



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

WINTER 2015

Tips to Protect Yourself This Winter and Holiday Season

Shoplifting Prevention -

Everyone is always so busy and in a rush to get their Christmas shopping done. When you are out shopping, please remember to always be aware of your surroundings, and keep your belongings in your hands. Don't set down purses, cell phones, or bags while becoming distracted when looking at something in a store. A thief can pick up your purse, cell phone or shopping bags and be gone before you ever realize anything is missing. If you plan to do a great deal of shopping, it's a good practice to return to your vehicle with some of your bags and lock them in your trunk or out of sight. Double check that you have locked your vehicle before walking away.

Lock Garage Doors -

Make sure your garage door is closed even during the day. Thieves drive through neighborhoods looking for open garages - especially ones that have snow blowers or any other easily accessible items sitting in them.

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SUPERVISOR'S CORNER

Giving Thanks



The holiday season is a special time for us to be thankful for all the blessings we have received this year and an opportunity for us to look forward with optimism to the New Year. My wife,

Judi, and I have so much to be thankful for including our daughters, their husbands, and our five active and joyful grandchildren. Having celebrated a wonderful Thanksgiving together, we look forward to enjoying the rest of the holiday season.

As a child growing up in the city of Saginaw, I always enjoyed riding past city hall and the waterworks with my mom and dad and seeing all the beautiful lights. I want our children to have those special memories, so we decorate our township administrative offices as well as Zavel Library, Center Courts, and our three fire stations. Three of our Department of Public Services employees dedicate themselves to this project every year. They do a wonderful job in making sure everything is ready for us to enjoy.

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Home Fires

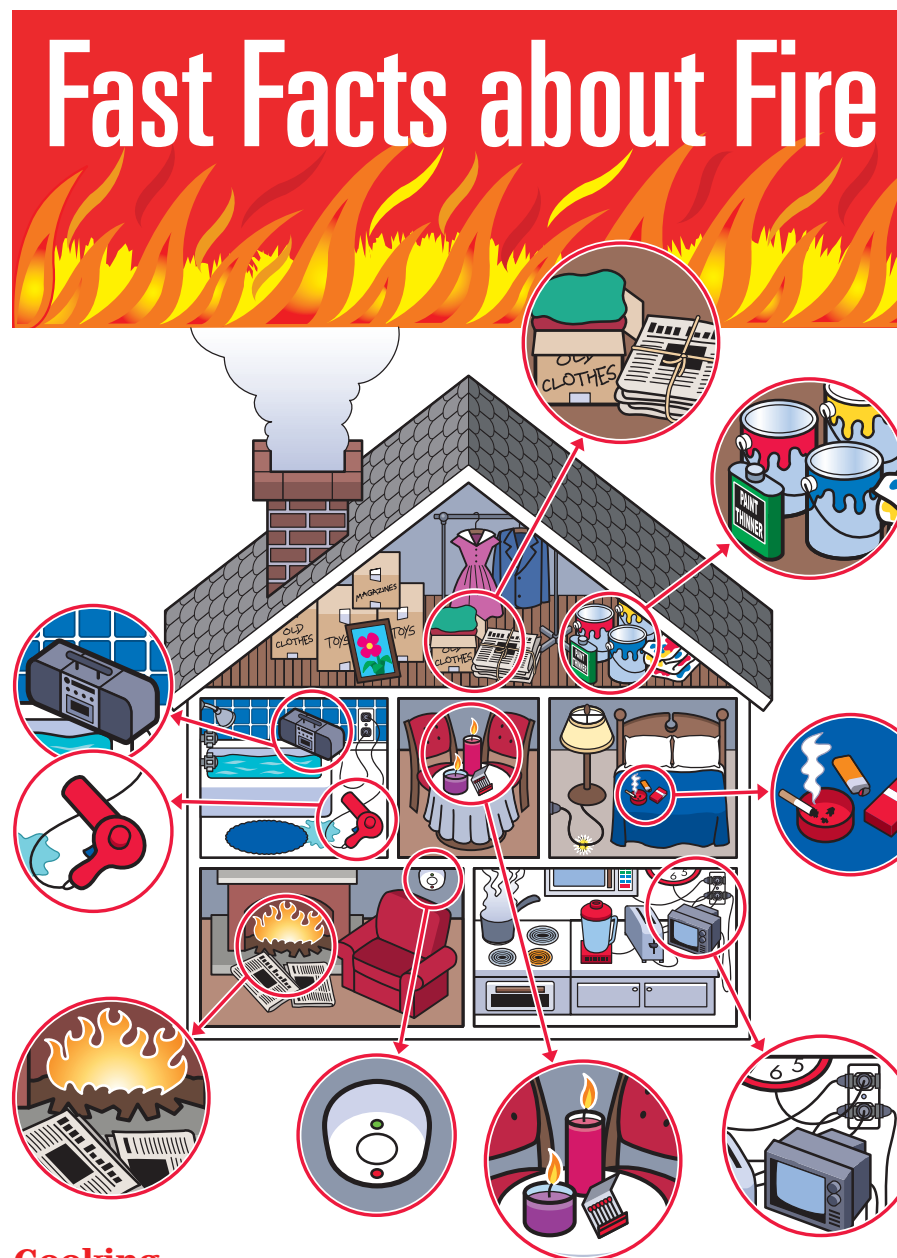
- In 2011, U.S. fire departments responded to 370,000 home structure fires. These fires caused 13,910 civilian injuries, 2,520 civilian deaths, \$6.9 billion in direct damage.
- On average, seven people died in U.S. home fires per day from 2007 to 2011.
- Cooking is the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries, followed by heating equipment.
- Smoking is a leading cause of civilian home fire deaths.
- Most fatal fires kill one or two people. In 2012, eight home fires killed five or more people resulting in a total of 44 deaths.

Smoke Alarms

- Almost three of five (60%) of reported home fire deaths in 2007 to 2011 resulted from fires in homes with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms.
- Working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half.
- In fires considered large enough to activate the smoke alarm, hard-wired alarms operated 93% of the time, while battery powered alarms operated only 79% of the time.
- When the smoke alarms fail to operate, it is usually because batteries are missing, disconnected, or dead.
- An ionization smoke alarm is generally more responsive to flaming fires and a photoelectric smoke alarm is generally more responsive to smoldering fires. For the best protection, or where extra time is needed, to awaken or assist others, both types of alarms, or combination ionization and photoelectric alarms are recommended.

Escape Planning

- According to a National Fire Protection Association survey, only one-third of Americans have both developed and practiced a home fire escape plan.
- Almost three-quarters of Americans do have an escape plan; however, more than half never practiced it.
- One-third (32%) of respondents who made an estimate thought they would have at least 6 minutes before a fire in their home would become life threatening. The time available is often less. Only 8% said their first thought on hearing a smoke alarm would be to get out!



Cooking

- U.S. Fire Departments responded to an estimated annual average of 156,600 cooking-related fires between 2007-2011, resulting in 400 civilian deaths, 5,080 civilian injuries and \$853 million in direct damage.
- Two of every five home fires started in the kitchen.
- Unattended cooking was a factor in 34% of reported home cooking fires.
- Two-thirds of home cooking fires started with ignition of food or other cooking materials.
- Ranges accounted for the 57% of home cooking fire incidents. Ovens accounted for 16%.
- Children under five face a higher risk of non-fire burns associated with cooking and hot food and drinks than being burned in a cooking fire.

- Microwave ovens are one of the leading home products associated with scald burn injuries not related to fires. According to the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System, two out of five of the microwave oven injuries seen at emergency rooms in 2001 were scald burns.
- Clothing was the item first ignited in less than 1% of home cooking fires, but these incidents accounted for 15% of the cooking fire deaths.

Heating

- The leading factor contribution to heating equipment fires was failure to clean, principally creosote from solid fueled heating equipment, primarily chimneys.
- Portable or fixed space heaters, including wood stoves, were involved

in one-third (33%) of home heating fires and four out of five (81%) home heating deaths.

- Half of home heating fire deaths resulted from fires caused by heating equipment too close to things that can burn, such as upholstered furniture, clothing, mattresses or bedding.
- In most years, heating equipment is the second leading cause of home fires, fire deaths, and fire injuries.
- Fixed or portable space heaters are involved in about 4 out of 5 heating fire deaths.

Smoking Materials

- During 2007-2011 smoking materials caused an estimated 17,900 home structure fires, resulting in 580 deaths, 1,280 injuries and \$509 million in direct property damage per year.
- Sleep was a factor in 31% of the home smoking material fire deaths.
- Possible alcohol impairment was a factor in one in five (18%) of home smoking fire deaths.
- In recent years, Canada and the United States have required that all cigarettes sold must be "fire safe," that is have reduced ignition strength and less likely to start fires.

Electrical

- About one half (48%) of home electrical fires involve electrical distribution or lighting equipment. Other leading types of equipment were washer or dryer, fan, portable or stationary space heater, air conditioning equipment, water heater and range.
- Electrical failure or malfunctions cause an average of almost 48,000 home fires per year, resulting in roughly 450 deaths and nearly \$1.5 billion in direct property damage.

Candles

- During 2007-2011, candles caused 3% of home fires, 4% of home fire deaths, 7% of home fire injuries and 6% of direct property damage from home fires.
- On average, there are 32 home candle fires reported per day.
- More than one-third of these fires (36%) started in the bedroom; however, the candle industry found that only 13% of candle users burn candles in the bedroom most often.
- Nearly three in five candle fires (56%) start when things that can burn are too close to the candle. ❄️

Saginaw Township Recreation Department



It's time to think about how you and your family are going to stay active during the long winter months. Saginaw Township Recreation and Center Courts have a number of programs for everyone in the family! Here are just a few of the many great classes and programs that we have to offer. Stop in and sign up today!

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 5th/6th and 7th/8th grade. This league is designed to be fun and teach the fundamentals of volleyball. Registration will be held January 4 – February 5, 2016. An 8 game season will begin in February.

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! Sessions will be held Wednesday evenings from 5:45-6:30 p.m. or Friday mornings from 9:00-9:45 a.m. or 10:00-10:45 a.m.

9th-12th GRADE BASKETBALL

Registration for the 9th-12th Grade Basketball League will be held through December 18, 2015. This will be individual registration only and teams will be formed by a draft. A 10 game schedule will begin in January.

7th & 8th GRADE BOYS & GIRLS BASKETBALL

Early registration for the 7th-8th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball Leagues will be held January 4-15, 2016. There will be separate leagues for boys & girls. Teams will be formed by draft and a 10 game schedule will begin at the end of February.

5th-8th GRADE BOYS LACROSSE

This league is open to players of all skill levels! Focus will be on skill development, teaching the rules of the game and team work. Registration will be held January 19 – February 12, 2016. Season will be held March – May. Limited equipment is available.

ADULT PROGRAMS

VOLLEYBALL

Registration for the Women's Power, Women's Recreational and Coed Volleyball Leagues will be held January 11 – February 3, 2016. A 7 game schedule will begin in February. Leagues will be offered on Monday or Wednesday nights.

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.

CIRCUIT TRAINING

Circuit training combines cardiovascular fitness and resistance training. Benefits include increased muscular strength, increased muscular endurance and improved body composition. Classes held every Wednesday at Center Courts January 6 - 27 from 6:45-7:45 p.m.

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 night from 6:45-7:45 p.m.

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

Supervisor's Corner

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I hope all of you have plans to spend some special time with your family and loved ones this holiday season. Give them a special gift this year. Show them how much happiness and joy they bring to your life, and tell them how much you love them.

As we look forward to the New Year, let's continue to be thankful for all our blessings. ❄️

Christmas Trees and Holiday Trash

Live (or what was once live) Christmas trees are collected as trash at the curb the first three weeks in January during your normal trash pick-up. All decorations and lights must be removed. Also keep in mind that the Christmas and New Year's Holidays should not impact your trash pick-up as the holidays fall at the end of the week. Pick-up in Saginaw Township is Monday (south of Weiss Street) and Tuesday (north of Weiss Street). ❄️

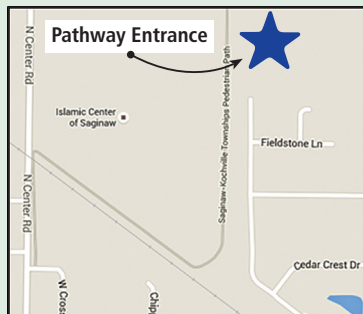




Saginaw Charter Township

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

Clerk's Office News

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY 2016

The first election scheduled for 2016 is the Presidential Primary, which will be held on Tuesday, March 8. It has been designated as a "closed primary," which means voters must choose either a Republican or Democratic ballot.



If you are new to the Township or just turned 18 and have not registered to vote, the deadline for this election is Monday, February 8 at 4:00 p.m. You may register at any Secretary of State Office or at the Saginaw Township Clerk's Office.

Do you need an absentee ballot?

If you are expected to be absent from the community, or are 60 years of age or older, you may apply for an absentee voter ballot. Visit the link below to fill out an application or visit the Saginaw Township Clerk's Office.

http://www.michigan.gov/documents/AbsentVoterBallot_105377_7.pdf

The other elections scheduled in 2016 are the Primary on Tuesday, August 2 and the General Election on Tuesday, November 8. ❄

LICENSE RENEWALS FOR 2016

On Wednesday, December 30, the Clerk's Office will send out Business License Renewals and Rental Business License Renewals. There are approximately 1,700 businesses and over 500 rental businesses in Saginaw Township. These licenses provide the Township with emergency contact information, along with the type of business and the addresses of the rentals. ❄

Safety tips

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Don't forget to keep the small entry door locked, also. If you park your vehicles in the driveway overnight, make sure to lock them, as well.

Travel Notifications -

If you plan to leave your home vacant for a week-end or more, please contact the Saginaw Township Police Department at (989) 793-2310. Ask to be put onto the "House Check List". Officers will give your address a little extra attention until you get back home.

Phone and Computer Scams -

There is a never-ending number of complaints received by the police department regarding phone and computer scams. The recent phone scams include "The IRS", "Publisher's Clearing House" or that a grandchild is being detained out of the country. Another one that comes up before the holidays is the "Mystery Shopper". These are all scams! No matter how convincing the person on the other end of the line is, DO NOT GIVE OUT ANY INFORMATION - DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY. Remember: If it sounds too good to be true, it is. If you get a voice mail, delete it. Don't call the number back - you may end

up calling out of the United States. If you answer the phone and find yourself talking with a fast-talking scammer, asking too many questions, tell them that you are not interested and hang up. Popular computer scams are when messages pop up on the computer screen advising that your software is in need of updating. You are asked to give them access to your computer. When you do this, all of your personal information is stolen.

Winter Driving -

In Michigan, you can go to bed with clear skies and wake in the morning to several inches of snow on the ground. Always be prepared for unpredicted weather. It seems like the first snowfall of the winter always causes some problems - drivers forget how to use their winter driving skills. SLOW DOWN. Remember to leave plenty of space between you and the vehicle in front of you. Keep your windshield and back window clear of snow or ice. Give snowplow drivers plenty of room to plow and salt/sand the roads. Keep an emergency kit in the vehicle including a blanket, flashlight, shovel, tow rope, bag of sand or cat litter for traction, and don't forget some snacks that store well. And of course, always wear your seatbelt and NEVER text while you are driving. These are just a few (hopefully) helpful tips, but always remember to use common sense. ❄

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