water system redundancy, fire protection, and direct support to the water tower. This work will be highlighted in our next newsletter.

Public Works greatly appreciates your patience and cooperation during the last few years. We realize that there were many inconveniences to all of our residents, but without your help, we could not have accomplished these projects. Thanks and it is a pleasure to serve you.

*Rick Hopper,
Department of Public Works Director*

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FROM THE TREASURER-Online Payment System

We are happy to report that Thomas Township now offers residents the option to pay their utility bills, parks & recreation fees and property taxes on-line through our web-site. Customers are now able to use MasterCard, Visa, Discover and American express to pay fees and taxes. We are also accepting pin-less debit cards and electronic checks via the website. We are hoping to eventually offer this service in the office as well; however this will be sometime in the future.

This service is offered through Point & Pay. Point & Pay is a third party administrator that works for hundreds of communities throughout the State. A small convenience fee is charged by Point & Pay to administer this service to the residents. Utilizing Point & Pay for this service allows the Township to easily stay in compliance with federal banking regulations regarding the acceptance of credit/debit cards and electronic checks without using taxpayers' dollars to offer this convenient payment method to residents.

The convenience fees* are as follows:

Fee for non-tax payments

\$1-\$50 = \$1.50

\$51-\$100 = \$3.00

\$101 - \$200 = \$6.00

For each \$100 over \$200 = \$3.00/\$100

Fee for tax payments

Credit Card Tax Payments = 3%

Visa Debit Card Tax Payment = \$3.95

Electronic Checks for all payments \$3.65

The on-line payment options allow residents to pay their utility bills, recreation fees and taxes at their leisure without making a special trip to the Township offices or the mailbox. To date, the response to this service has been very positive and the Township is already seeing utilization of the on-line payment option.

Vern Weber
Treasurer

**The convenience charge is necessary due to the fact that the Township, as a Municipal Government can NOT absorb the fees for those residents that use this service.*

SUMMER TAX BILLS

***SUMMER TAX BILLS DUE
TO TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ON JULY 1.
ARE YOU ELIGIBLE TO
DEFER YOUR SUMMER TAXES?***

Summer tax bills should have arrived in mailboxes on or about July 1, 2012. They are due by September 14, 2012 to avoid penalties and interest. If you do not receive a summer tax statement, contact the Treasurer's office and request a copy. The Treasurer can be reached at 781-0150.

Select property owners may defer payment of the summer tax until the time that winter taxes are due if one of the following apply:

- The property is the homestead of persons 62 years of age or older, or the surviving spouse of a person who was 62 or older at death, with a household income below \$25,000 are eligible to apply for a deferral
- Persons with a disability that allows them to qualify for an extra personal exemption on the State income

tax form are also eligible for deferral.

- Property that is classified or used as agricultural property may qualify if the gross receipts of the farming operation are not less than the household income for the previous year.

Individuals who meet any of the above criteria for deferral must complete a form available thorough the Treasurer's office in order to receive the deferral. The deferral form must be completed each year **PRIOR TO OR ON SEPTEMBER 14, 2012**.

Deferral of summer taxes does not relieve the property owner from payment of the taxes, it only allows them to defer the payment until February 28, 2013 without penalties and interest.

If deferred, the summer tax amount due **will not** appear on your winter tax statement.

Vern Weber
Township Treasurer

2012 Thomas Township Parks and Recreation Guide

Thomas Township Parks and Recreation Commission Members and Staff

Scott Branch, Chairman, Angela Alworden,
 Craig Blower, Craig Monahan,
 Bryan Mrozinski, Ron Petre,
 Dean Rusch

Staff:
 John Corriveau, Director
 Randi Kutch, Secretary

Parks Office is open Monday thru Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone Number (989) 781-0151



2012 ROETHKE PARK DAY CAMPS

Camp Shirts are available for all camps for \$10.00

DAY CAMPS

There are still plenty of summer day camp sessions available for children ages 7-12. The Day Camp runs five days a week, Monday-Friday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm

July 16-20	Roethke Survivor
July 23-27	Chef for a Week
July 30-August 3	Boys vs Girls
August 13-17	Camp Roethke Got Talent
August 20-24	Solar Week

Fee: Resident \$110 Non Resident \$120

BEFORE & AFTER CAMP CARE MUST BE REGISTERED AND PAID IN ADVANCE FOR THIS SERVICE

Before & After camp care for parents who need to drop off or pick up their children before the scheduled camp time is available. A counselor will stay with any children if they need to be dropped off

early or stay late. Before & After Camp Care begins at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 5:30 p.m. There is a \$30 fee per week per child for this service. All children must be registered in advance for this service.

MINI CAMPS

One more session is available for children ages 4-6. The session runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This outdoor oriented day camp is fun and includes all the activities that Day Camp has to offer. All activities are geared to the age level of the children. There is a limit of 20 campers. Wednesday's are still cook-out days.

Session: August 8th-12th

Fee: Residents \$80 Non Residents \$90

POOL RENTAL

The pool can be rented in the evening after it closes to the public. Cost is \$70 for two hours. Monday-Thursday it is available to rent from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. On Friday, Saturday and Sunday it is available from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. or 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Many open dates are still available for birthday parties, or other family gatherings.

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.



SWIM LESSONS

Taught by certified water safety instructors according to the Red Cross Swim Program. Each session consists of eight lessons.

Fee: Resident	\$45.00
Non Resident	\$50.00

Level I: Water Exploration

Ages 4-6, an introduction to aquatic skills & water safety.

Second Session	July 9-20
Third Session	July 23-Aug 2
Four Session	Aug 6-16
9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.	
5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.	

Level II: Primary Skills

Ages 5-9 who have passed Level I or a skill test.

Working on basic strokes & aquatic safety.

Second Session	July 9-20
Third Session	July 23-Aug 2
Four Session	Aug 6-16
10:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.	
6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.	

Level III: Stroke Readiness

Ages 6-10 who have passed Level II or skills test.

Continue to work on strokes, water safety & diving skills.

Third Session	July 23-Aug 2
10:00 a.m. to 10:45 p.m.	
6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.	

Level IV: Stroke Development

Those who have passed Level III or skills test. Endurance & confidence in the various strokes.

Second Session	July 9-20
Four Session	Aug 6-16
10:00 a.m. to 10:45 p.m.	
6:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.	

Level V: Stroke Refinement

Must pass Level IV or skills test. Learn more advanced strokes, diving and water safety.

Third Session	July 23-Aug 2
9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.	
5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.	

Level VI: Personal Water Safety

Must pass Level V or a skills test. Endurance and confidence in all strokes.

Second Session	July 9-20
Four Session	Aug 6-16
9:00 a.m. to 9:45 a.m.	
5:00 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.	

POOL SCHEDULE

The pool is open for recreational swimming at various times throughout the week. The pool will be closing August 26th. Swim Sessions are as follows:

Monday-Thursday	11:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m. 2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.
Friday-Saturday-Sunday	Adult Lap 10:30-noon Noon-3:00 p.m. 3:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Fees for all sessions:

Individual	\$5.00
Individual All Day	\$10.00
Family per session	\$10.00

Season Passes:

Individual Resident	\$55.00
Individual Non Resident	\$75.00
Family Resident	\$80.00
Family Non Resident	\$110.00

\$20.00 extra on family passes for additional family members over 5. Season passes are available at the Township Office, 249 North Miller Road.

PICNIC IN THE PARK-CONCERT SERIES AT ROETHKE PARK

Many wonderful concerts are left this summer. Join us for a summer picnic and FREE concert at Roethke Park, for great music and many more special events on Tuesday's from 6:30-9:00 p.m. Rainouts will still be on Thursday of the same week.

July 10	The Country Reunion Band with Butch Heath
July 17	Brush Street with Julie
July 24	Trinidad
July 31	Still Rain
August 7	CEYX
August 14	The Rock Show
August 21	Laurie Middlebrook Band

JJ's Country Style Café is back this summer for all your concession needs.

MEN'S SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT

August 17-19 Roberts Challenge Softball Tournament Men's Slowpitch Softball.

Entry Fee \$200

All teams are guaranteed four games.

FALL AND WINTER PROGRAMMING

SOCcer LEAGUES

Registration for fall soccer leagues for boys and girls in grades Y5's-6 has begun and will run until August 26th. Games are played Saturday mornings. The season is six weeks in length and begins on September 15, 2012. All games will be played at the NEW Roberts Park Soccer Fields. Shin guards are required and as always, volunteer coaches are needed.

Fees: Residents \$40.00
Non Residents \$45.00

VOLLEYBALL LEAGUES

Sign up for fall volleyball leagues has begun for both Men's and Women's leagues . Participants must be 17 years of age or older. There is a team fee of \$100 as well as a player fee of \$10 per play-

er if you are a resident or \$15 per player for non-residents. Deadline to register is September 7, 2012 with games beginning on September 18, 2012. **LIMITED NUMBER OF TEAMS ALLOWED.**

2012 HAUNTED TRAIN RIDE AT ROETHKE PARK

October 19th-20th and 26th-27th

2012 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TRAIN!

Come ride the train and see lighted scenes created by local businesses and individuals who love Christmas lights! If you are interested in volunteering to help with this event please call the Park Office at 781-0150.

November 30th-December 1st and 7th-8th, 2012

DOG'S IN THE PARK

Thomas Township parks have always been a great place to walk your dog, but keep in mind that State law and township ordinance requires your dog to be on a leash at all times.

For everyone's enjoyment, please pick up after your dog as well.

ROBERTS PARK-NEW PAVILIONS



Blue roofed pavilion has been built with Donations from the Shields Kiwanis.



The green roofed pavilion has been built with funds from the Thomas Township Business Association.

THOMAS TOWNSHIP ARCHERY PROGRAM

Thomas Township has added some new programs. We are Archery now able to do 3D animal target shooting. With a grant from through the Easton Foundation, we received \$5,000 in new equipment, which included six 3D targets, 8 Mathews ready to hunt compound bows, cross bows and lots of other items. Our Beginner/Advanced and Explore Bow Hunting classes have been amazing, and we look forward to growing what we offer each year. Working together with Saginaw Field and Stream Conservation Club, we have become a leader in youth archery in the State. Call the Parks Office to find out when our next session starts!



ABSENT VOTER BALLOTS ARE AVAILABLE

The August 7, 2012 Primary Election is fast approaching, and AV Ballots are available if you need one. Please call the Thomas Township Clerk's office at (989) 781-0150 to obtain your application for an AV Ballot.

The August election is a PRIMARY ELECTION. Remember, you CAN NOT vote for candidates from two different parties in this election.

POLLING LOCATIONS

All polling locations are open for the August 7, 2012 Primary Election. If you do not know where you vote, feel free to call us or visit the State of Michigan's Voter Information Center online at:

<https://webapps.sos.state.mi.us/mivote/>

You can even view a sample ballot specific to your precinct at this website.

*Ed Brosofski
Township Clerk*

POLICE NEWS

HOME FIRE WORKS

Once again the State Legislature has given us a new law with little or no input and even less guidance as to how to control the mess we have been left with. I am talking about the new "Fireworks Law" that recently took effect.

The new law specifically states that no municipality or County shall pass an ordinance that is more restrictive than the State Law. Hence, for the ten enumerated holidays, the day before and the day after each of these holidays, these new fireworks cannot be outlawed.

This does not mean however that existing ordinances such as Thomas Township's "Noise Abatement Ordinance" cannot be enforced. During the holiday celebrations, such as Independence Day, we would ask that people be patient and allow a reasonable time for this activity during the sunset and early darkness hours. All other days the local ordinance sets a time of 10:00 PM as the legal limit.

As with any activity, we ask that residents be respectful of their neighbors. Some people work very early day shifts, others have pets that become very frightened to the point of needing tranquilization and with the tinder dry conditions there is always a chance for fire. Please, be respectful, smart and have a safe and enjoyable summer.

*Steve Kocsis
Chief of Police*



"Meet Your Neighbor"

We hope you enjoy this new special section of our quarterly newsletter. Our intention is to highlight the lives of some of our residents, people who live next door to all of us. The residents of our community are the key to what makes Thomas Township such a great place to live. We thought it would be fun for them to share their stories with everyone. So with that introduction, our thanks to Mr. Joe McDonald for being willing to be our first attempt.

Few people know that right here in Thomas Township we have a resident who has first place finishes in six Masters Championships for speed skating through 2005. Along with this, he broke four records in Hamar, Norway in 2002 and four more records in Helsinki, Finland at the 15th annual Masters International Speed Skating Games in 2006. All of these achievements while in his 80's! I personally had the distinct honor of meeting and talking with him and would like to share some of his story.

Joe McDonald, a Saginaw native began ice skating back in the 1930's. At a time when television did not exist and kids still played outdoors, Hoyt Park was the place to be. Here was the beginning of his love for the sport of speed skating. In 1933, McDonald competed in his first speed skating race held at the park. His first race was not a success. At that time, skates clamped on and as one of them fell off at the start of the race, McDonald had to finish the race pushing forward on just one skate. But this did not stop him. In 1937, he went on to win the 220-yard, 440-yard, 880-yard, mile and two mile races at the Saginaw meet. In 1939, he won six titles in outdoor events and even competed and won state titles for indoor skating events in Michigan.

At Lake Placid, N.Y. in 1939, Joe was a winner again, setting a one minute and sixteen second time in the half-mile race that still stands as an outdoor world record.

Joe graduated from St. Andrews in 1940. Plans were made for him to begin training with the Olympic team but reality proved otherwise. When the war came, skating ended, at least for that time period. He served his country as a fighter pilot and flew 103 missions in the southwest Pacific.

Returning to the ice in 1956, Mr. McDonald became the coach of the Saginaw Transfer speed skating team. Some of his most memorable experiences at this time was locating ice to practice on. Behind what was then the National Biscuit Company, they dumped their hot water from production. Since it was only maybe a foot deep it froze first. Giving Joe and the Transfer a place to train. As Joe said "we just had to be careful that all the guys didn't stand together in one place and they kept moving. The ice was so thin they'd go right through and then no more ice." Most often he coached the team before school started on Day's Pond. For health reasons, he stopped coaching in the 1960's. But he was told that exercise could help improve his condition. He continued to

skate and rode a bicycle, something he had always done when in training to skate. It was around this time that he took up roller blading and continued the sport for about fifteen years.

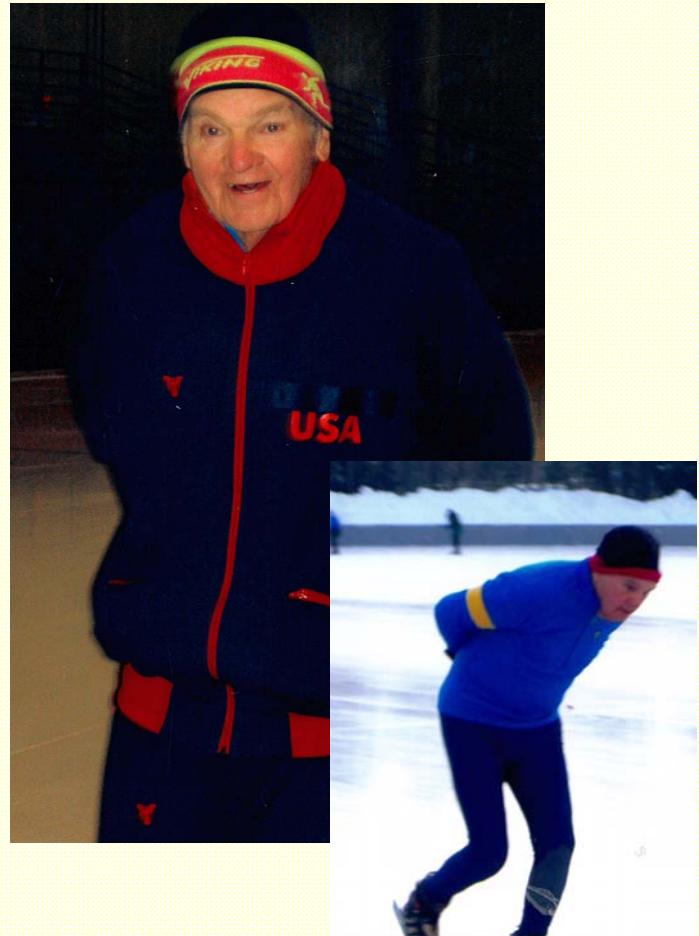
He made his return to competitive skating, in the age 70-79 year bracket winning the 300, 800, 1,000, 1,500, 3,000, and 5,000 meter races at the 1995 Masters International Open held in Quebec. Then came the record he set in his 80's. It was so impressive that the Masters International was actually ready to open a division for 90 year olds if Joe would be willing to participate. He opted not to.

McDonald has been married to his wife Bonnie for 70 years. She has also won a national championship in speed skating and used to share Joe's passion for skating until an ankle injury in her 50's ended her skating. They have nine children, 35 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Together they raised six state skating champs.

In the fall of 2011, Joe McDonald was inducted into the Saginaw County Sports Hall of Fame, a fitting honor for such a great athlete.

He still skates three times a week in Midland and looks forward to the possibility of ice skating coming back to Hoyt Park where he'd gladly skate again.

Connie Watt
Community Development Department



FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

The Thomas Township Fire Department held its annual awards dinner at Swan Valley Country Club. The awards dinner is a way of saying thank you to all the Fire Fighters and their spouses for the time they sacrifice to serve the residents of our community. This past year, our Fire Department responded to 653 calls for help from our residents. Aside from responding to these calls, every Fire Fighter attends several more hours weekly at training to keep up with their skills so they know what to do when they are called into action. All Fire Fighters attend two trainings a month which typically last 2-3 hours. The officers who lead this force invest more than two to three hours more a month completing their assignments. All of this is done because our Fire Fighters care and serve with passion. Please remember these are the same people who reside throughout our neighborhoods. They all work regular jobs, have families and hobbies and yet make the extra time to serve. Thomas Township Fire Department's Command Officers are: Assistant Chief's Lyle Cousins and Joseph Giacoletti, Captain David Sommers, Lieutenants Brian Leach and Brandon Rossi, Fire Inspector Thomas Arn, Safety Officer John Wunderle, Training Officer Ryan Ludwick and Crew Leaders Craig Simon and Mike Fabish.

We recognized some new members joining our department; Nicholas Chad, Tim Gray, Casey Cichowski and Derek Nikolai. We recognized member Jacob Lounsbury who is serving in the Military and is assigned to Afghanistan.

At our Awards Ceremony several of our members were credited for having "saves". This means a person who was either not breathing or had no heart beat and we brought life back to them by our life saving measures. Those receiving awards for saving lives were; Lyle Cousins, Joe Giacoletti, John Giacoletti, Jason Grandy, David Grimsley, Dominic Georgen, Jean Harken, Brandon Rossi, Gary Salo Craig Simon, and David Sommers.

Service pins were also presented to those reaching their five year mile stones. This year pins went to Mike Fabish, Dave Grimsley and Jim Grove. Lt. Brian Leach was awarded his 10 year service pin and Rodney Romain received his 35 year pin.

The citation of Merit recipients are selected by the officers from each station. For Station 1, Ryan Ludwick was selected. Ryan serves as the Department Training Officer and for his passion in this area along with many hours he has devoted into providing quality trainings, he was recognized. At Station 2, David Grimsley was selected. Dave has served since November of 2006. Dave was selected for his participation and dedication. Dave is a Licensed Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and is Firefighter II certified. Dave was recognized for his 8th save since joining the Department. One of his saves was on his wife Susan who since has succumbed to her illness.

The highlight of this event is the Fire Fighter of the year award. This award is selected by the Fire Fighters themselves. They selected the person they feel is deserving and has demonstrated themselves in an exemplary manner. Words spoken from some of the Fire Fighters nomination about this year's recipient include; "turned over a new leaf, improved attitude, offered to help many Fire Fighters out this past year". The person receiving this award was **John Giacoletti** who joined the department in July 2004. John is an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and has achieved Firefighter I & II. John has helped with fire prevention programs the last two years.

I wish to THANK ALL the members of the Fire Department for their dedication to our residents. We truly could not do this without all of your help and support.

*Michael Cousins
Fire Chief*



Fire Chief Mike Cousins and Fire Fighter of the Year
John Giacoletti

WATER POWERED SUMP PUMPS

Over this past spring, we have had a number of questions-even heard some horror stories-regarding sump pumps. Because of that, this article will provide a few pointers regarding sump and back up sump pump systems.

Let's start with some basics:

Your sump pump will fail when you need it the most..... If you think there is not enough water running into your sump crock and there should be more...you are probably right. Most building contractors or licensed plumbers can help you determine if your footing drain system is operating correctly. Though it may cost you a little money to investigate or troubleshoot your drainage system, it is well worth the cost in peace of mind, and it is cheap insurance against the damages due to flooding.

The float that turns your pump on and off must be able to freely move up and down to operate your pump properly. Routinely check and activate the float switch by hand to make sure it travels freely and the pump switch actually works.

Most submersible pump motors use the surrounding water to keep it cool as it runs. If you routinely operate your pump that exposes the motor to the air, you will shorten the life span of that motor. Simply adjust the float to ensure the proper off point for your pump by carefully following the manufacturer's instructions.

The pump should always be kept under water, or "wet". Water serves as a lubricant, and keeps the rotating parts from seizing or freezing up. Again, by referring to the manufacturer's instructions and making sure that the pump is covered at all times, you will lessen the likelihood of failure when you need your pump most.

Some pumps are not submersible and use motors that are not designed to be under water. Always check the name plate on the motor and the manufacturer's instructions. If you are not sure, contact a licensed plumber to make sure the sump pump is correctly and safely installed before plugging it in.

Battery Backup pumps rely on stored battery power to run and can be purchased as an entire kit from virtually every home improvement chain or through a licensed plumber. Typically, the battery is continually recharged through a charger plugged into your standard home power outlet. When you have electric power to the home the system will recharge. When you lose power, the charged battery will run the backup pump. The pros to this type of system are that if installed correctly and according to the manufacturer's instructions, the battery is almost always recharged and ready to go. If you run out of battery power, you can easily replace it with a fresh one fairly quickly. The cons to this type of system are that battery contains a limited amount of power and unless recharged, loses the capability to operate the pump. You may not be aware of the discharged battery state until you begin to flood unless you frequently check your sump for proper operation.

Water powered sump pumps work on an entirely different principal called "eduction". An eduction system uses a continuous water flow through a restricted orifice to form a siphon action. That siphon action pumps water from

the sump crock. It typically takes 1 gallon of city water to remove 2 gallons from your sump crock. Utilizing the normal water system pressures, this type of pump can operate for as long as you have water service.

The pros to this type of backup system are that a water powered sump pump requires no battery, no power, and has no moving parts. As long as you still get water from your municipality, the water powered sump pump will be able to pump water out of your home.

The cons to this type of system are that it can be much more expensive and inefficient to operate over long periods of time. You will be charged for your water use, (and in most cases the sewer use also). This can result in extremely high water bills.

Because you have to connect to the home's water system, you create a potential back siphon to the water system, increasing the possibility of contaminating your water. Because you need pressure to operate the water powered pump, you may have to restrict your water use in your home to maintain adequate water pressure to the pump system.

And that brings us full circle to our few words of wisdom.

Backup pump systems are just that, a backup. You should not rely on your backup system any longer than necessary.

Routine, visible checks should be completed on your primary and backup pump system often. See, hear, touch, and run your systems frequently because we should always remember rule #1—"Your sump pump will fail when you need it the most".

Make sure you always follow the pump manufacturer's installation and operating instructions.

If you have a battery backup system, remember to monitor the pump over extended periods of running time. If power has been out for a long time, you may need change out the battery. You may not have any indication the pump is not running because the battery has been discharged from use.

If you have water powered backup system, you will need 1 gallon of city water to pump 2 gallons from your sump. An electrical sump pump can pump on average 4,000 gallons per hour and cost pennies to operate. Under the current water and sewer rates, those costs can jump to more than \$7.25 to pump the same amount of water.

If your home is serviced with municipal sewer services, you may consider having an additional water meter installed specifically for your irrigation and water powered sump pump needs. Water registered through this additional meter would not be subject to sewer fees. Contact us at 989-781-1050 for additional information.

Consider investing in a water sensing alarm. These devices mount close to the floor and send a very loud, audible alarm warning you of the presence of water. These are battery operated units and are quite inexpensive. They can be found at any home improvement store and are very easy to install.

If you are leaving your home for extended periods of time on vacation or such, ask your neighbor or a relative to check your basement frequently. Especially after the ground thaws, or after a big rain event.

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

BRUSH SITE DATES FOR 2012

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. on the following dates: July 14 & 28, Aug 11 & 25, Sept 15, 22 & 29, Oct 6, 13, 20 & 27.

ODD DAY & EVEN DAY OUTDOOR WATERING RESTRICTIONS BEGIN

June 1, 2012 begins another outdoor watering season, and with it comes the annual odd day or even day watering schedule. It's easy to remember, if your address is even, you may water outdoors on even days, if your address is odd, you are allowed to water on odd days. By alternating watering days, we help to control the demands on the water supply system. In turn, this means that all of us benefit by not having to pay for extra costly improvements that would not be needed otherwise. This program will continue through August 31, 2012.

Yard Waste pick-up will begin again April 6, 2012 and run through November 24, 2012