



East Bay Charter Township Newsletter

1965 N Three Mile Rd, Traverse City, MI 49696 (231) 947-8647 / FAX: (231) 922-2094 www.eastbaytwp.org

Township Hours Monday—Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Closed on Friday



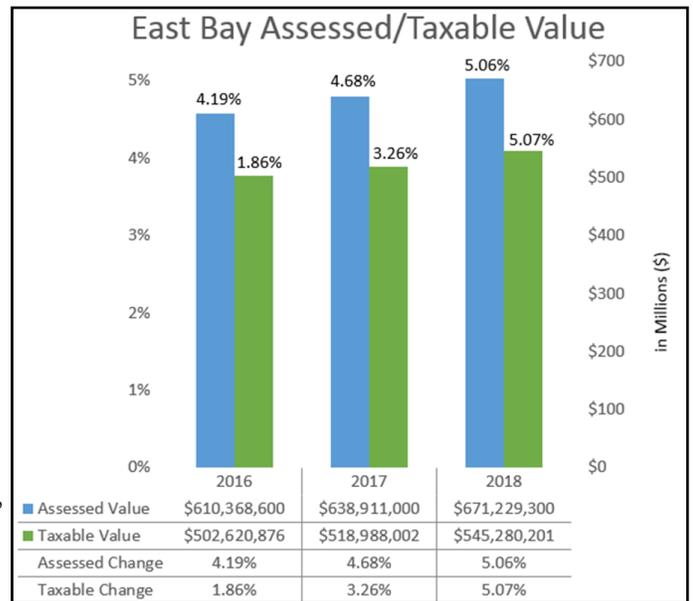
Coffee with a Cop

You are invited to share a cup of coffee and conversation with East Bay Charter Township's Community Police Officers. Deputies Preston Taylor (pictured left) and Matt McKinley (pictured right) are committed to building relationships with East Bay residents and businesses. Stop and visit with them both on **July 17** at Oleson's grocery store, starting at 9 a.m. When you say hi, just remember they prefer to be called PT and Matt!

Residential Market Values...

Unless you happen to be buying or selling a property recently, many people may not be aware of the significant upturn in the local real estate market. In recent years, values in East Bay Township and the surrounding area have steadily increased. During 2018, the Traverse Area Association of Realtors released the average sale price for East Bay Township residential properties is \$214,561, showing an increase from \$211,495 in 2017 and \$204,660 in 2016. Please see the attached chart illustrating some of the market conditions.

It is important to remember that while market values are higher, taxes on most existing homes are still capped by Proposal A at the inflation rate (2.1% for 2018).

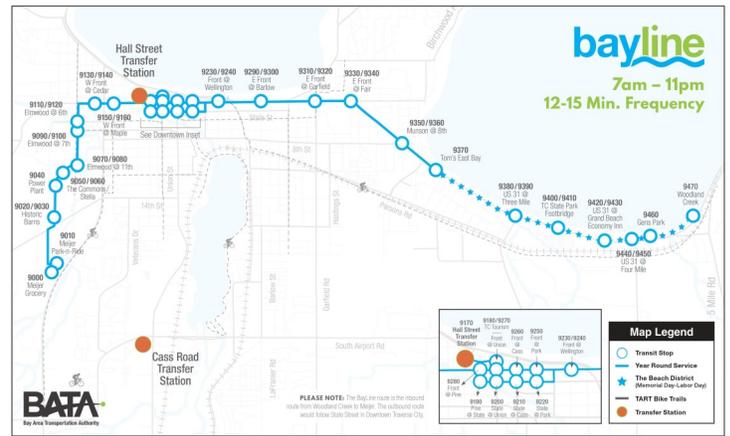


The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) manages the *National Flood Insurance Program* (NFIP). East Bay Charter Township has been a NFIP participating community since the mid-1980's. To date, East Bay Charter Township is designated as a *Non-Special Flood Hazard Area* which means the area is a moderate-to-low risk flood zone and had yet to be mapped. However, some structures within the area could still be at risk and the township's participation in the NFIP allows property owners to purchase flood insurance if they anticipate a risk of flooding. Only renters, homeowners, and business owners that have property in a "participating community" are eligible to purchase flood insurance. FEMA has updated the maps in our area as part of the *Map Modernization Initiative*. To

enable East Bay Charter Township to continue participation, Ordinance 2018-1 and Resolution 2018-05 were passed on May 14, 2018. These documents are required by FEMA and coordinate the administration and enforcement with the Township, Grand Traverse County Construction Code Division, and FEMA. Please visit eastbaytwp.org to view the new maps and fema.gov/national-flood-insurance-program.

BATA Launches New Bayline Bus Route

Starting June 25, 2018 residents and visitors in East Bay Township's Beach District can hop on BATA's new Bayline bus route and ride free directly to and from downtown Traverse City. This new route will operate from 7 a.m. – 11 p.m. seven days a week and buses will run about every 15 minutes for minimal wait time. In addition to the expanded hours and increased frequency, people can ride the Bayline for free. This is made possible by sponsorship support from local organizations including East Bay Township's Beach District. The Bayline will connect both the east and west side of town from Meijer on Division to Tom's Food Markets East Bay location with key stops in between such as NMC and Munson. Through Labor Day the Bayline will extend all the way to Woodland Creek Furniture to incorporate all the businesses along that stretch of US-31. During the Cherry and Film Festivals the Bayline will operate until 1 a.m. Beach District bus stops will have Bayline themed Adirondack chairs at each stop and the Bayline buses will be equipped with free wi-fi for riders. Route and schedule information will be available through Google Maps and the Transit app available in the Apple and Google Play stores. The Bayline route was requested by the community and designed to help reduce traffic congestion, free up parking and provide more frequent transportation that runs later into the evening on a regular basis. More information on the Bayline can be found at www.bata.net or by calling BATA Customer Service at 231-941-2324.



Summer – The Season of Celebrations

It's hard to believe, but winter finally made its departure. Summer is finally here and that's when us "Northerners" come out of hiding and celebrate, giving us any reason to hold a celebration: graduations, birthdays, family reunions, 4th of July, a t-ball game or the neighbor bought a new grill! Any reason to hold a BBQ, make a cake or get the gang together is a reason to put a celebration in motion!

Have you ever noticed that *celebrations* and *fire* often go hand-in-hand? Think about it... candles on a cake, fireworks display for the neighborhood, sparklers on the 4th, sky lanterns to commemorate a significant memory or event, camp fires to create new memories. While these moments may signify special moments in our lives, it's important that we recognize the dangers that fire can pose and take precautions to ensure the safety of everyone involved.

Here are a few reminders to help safeguard your summer celebrations:

- **Matches and lighters** are adult "tools" and should be **out of reach/sight** of children, the same goes for candles.
- **Recreational campfires** are allowed (with no permit) in established fire rings, portable outdoor fireplaces or other containment device. Fire must be kept to a maximum size of 3 feet around and less than 2 feet high. Also, be sure to keep a minimum of 25 feet from any structure, adjoining property and combustible substances. Smores anyone?
- The release of **sky lanterns is prohibited**. There are many other lovely ways to commemorate an event.
- Whether propane or charcoal, save the **grilling for outdoors**. Keep grills away from the house, deck railings, eaves and branches. Keep children and pets a **minimum of 3' away** and never leave your grill unattended. Also, a clean grill is a safer grill. We'll be looking for everyone's favorite grilling recipe on GT Metro's Facebook page this summer!
- There are numerous area public **fireworks displays** that are quite spectacular – **leave it to the experts** of these events and enjoy their show instead of holding your own. Remember that fireworks are only permitted the day prior, the day of and the day following a holiday.
- While **sparklers** can make for lively photos, those little sticks can reach **3000°F!** Non-toxic glow sticks can be a fun alternative for kids!

We are always prepared to manage your emergency, but we would much rather help you to prevent them. Have a summer full of safe celebrating!

Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority, 231-947-3000

2018 Grand Traverse County Road Commission Projects located in East Bay Charter Township



- Hammond Road, 3 Mile Road to High Lake Road: Chip Seal
- Three Mile Road, Garfield Road to south of Smith Road: Overlay
- Three Mile Road, south of Smith Road to Hammond Road: Chip Seal
- Four Mile Road, N. Arbutus Lake Road to Potter Road: Chip Seal
- High Lake Road: Wedge & Chip Seal
- Potter Road
 - 3 Mile Road to 4 Mile Road: Wedge & Chip Seal
 - Garfield to 3 Mile Road: Wedge (2018) & Chip Seal (2019 or later)
- Special Assessment Districts:
 - Canterbury Woods
 - English Woods

New Website

East Bay Charter Township is excited to announce the launch our new website. Check out the new fresh design with added features at eastbaytwp.org. The home page has the latest township news and a calendar of events which is updated frequently. Would you like to be notified by email or text of upcoming township meetings? Give the new enotify option a try. Click the blue enotify tab on the home page and subscribe for notifications.



2018 Election News

The next scheduled Election is the State Primary Tuesday, August 7, 2018. The General Election takes place Tuesday, November 6, 2018. We are excited to go into this year's Election cycle with new equipment. Many jurisdictions in the State rolled out the equipment last fall or in May of this year and the feedback from both voters and administrators has been very positive.

We so appreciate the community members who work as Election Inspectors for East Bay Township. They are trained every two years and will have extra opportunities to see and train with the new equipment. If you think you may be interested in becoming an Election Inspector please contact the clerk's office. We welcome new faces to work alongside our seasoned inspectors.

East Bay Township does maintain a Permanent Absentee Voter List. Residents on this list receive an application for an Absent Voter Ballot prior to each election. Once the completed form is returned to the clerks' office, stating the acceptable reason for request, a ballot is sent to that registered voter. If you are age 60 or older, or otherwise qualify, and would like to be placed on the list to receive an Absentee Ballot Application for every election please return the form below. If you are already on our list there is no need to reapply.

State law requires first time voters who registered by mail, web, voter registration drive, or other type of event to visit their clerk's office or Secretary of State's branch office and show their State issued photo ID in order to remove the "Verify ID" statement from their voter record and receive the ability to receive an absentee ballot by mail. Without completing this action, you will need to vote in person on the day of the election.

Students who are registered voters and heading out of the area to attend school should consider using an Absent Voter Ballot application, visit your clerks' office before you go.

If you have any questions do not hesitate to reach out to Sue or Helen at the township office. 231-946-8647, 231-947-3503 or email scourtade@eastbaytwp.org, or hmacarthur@eastbaytwp.org

Yes! I would like to sign up to receive Permanent Absent Voter Applications

Name _____ Signature _____

Address _____

Please return to:

1965 N Three Mile Rd.

Traverse City MI 49696



Keep your eye on the parks as they are spruced up during the season! The Parks Commission and Building & Grounds Keeper Bob Burns are working together to offer quality, fun, and functional park settings for a variety of needs. You'll notice repainted grills, basketball hoops, resurfacing & cleaning of courts, additional picnic tables and seating. Please visit eastbaytwp.org for a map of the parks.

A quiet place to read and enjoy East Grand Traverse Bay.....Gen's Park

A fun place to play with the kids.....Grace Macdonald Park

A family picnic with something for everyone.....Arbutus No. 5

A nature trail enjoyable for a beginner or seasoned hiker.....Killingsworth Park

A family friendly neighborhood park.....Pine Grove Park

Do you have questions about Invasive Species?

The Northwest Michigan Invasive Species Network (ISN) is a collaboration of over 40 highly motivated and respected organizations in the region. ISN's mission is to protect, enhance, and promote northwest Michigan's natural communities through terrestrial invasive plant management and outreach. ISN services include:

- Invasive/native plant expertise
- Presentations and class field trips
- Invasive plant management
- Recommended Planting Guidelines and ordinance templates for municipalities
- Outreach materials (brochures, signs, and boot brush stations)
- Recognition through *Go Beyond Beauty* for gardeners, groups, and businesses that don't use or sell highly invasive plants



For more information about ISN, their projects, and invasive species, please visit their website at habitatmatters.org

Torn or Worn American Flag?

East Bay Township Hall is a collection site for American Flags which need to be disposed of properly. Drop any torn or worn flag, during business hours, to be assured of proper disposal.

Staff Directory (231) 947-8647

Supervisor	Beth Friend	bfriend@eastbaytwp.org
Office Administrator	Val Hendges	vhendges@eastbaytwp.org
Clerk/Deputy Clerk	Susanne Courtade/Helen MacArthur	scourtade@eastbaytwp.org/hmacarthur@eastbaytwp.org
Treasurer/Deputy Treasurer	Tracey Bartlett/Deb Hamilton	tbartlett@eastbaytwp.org/dhamilton@eastbaytwp.org
Planner	Rick Brown	rbrown@eastbaytwp.org
Zoning Administrator	Leslie Couturier	lcouturier@eastbaytwp.org
Assessors	Susan Karakos/Russ Casselman	skarakos@grandtraverse.org/rcasselm@grandtraverse.org
Building/Grounds	Bob Burns	rburns@eastbaytwp.org

NON-EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Ambulance: East Bay Township EMS-9A @ 947-0299
 Fire: Grand Traverse Metro Emergency Services Authority (GT Metro) @ 947-3000
 Police: East Bay Township Community Police Officers @ 947-3631 or
 Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office @ 995-5000



East Bay Charter Township Accepts Passport Applications

U.S. citizens planning international travel may apply for their passports Monday – Thursday, 7:00 am – 5:00 pm, and by appointment on Friday or Saturday at the Township Office, 1965 N. Three Mile Rd. For application forms, information on documentation required, fees and other passport and international travel information, visit travel.state.gov.

East Bay Branch Library Hours

Tuesday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Wednesday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Friday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., CLOSED Sundays and Mondays.