

UPCOMING PROJECTS

The City of Tawas City has several projects that will take place over the next year or so. We are excited about these projects but understand that they can cause temporary disruptions in the neighborhoods where they are happening. We appreciate your patience during our projects and ask that you contact City Hall at (989) 362-8688 or info@tawascity.org if you have any problems with or concerns regarding the improvements.

Street Resurfacing: The following sections of streets are planned to be resurfaced in 2022 and 2023 –

- Fourth Street from the city limit to Sixth Avenue
- Eleventh Avenue from Fifth Street to Fourth Street
- Tenth Avenue from Fifth Street to the dead end

Storm Drain Repairs: The following sections of streets are planned to have repairs to storm drains –

- First Street between Harris Avenue and Twelfth Avenue
- Third Avenue between North and First Streets

Bridge Repairs: Bids for the reconstruction of the First Street bridge are due in February and construction is expected to start when weather allows in the spring. There may be times that the bridge will be temporarily closed, and traffic will be rerouted to ensure safety for the travelers and workers while the work is being done.

Waterfront Parks: The rehabilitation of the pier in Shoreline Park was completed August 2021 and



includes boat slips for day docking. Please watch for updates on regulations for use of the boat slips.

In the spring we will be working with Schaaf & Associates Construction, Inc. to repair shoreline damage along Town Square and Gateway Park. This will include restoring a portion of the decking and railing along Lake Huron and the Tawas River in Gateway Park that was damaged in 2019.

GET INVOLVED IN YOUR COMMUNITY!

Have you ever thought about getting involved in your local government and being a part of making decisions that will have a lasting impact on the City's future? If so, perhaps you should consider running for the City Council! On November 8, 2022, registered voters of the City of Tawas City will be electing three councilmembers for four-year terms and one for a two-year term, and one mayor for a two-year term. To be eligible to be on the ballot, you must pick up a Nominating Petition at City Hall and return it to the City Clerk with a minimum of ten (10) signatures of registered voters in the City of Tawas City, and an Affidavit of Identity no later than 4:00 pm on Tuesday, April 19, 2022. If more than twice the number of open seats is filed for any of the offices, a Primary Election will be held in August to narrow the field of candidates for the November General Election. Successful candidates will take office on January 1, 2023. Please consider serving the residents of Tawas City as it can be one of the most rewarding experiences of your life!

Tawas City is also looking for interested individuals to serve on the Board of Review. Please contact us for more information!

2022 ELECTION INFORMATION

The State Primary Election will take place August 2, 2022 and the State General Election will take place November 8, 2022. Both elections will take place in the Council Chamber at Tawas City Hall. Polls are open from 7am to 8pm. Please bring photo identification with you if you have one.

Proposal 18-3 allows any registered voter in Michigan to vote by absentee ballot for any reason. If you are interested in receiving an absentee ballot for the August 2 Michigan Primary Election, or any elections thereafter, please contact City Hall at (989) 362-8688 or the City Clerk at clerk@tawascity.org to request your absentee ballot application. You will have the opportunity to request to be placed on a permanent Absentee Voter list so applications for future elections will be mailed to you automatically. Eligible residents are now able to register to vote at City Hall right up to and on the day of an election. You will have to show proof of identity and residency in Tawas City to register.

ZONING PERMITS

Please remember that the City of Tawas City is a zoned community, and you need a zoning permit for any construction including, but not limited to, decks, pools, fences, sheds, garages, additions, houses, etc. or tearing down any structures regardless of size. Permits and guidelines are available at City Hall or online at tawascity.org. Incomplete permits will delay approval, so please be sure to allow yourself enough time to get all the necessary information and for the Zoning Administrator to review and approve the application.

Any commercial permits must be approved by the Planning Commission which meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Plans must be submitted by Noon on the Wednesday preceding the meeting to be included on the agenda. If a site plan review is required, you will need to submit at least three weeks prior to a meeting to allow time for review.

TAWAS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Tawas City Police Department, located at 1175 West Lake Street, has officially been operating for just over one year. The department consists of Chief Matthew Klosowski-Lorenz, Sergeant Jeremy Danizewski, Officer Branden Kirby, and part-time officers Douglas Jordan, Allan MacGregor, and Robert Blair. Tawas City is also sponsoring Cadet Ray Bruning in the Police Academy; Ray will train with our officers when he isn't in the academy and will join us full-time upon graduation. We're excited to bring this new department to our residents and businesses!

2023-2027 PARKS AND RECREATION PLAN SURVEY

The Tawas City Planning Commission is in the process of updating the City's Parks and Recreation Plan. As a member of our community, we would like your input regarding our facilities and the amenities that we currently offer, as well as your ideas for the future. Please take the time to complete this questionnaire by typing the link below into your web browser or by scanning the QR Code. Your responses will be considered by the Planning Commission and will help direct the course of developments in the City over the next several years. If you have any questions or would like more information on the Parks and Recreation Plan, please feel free to contact City Hall at (989) 362-8688 or info@tawascity.org. We value your input about the future of the City of Tawas City!



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FMSLQ8Q>

MONITORING LEAD AND COPPER IN DRINKING WATER AND CROSS CONNECTION INSPECTIONS

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy Drinking Water and Development Health Division ensures that drinking water from public water systems meets water quality standards for lead and copper. Public water systems are required to perform routine water quality testing to ensure that the water they are providing their customers meets state and federal standards. The Michigan Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) requires community water systems and non-transient, non-community water systems to collect first-draw samples from water taps in homes or buildings that may be or are at an elevated risk of lead or copper contamination (taking into account the presence of lead or copper pipes and fixtures, and the use of lead in the pipe solder used to connect lead or copper pipes). Selecting these higher-risk sites is a more effective method of targeting sampling locations that may pose a greater risk to public health, as opposed to the approach of selecting monitoring sites based solely on geographic distribution across a water system's service area.

The purpose of the LCR is to protect public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water. Lead and copper are primarily introduced to drinking water through corrosion of plumbing materials that contain lead and copper.

In 2015 the Tawas City Council approved changes to the City's Cross Connections Inspection Program, which helps to protect our public water system. The changes incorporated regulations from the State to include inspections of residential users once every 10 years. The City has been divided into 10 sections to help with scheduling the inspections. When it's your turn, the Water Department will send you a letter asking you to schedule a time for an inspection that will generally take less than 15 minutes.

What is a cross connection? A cross-connection occurs when a pipe designed to carry safe drinking water is connected at some point to a pipe containing unsafe water or other material. You may not think of your home as having such hazards, but if you have a hose that is submerged in a pool, car wash bucket, bathtub, or laundry sink, or if you have a pesticide sprayer connected to a garden hose, you've created a cross-connection. If a water main breaks, the potential exists for unsafe substances to be siphoned back into the water supply which could contaminate the drinking supply for many.

How will I know what is found during the inspection? A Tawas City employee will be completing

a form which will be given to the property owner/occupant when the inspection is complete. The form will show if you're in compliance and what correction(s) may need to be made, if any, to protect your house from possible cross-connections. The Tawas City staff will help identify appropriate actions for compliance.

What is the cost to the property owner? The initial home inspection is provided by Tawas City at no cost. The property owner is responsible for having the proper devices installed for compliance. For an average single-family home, if the owner installs these backflow prevention devices themselves, their cost should be less than \$60. If any corrections need to be made after the initial inspection and a re-inspection is required, Tawas City will also perform this re-inspection at no charge.

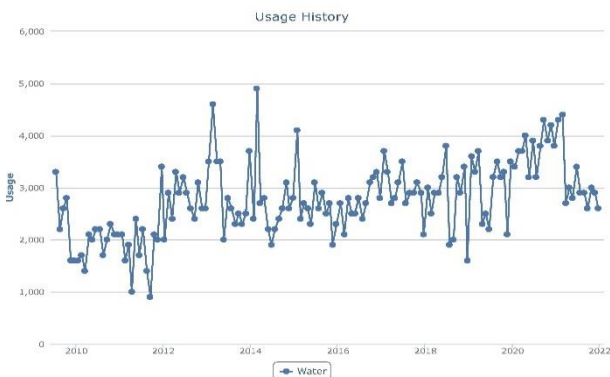
How many Cross Connection Inspections have been completed to date? As of December 31, 2021, there have been 365 homes inspected.

ANNUAL HYDRANT FLUSHING

The Department of Public Works flushes the hydrants in the City in the spring and fall every year. Hydrant flushing is necessary to test the hydrants to make sure adequate flow and pressure is available. Flushing is also done to remove sediment from the pipes to maintain water clarity and quality in the distribution pipes. Keeping your water safe to drink is a priority! Occasionally water becomes discolored after hydrant flushing. If this happens, run your cold water tap for a few minutes until the water clears. If it doesn't clear the first time, wait a few minutes and then run the water again. While you should avoid washing clothes until the water clears, the water is safe to drink through this process.

NEW FEATURE IN BS&A ONLINE

Now you can view your water usage history and usage history chart!



Visit the Utility Billing page under Departments on TawasCity.org and click the link for information regarding taxes, assessing, and utility billing to view your account information.

TAWAS CITY FIRE DEPARTMENT AND DIVE TEAM

During the months of April and May, the Tawas City Firefighters were called out to five structure fires, all within the city limits. We responded along with and worked side-by-side with the newly established Tawas City Police Department which certainly benefited our entire community. Fortunately, no deaths or injuries occurred at these house fires, but I highly encourage that everyone practice basic fire safety and **teach children a plan in case of a fire**. This includes teaching techniques such as "stop, drop, and roll," staying under smoke, and feeling doors for heat before opening them. It is also imperative that everyone have an evacuation plan and a meeting place where family members can go when they escape from a fire. These and many other fire safety tips can be found online.

During the year we endured a large amount of major wind events that produced wind gusts more than 40-50 mph that caused power outages and down powerlines. These created an unsafe environment throughout our coverage area and required the need for our fire crews to block off roads and walkways with our fire equipment resources and fire personnel.

This year Tawas City brought a new emergency service to the area with the creation of our new Water Rescue and Underwater Dive Team. As private donations came in from businesses and local citizens along with a portion of the City's budget, we were able to start the process of purchasing dive equipment and begin the necessary dive training for 11 personnel. This takes many hours of certified training regarding basic dive skills and advanced/specialized rescue dive training, along with many hours of continuing training.

As we graciously hope for continuing funding and donations, we will apply for grant funding to purchase a water rescue boat. This watercraft will be an important addition to our water emergency service. If all goes as planned, we should be able to provide full service starting in the spring of 2022. Thanks to everyone, both businesses and citizens of the Tawas City area, for providing the current donations and continuing with any future support!



The Tawas City Fire Department is fully staffed by 26 people and includes Firefighters, Medical First Responders, a Dive Team, and two high school Cadets.

I M P O R T A N T D A T E S

2022

Mar 16 Board of Review
9a-noon and 1p-4p at City Hall

17 Board of Review
1p-4p and 6p-9p at City Hall

Apr 15 Good Friday
City Hall closed

19 City Council nominating petitions due

May 2 regular compost pickup begins

30 Memorial Day
City departments closed
garbage pickup will be on Wednesday

Jul 1 Summer 2022 property taxes mailed

4 Independence Day
City departments closed

20 Board of Review
9am at City Hall

Aug 2 Primary Election
polls open 7a-8p at City Hall

Sep 5 Labor Day
City departments closed
garbage pickup will be on Wednesday

2022

Sep 30 Summer 2022 property taxes due

Nov 7 regular compost pickup ends

8 General Election
Polls open 7a-8p at City Hall

24-25 Thanksgiving Holiday
City departments closed

Dec 1 Winter 2022 property taxes mailed

14 Board of Review
9am at City Hall

23 Christmas Eve Holiday
City departments closed

26 Christmas Day Holiday
City departments closed

30 New Year's Eve Holiday
City departments closed

2023

Jan 2 New Year's Day Holiday
City departments closed

Feb 14 Winter 2022 property taxes due

20 Presidents' Day
City departments closed

✂ Cut out the above information and keep it on your refrigerator for easy access to these important dates! ✂

Visit our website tawascity.org for more information about City services.

Proud of our past. Confident in our future.