



Welcome to...  
**Saginaw  
Charter  
Township**

FALL 2015

## Saginaw Township Fire Department Obtains Grant from Walmart

Fire Prevention and Education Officer Brian Wolpert has been working with the Store Manager of the Brockway Walmart Store # 2644, Sal Garcia, for a couple of years on several projects involving fire prevention. The most recent was a request to purchase a Sparky costume through the Walmart grant program, which encourages Walmart stores to be involved in the community they serve. Brian and Sal met several times discussing and writing the grant. In June, the Saginaw Township Fire Department (STFD) was notified that they secured a \$2,500 grant to purchase Sparky.

The STFD is dedicated in providing quality programs to all age groups. Last year, the fire department put on 439 fire prevention and educational programs reaching over 7,000 people. Brian will use Sparky in many future programs. Both Brian and Sal deserve a sincere thank you for their hard work and continued effort to make Saginaw Township a safe community.



## Manager's Word



Last month, changes went into effect that impact the way citizens can submit Freedom of Information Act requests to local, county, and state governments. These changes are designed to make access to information easier and more affordable. In Saginaw Township, we have

always sought to do this without a mandate from the State.

The Township provides a great deal of information online ([www.saginawtownship.org](http://www.saginawtownship.org)). Our website contains lists of frequently asked questions, permits and applications, the zoning and general ordinances, along with a link to the Saginaw Area's Geographic Information Authority ([www.sagagis.org](http://www.sagagis.org)). However, our employees take great pride in talking to residents in person. Each of our departments are willing to work with residents to provide access to the records they need. For example, if you are looking to purchase a new home or remodel your existing home, your first stop should be to the Office of Community Development. This department has a property file for each parcel in the Township. If you own a home, this file will contain a copy of its building permit. If you want to

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# Saginaw Township Employee Organizes Food Drive



Garry Davis is a Saginaw Township resident. He has worked for Saginaw Charter Township for 33 years. He works as Crew Leader for the Department of Public Services. Garry served 3 years in Turkey as a Communication Specialist in the U.S. Army. He is actively involved with the “I Support the 1%” organization. “I Support the 1%” is a group of concerned citizens who have become aware of the economic hardships suffered by many of the military members stationed in our area. Because they are called to leave home at a moment’s notice, many find their jobs taken by others when they return. Many have a hard time finding gainful employment due to the poor economic reality of this area. Many are homeless, are tormented by memories of the battles they were in, and have difficulty readjusting to civilian life. Because of this, this non-profit has banded together to provide relief to our local active duty and veteran members among us. **The significance of the 1% is that less than 1% of our population defends the rest.**

Garry has organized two upcoming Food Drives. Please come out and

support those who have fought or are currently fighting for our country.

- **Fill a Truck Food Drive** – September 11, bring any non-perishable foods and personal necessities to Kroger (4672 State Street) from 7 a.m. – 6 p.m. Kroger will be selling hot dogs, chips and pop with all proceeds going to “I Support the 1%.”

- **200 Turkeys for 200 Vets Food Drive** – November 11 at Kroger on State Street (Time TBD). Aldi will sell turkeys at cost that day only. In addition, they are looking for any food items to make a Thanksgiving meal for a family in need: stuffing, potatoes, gravy, cranberries, etc.

If you are unable to make it to one of these food drives, the “I Support the 1%” Food Bank/Pantry is located at the Harry Browne Airport, 4821 Janes Road in Buena Vista Township. This facility provides privacy for veterans and active duty military to seek food and personal necessities, while maintaining their dignity.

## STORM WATER RESTRICTION PLATES / CATCH BASINS

In 1986, communities within Saginaw County experienced significant rain falls and flooding that resulted in basement backups and property damage throughout the entire County. A majority of the residential and commercial property damage occurred due to surface flooding and excessive storm water entering the sanitary sewer system causing surcharging and basement backups. **Please note:** In combined sewer systems, such as Saginaw Charter Township’s Weiss Street and Center Road Sewer Districts, the storm water from the streets and parking lots share the same sanitary sewer lines that service both residential and commercial properties. During significant rain events, the storm water entering the collection system within these sewer districts can result in surcharging and potential sewer backups.

As a proactive measure following the historical flood event of 1986, the Saginaw Charter Township Department of Public Services (DPS) developed and

implemented a storm water restriction program within the Weiss Street and Center Road Combined Sewer Districts. The program involved the installation of approximately 2000 restriction plates in all of the storm water collection basins and inlets within each district. The intent of the restriction plates is to detain or limit the volume of storm water runoff from entering the combined sewer system at any given time. This process provides additional time for the collection system to dewater properly alleviating surcharging and potential basement backups. DPS personnel provide for the inspection, cleaning, and replacement of restriction plates annually.

Although the ponding of storm water in front of your home or business can sometimes be an inconvenience, it is a sign that the restriction plates are performing correctly. If you notice a missing restriction plate in front of your home or business, please contact the Department of Public Services at 989-791-9870.



Grate before restriction plate.



Restriction plate.



Grate with restriction plate installed.

## Manager’s Word

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construct an addition to your home, the Community Development Department can help guide you through the process.

Saginaw Township governmental offices have a wealth of information. Our Department of Public Services may be able to help you with the location of your sanitary sewer lead or point you in the right direction when a drain at the road is clogged. The Assessing Department can answer questions as to how your property is valued and taxed. If you want to register to vote or review the minutes of the last five board meetings or the board meeting minutes from 15 years ago - that information is available at the Clerk’s Office.

Please take time to review our website. I am interested in identifying information that is useful to our residents, but not yet posted on the website. Your suggestions are welcomed. I can be reached by phone at 989-791-9800 or email at [rgrose@saginawtownship.net](mailto:rgrose@saginawtownship.net).





# Saginaw Township Recreation Department

Summer has ended, students are heading back to school and Saginaw Township Recreation has shifted gears to our fall schedule. Fall is a great time to get involved in the various activities we have to offer for all ages! Here are programs that we have to offer this fall:

## Youth Programs

### GIRLS VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

This league is an introduction to volleyball and will focus on developing skills involving passing, serving and overall comprehension. Leagues will be split 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade. This league is designed to be fun and teach the fundamentals of volleyball. Registration will be open through September 16. An 8 game season will begin in September.

### CENTER COURTS PLAYGROUP

Help establish your child's large motor skills by participating in this playgroup! Work with your child's running, jumping, throwing & catching. Develop social skills & meet new friends! Playgroup meets Tuesday and Thursday mornings at Center Courts from 10:00-11:00 a.m.

### MUSIC FOR MUNCHKINS

Musical fun for you and your child! This program will have your child singing, dancing, using rhythm instruments and much more. Enjoy educational, traditional and silly songs! Fall sessions will be held Wednesday evenings from 5:45-6:30 p.m., Friday mornings from 9:00-9:45 a.m. or 10:00-10:45 a.m.

### YOUTH BASKETBALL

Registration for boys and girls 1<sup>st</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade basketball will be held October 1-29. This program is designed to be fun and teach the fundamentals of basketball. There will be separate leagues for boys and girls and they will also be broken down by grade level. A 10 game season will be played on Saturday's beginning in December.

## Adult Programs

### FALL COED SOFTBALL

Registration for Fall Coed Softball will be held through September 4. Games will be played on Sunday afternoons beginning September 13. League consists of a 7 game season plus a post season tournament.

### FALL VOLLEYBALL

Registration is open through September 4 for Women's Power, Women's Recreational and Coed Volleyball Leagues. The 7 game schedule will begin in September. Leagues will be offered on Monday or Wednesday nights.

### MEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

The Flag Football League plays on Sunday afternoon's beginning in September. Registration for this 8 player league will be open through September 4.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

Registration for Men's Basketball will be held October 5 - November 6. The season will begin in early December with a 10 game schedule and a post season tournament.

### SENIOR BASKETBALL

Stop into Center Courts and get your game on! This league is for those 50 & Over who want to keep their game sharp in a non-competitive atmosphere. Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-10:00 a.m. beginning October 13.

### YOGA CLASSES

Calm your mind, ease your spirit, relax your soul. Yoga helps to raise your consciousness, improve your circulation and flexibility, and has an all-around toning effect on your body. We offer several 6 week classes for beginners or advanced levels.

### DANCING FOR FITNESS

This low impact fitness program features easy and fun dance routines, line dancing, the mambo and more for the 50 & Over crowd. This class meets for 6 weeks every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at Center Courts.

### ZUMBA

Ditch the workout and join the party! This class features high energy Latin inspired music with moves that create a dynamic workout! Classes held at Center Courts every Tuesday & Thursday from 6:45-7:45 p.m.

## Special Events

Saginaw Township Recreation will host the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Halloween Coed Softball Tournament on Saturday, October 24 at Olson Park. The tournament is double elimination and costumes are encouraged. Don't miss out on a great time! Registration open through Thursday, October 15, 2015.

For more information on any of these programs contact Saginaw Township Recreation at 989-791-9860 or contact us on the web at: [www.saginawtownship.org](http://www.saginawtownship.org)

# Home Safety Tips While Away on Vacation

A vacation, a weekend away, or a business trip should be a pleasant experience for you and your family. You can make each trip more enjoyable and worry free if you take a few easy steps to reduce the possibility of your home being targeted by criminals.

### BEFORE LEAVING

Make arrangements with your mail and newspaper carriers to suspend their deliveries, while you are away, or have a trusting neighbor pick up these items for you. Ask a trusted neighbor to freely use your driveway

to park one of their vehicles, if they want, while you are away. Arrange to have your grass cut or snow plowed while you are gone. Remove any valuable items, such as lawn furniture, ladders, tools, lawn mowers, etc., from your yard and secure

them in a shed or garage. These are some simple steps that will give your home the appearance that someone is there and reduces the likelihood of a burglary.

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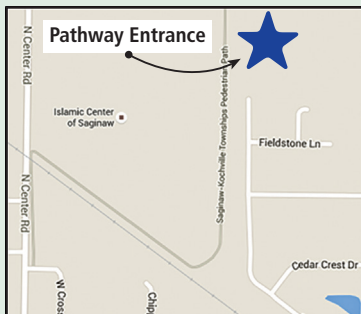




## Saginaw Charter Township

4980 Shattuck Road  
 P.O. Box 6400  
 Saginaw, MI 48608-6400  
 Phone: 989-791-9800  
 Fax: 989-791-9815  
 www.saginawtownship.org  
 Business Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## Pathway Rules & Guidelines



1. The pathway should only be used during daylight hours. If you have to use a flashlight to walk and see, it is too dark.
2. Trash should be thrown in the appropriate receptacle.
3. Do not trespass on others' property. The homes near the pathway belong to your neighbors, be respectful and mindful of their space.
4. The pathway is for pedestrian and cyclist use only. No motorized vehicles are allowed.
5. Pets must be on leashes at all times when walking. Always remember to clean up after your pets.

## TOWNSHIP CONTACTS

Assessing	791-9810
Clerk's Office	791-9830
Community Development	791-9865
Department of Public Services	791-9870
Fire Department	792-9691
Fiscal Services	791-9820
Manager/Supervisor	791-9800
Parks and Recreation	791-9860
Police Department	793-2310
Treasurer	791-9840
Water Department	791-9880

# Saginaw Township Residents & Open Burning

Fall is the time of year we like to get out, clean up our yards and get ready for winter. For some, part of that fall cleanup ritual is gathering and burning the material we find in the yard, or maybe using it to have a small campfire. Please be aware that Saginaw Township has adopted an open burning ordinance that allows minimal open burning with restrictions. Burning is a privilege and should be treated as such, be aware of smoke that could be a nuisance to your neighbors. There are alternatives to open burning such as curbside pickup of brush and yard waste, and a brush site is available to Saginaw Township residents on scheduled days at their facility at 5790 West Michigan.

If you must burn, a permit is required to conduct all open burning, excluding cooking fires contained in a barbecue pit, fireplace, barbecue grill, smoker or other receptacle specifically designed for cooking food over an open fire, or for small recreational fires contained within a pit or approved burning container or receptacle. Recreational fires shall not be conducted within 15 feet of any structure and are not intended for continuous, all day use. Recreational fires shall be in an approved burning container or receptacle specifically manufactured and sold for recreation-

al burning or in a pit that does not exceed three feet in diameter and two feet above ground level. Open burning that will be offensive or objectionable to area residents because of smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited and your permit will be revoked.



**Saginaw Township has adopted an open burning ordinance that allows minimal open burning with restrictions.**

Open burning of leaves, yard waste, ditch banks, household rubbish, tires, building materials, paper products or any product other than clean wood is prohibited. Open burning on land other than property occupied by a one and/or two family dwelling is prohibited. Renters/occupants must have written consent from the homeowner to obtain a permit. Open burning, bonfires or recreational fires shall be constantly attended until the

fire is extinguished. Burning shall be during daylight hours only, and open burning, bonfires and recreational fires shall be extinguished not later than 11:00 p.m. Burning is not permitted if winds exceed ten miles per hour and a responsible adult at least eighteen years of age shall be present at all times until extinguished ashes are cold. On-site fire-extinguishing equipment, such as dirt, sand, water barrel, garden hose or water truck, shall be available for immediate utilization. Open burning for clearing land is prohibited.

## Safety Tips CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

### DAY OF DEPARTURE

Ensure that all doors and windows are securely locked. Place the heat or air conditioner on a reasonable setting to ensure that pipes wouldn't freeze and appliances stay in working order. Set a light timer in a room of your home that typically has people in it at night in order to give your home a sense of activity.

The Saginaw Township Police Department conducts House Checks for residents that go on vacation. Each day, officers are given updated lists of houses to be checked, within their respective patrol districts. During their shifts, officers attempt to check each house on that list to ensure

that the home is secure and all is ok. Call the Saginaw Township Police Department at 989-793-2310 to make arrangements for officers to check your residence while you are away. You'll be asked to leave an emergency contact number for yourself, as well as a local contact of someone who will be able to respond to your home, if a problem is found.

Neighborhood Watch Groups are excellent ways to keep extra sets of concerned eyes on your home while you are away. If you are interested in a neighborhood watch group, but do not currently have one in your neighborhood, you should first speak with neighbors to see if additional interest exists. If so, contact the Saginaw Township Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at 989-791-7210 to speak with your area Crime Prevention Officer.

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