



Open Line

a newsletter for you, our residents

Help build the Library's collection with Request It!

The Auburn Public Library is excited to share the "Request It!" service that empowers patrons to broaden the library's collection according to their interests. Through this initiative, community members can request that the library purchase or borrow materials they want but don't see on the shelves.

What the service offers:

- Patrons may submit requests for items such as books, large print titles, audiobooks, DVDs, Blu-Rays or other media types.
- The form allows users to specify the intended audience (Kids, Teens, Adults), title, author/director, performer, release date, ISBN, URL and any additional information that helps locate the item.
- If the requested title cannot be purchased, the library will explore interlibrary loan options to fulfill the patron's request.
- For eBooks and eAudiobooks, patrons are encouraged to submit requests via the library's digital platform — the CloudLibrary app — so that holds can be placed directly.

How can you participate? Visit auburnal.gov/library, complete the online form with as much detail as possible and submit your request. Please include as much clear information as possible so our library staff can locate and assess the requested item efficiently.



Jump into January with Parks & Rec

Auburn Parks and Recreation has something for everyone in 2026!

Kick off the new year with **Fit Week**, Jan. 5-11, at the Lake Wilmore Park Recreation Center, Frank Brown Recreation Center and Boykin Community Center. Auburn residents can enjoy a free week-long membership trial with access to select fitness classes included. Registration is required.

Art lovers! Don't miss the **Micro Gallery Exhibition** on display through Jan. 8 at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. The 2026 **Juried Photography Biennial** will follow from Jan. 15-Feb. 26.

Make a splash for a great cause at the 14th annual **Polar Plunge** on Jan. 24 at 9 a.m. at Samford Pool. Participants are encouraged to raise funds in support of Lee County Special Olympics. Registration is \$25 per person, and early registrants are guaranteed a T-shirt.

Don't forget, **spring season registration** is underway! Baseball, softball, T-ball and youth soccer registration closes on Jan. 22. Registration for other programs will be open through February.



Board & commission applications

Ready to serve? The Auburn City Council is looking for volunteers to serve on the Board of Zoning Adjustment. Applications will open Dec. 3 and close Dec. 29. Find more information and apply at auburnal.gov/boards.

Cold weather safety tips for pets



It's important to care for your pets as temperatures drop. Our Animal Control Division reminds you of the following tips to keep your pet healthy and comfortable in colder weather:

Provide Shelter: A well-constructed dog house insulated with clean, dry bedding, such as straw, wood shavings or a blanket, will help keep your dog warm. Face the dog house opening away from the direction that the wind normally blows to help hold in warmth and prevent rain infiltration. It's also a good idea to add a weather-resistant door flap. A flap can be purchased, or, in a pinch, a heavy-duty fabric, old vehicle mud flap or a piece of linoleum flooring will do.

Water: Make sure your pet always has access to fresh, clean water. It's also important to check water bowls often to make sure the water doesn't freeze over. To prevent lightweight bowls from tipping over, you can secure a bucket to a post or a tree, place the bucket inside of an old tire or dig a hole in the ground and place the bucket inside of it.

Food: Monitor your pet's diet. Animals expend more calories in colder months to keep warm. You may need to increase your pet's daily amount of food to compensate.

Cold Sensitive Pets: Remember that colder temperatures may be harder on some pets than others. Short hair breeds, smaller breeds and dogs that are young or old are more susceptible to the cold and should be closely monitored while outdoors. If your dog is sensitive to cold, adjust winter care accommodations accordingly.

Hypothermia: Hypothermia is a potentially deadly condition where the body temperature falls below normal. Signs include shivering, lethargy and lack of coordination. If you notice any of these symptoms in your pet, immediately move the animal to a warm location and wrap it in a blanket. Contact a veterinarian while warming your pet.

If you have a concern about an animal, document what you see including the date, time, exact location, type of animal and as many other details as possible. Then contact the City of Auburn Animal Control Division at (334) 501-3090. After hours, please contact the Auburn Police Department at (334) 501-3100.



In October, Auburn Fire placed its new tiller truck, a tractor-drawn aerial dubbed Ladder 1, into service following three years of planning and development.

Weighing in at over 73,000 pounds, running 59.5 feet long and housing a 107-foot rescue ladder, the apparatus was meticulously designed to serve the emergent and growing demands of our Auburn community.

With its expanded technical rescue capabilities, increased maneuverability and enhanced storage and equipment capacity, this new tractor-drawn aerial will serve as a valuable tool, allowing our firefighters to continue to provide a high level of service to our residents.

2026 Holiday Collection Schedule

The New Year brings a new garbage, trash and recycling pickup schedule! If your normal pickup day is on or after the holiday, your pick up day will be one day behind. You can find the schedule online at auburnal.gov/garbage-and-recycling. To find your collection day, look up your address at webgis.auburnalabama.org/coamap or call (334) 501-3080.

Monday’s Route: Tuesday’s Route: Wednesday’s Route: Thursday’s Route: Holiday:

JANUARY
New Years Day & MLK Day

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

MAY
Memorial Day

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24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE
Juneteenth

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

JULY
Independence Day

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SEPTEMBER
Labor Day

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27	28	29	30			

NOVEMBER
Veterans Day & Thanksgiving

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

DECEMBER
Christmas

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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2026
New Year's Day & MLK Day

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

There will be no service on the following days:

Jan. 1 - New Year's Day
Jan. 19 - MLK Day
May 25 - Memorial Day
Sept. 7 - Labor Day
Nov. 11 - Veteran's Day
Nov. 26 - Thanksgiving
Jan. 18, 2026 - MLK Day

January holiday schedules

City Hall and most City facilities will close on Thursday, Jan. 1, for New Year’s Day and Monday, Jan. 19, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Downtown parking will be free both days with the exception of the Wright Street Parking Deck.

Garbage, trash and recycling pickup routes will be adjusted both weeks. During the week of New Year's Day, Thursday's route will run on Friday, Jan. 2. During the week of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, all pickup routes will be delayed by one day.

Public Safety services including police, fire and communications will remain on their regular schedules. The Auburn Public Library will close at 5 p.m. on Dec. 31 and will be closed on Jan. 1 and 19. Book drops will remain open, and the online collection of ebooks, e-audiobooks, and digital magazines are available 24/7. Keep an eye on auburnal.gov for Parks and Recreation facility hours during the holidays.

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JANUARY 2026

upcoming events

Open Line is produced by the
Office of the City Manager

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p><i>Background Photo: Aubie in a lifeguard chair at the Polar Plunge</i></p>	<p>Auburn Public Library auburnal.gov/library</p> <p>City Meetings auburnal.gov/boards</p> <p>Parks & Recreation auburnal.gov/parks</p> <p>Citywide Events auburnal.gov</p>	<p>Programs & events are subject to change.</p> <p>Find up-to-date information at auburnal.gov.</p>		<p>1</p> <p>Toddler Tales Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Lullabies for Little Ones Thursdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Puppet Shows Fridays @ 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Tree Commission 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Family Story Time Saturdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Untidy Tales Saturdays @ 10:30 a.m.</p> <p>Movers & Shakers Saturdays @ 1 p.m.</p>
4	5	<p>Preschool Story Time Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m.</p> <p>S.T.E.A.M. Lab Tuesdays @ 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Bedtime Buddies Tuesdays @ 6 p.m.</p> <p>Committee of the Whole TBD</p> <p>City Council 6 p.m.</p>	7	8	9	10
	<p>Planning Commission Packet Meeting Noon</p> <p>Curiosity Crew Mondays @ 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Cemetery Advisory Board 4 p.m.</p> <p>Fit Week @ Lake Wilmore, Frank Brown & Boykin</p>		<p>Baby's 1st Story Time Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Awesome Art Wednesdays @ 4 p.m.</p> <p>Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Planning Commission 5 p.m.</p> <p>Teen Game Night 6 p.m.</p>		<p>Adults Create! Finger-knit Chunky Handbags 2 p.m.</p>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		<p>Adults Create! Finger-knit Chunky Handbags 2 p.m.</p> <p>Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.</p>		<p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p> <p>Dungeons & Dragons (ages 13-18) 6 p.m.</p>		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		<p>Auburn Public Library Board 10 a.m.</p> <p>Greenspace Advisory Board Noon</p> <p>Chapter Chats Book Club 5:30 p.m.</p> <p>Committee of the Whole TBD</p> <p>City Council 6 p.m.</p>		<p>Water Works Board 4 p.m.</p> <p>Teen Game Night 6 p.m.</p>		<p>Polar Plunge 9 a.m. @ Samford Pool</p>
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
				<p>National Puzzle Day 3:30-4:30 p.m.</p> <p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p> <p>Dungeons & Dragons (ages 13-18) 6 p.m.</p>		