

open line

a monthly newsletter for you, our residents.

AUGUST 2022



City of Auburn

voters' guide to the

2022 CITY OF AUBURN

municipal election

The 2022 Municipal Election is coming up on Aug. 23,

giving residents the opportunity to elect Auburn's mayor and one councilperson from each of the City's eight wards for the 2022-2026 term.

Here are some key FAQs to help you navigate this election season.

AM I ELIGIBLE/REGISTERED TO VOTE?

All registered voters who have lived within Auburn City limits for at least 30 days before the election may vote in the 2022 Municipal Election. The last day to register to vote in the Aug. 23 election is Aug. 9.

Voters may register with the Lee County Board of Registrars at the Lee County Courthouse (215 S. 9th St. in Opelika) or at alabamavotes.gov. Voters may also print the registration form available at alabamavotes.gov, fill it out and mail it to the Lee County Board of Registrars at PO Box 1530, Opelika, AL, 36803.

WHAT WARD AM I IN?

The Auburn City Council adopted new boundaries for the City's voting wards earlier this year based on data received from the 2020 Census. This means you may not live in the same ward as you did during past municipal elections. Go to auburnalabama.org and enter your address at the bottom of the page to verify your current ward.

WHERE DO I VOTE?

Redistricting may have led to a change in your voting location. The new voting location plan balances several factors including trying to minimize change and keeping voters as close as possible to their voting locations. Even so, some voters' voting locations have changed from past municipal elections.

Please make sure you'll be heading to the right location on Aug. 23 by double checking the list below.

Polls will be open at the following locations from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 23:

- Ward 1: Boykin Community Center (400 Boykin St.)
- Ward 2: Frank Brown Recreation Center (235 Opelika Road)
- Ward 3: Frank Brown Recreation Center (235 Opelika Road)
- Ward 4: Dean Road Recreation Center (307 S. Dean Road)
- Ward 5: Dean Road Recreation Center (307 S. Dean Road)
- Ward 6: Clarion Inn & Suites (1577 S. College St.)
- Ward 7: Clarion Inn & Suites (1577 S. College St.)
- Ward 8: Boykin Community Center (400 Boykin St.)

Please keep in mind that even if your municipal voting location hasn't changed, it may still be different than your voting location for county/state/federal elections like the ones held in May or June. You can check your voting location in the footer of our webpage at auburnlabama.org.

AM I ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR AN ABSENTEE BALLOT?

If you're unable to make it to the polls on Election Day, Aug. 23, you may apply for an absentee ballot if:

- You will be out of the county on Election Day.
- You have a physical illness or disability that prevents a trip to the polling place.
- You are a registered Alabama voter living outside the county, such as a member of the armed forces, a voter employed outside the United States, a college student or

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- a spouse or child of such a person.
- You are an appointed election officer or poll watcher at a polling place other than your regular polling place.
- You work a required shift, 10 hours or more, that coincides with polling hours.

HOW DO I VOTE ABSENTEE?

Absentee ballot applications are now available at City Hall and may be returned by mail or in-person. Mail-in applications must be received at City Hall by Aug. 16, and in-person applications must be received by Aug. 18. Business emergency or medical emergency applications may be made after the absentee deadline but no later than 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

Absentee ballots will be available at City Hall by July 26 and must be received by mail or delivered in-person by the day before the election, Aug. 22.

Please note, voters who apply for an absentee ballot before ballots are available will be mailed a ballot once they are available. Voters may then return their completed ballot to City Hall by mail or in-person. Voters who apply once ballots are available will have the option to submit their application and ballot at the same time.

find more info at
AUBURNALABAMA.ORG/ELECTIONS



NOISE COMPLAINTS

Need to report a noise complaint? Contact the Auburn Police Department's non-emergency line, 334-501-3100, day or night.

An officer will patrol the area to determine the source of the noise and take appropriate action. Callers have the option to meet with officers or remain anonymous — please do not call the Tip Line with noise complaints.

Itty Bitty Auburn returns this August

It's time to break out the thinking caps and magnifying glasses for Itty Bitty Auburn, Auburn Parks and Recreation's annual photo scavenger hunt! Beginning Aug. 1, all are invited to search for the location of 20 itty-bitty photos that were taken throughout Auburn. Worksheets will be available at any Parks and Recreation facility, at auburnalabama.org/parks, printed in select newspapers and on Facebook.

Participants will find a clue at each of the 20 itty-bitty sites. A successful scavenger hunt will reveal a special phrase that participants will need to log their win! All participants must "register their win" by Wednesday, Aug. 31, at 11:59 p.m. Those who compile all 20 clues and discover the phrase will be entered into the grand prize drawing. Winners will be announced and contacted on Sept. 9.

Find more details at auburnalabama.org/parks or follow Parks and Recreation on Facebook and Instagram @COAParksAndRec.



Getting plugged in

Looking for ways to stay connected to what's happening in Auburn more than when you receive this newsletter once a month? Check out these other ways you can stay up-to-date:



ENOTIFIER

Sign up for email and/or text notifications each time the City puts out new press releases or alerts about weekly meetings, Parks and Recreation announcements and more. Sign up at auburnalabama.org/eNotifier.



AUBURN NEWS

See all City of Auburn press releases at news.auburnalabama.org.



SOCIAL MEDIA

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and LinkedIn:
@CityofAuburnAL
@COALibrary
@COAParksandRec
@COAPublicSafety



MEETING SCHEDULE

View or subscribe to the City's online meeting schedule at auburnalabama.org/boards-and-commissions/meeting-schedule.

questions? find more info online.
AUBURNALABAMA.ORG



Summertime Watering Tips

FROM THE WATER WORKS BOARD

It's hot out there. And when the temperatures rise, so does the demand on our water sources.

The Water Works Board of the City of Auburn has a few pointers to help us all follow efficient practices for irrigation and outdoor watering. Try these tips to help you conserve water, ensuring that our water resources are used wisely:

- **Don't overwater your lawn.** Generally, lawns only need watering every five to seven days during the summer. Watering your grass too frequently can make the root system of your lawn too shallow.
- **Don't water sidewalks, driveways or other paved areas.** Position sprinklers so that all water lands on your lawn or plants.
- **Avoid watering during the middle of the day** to avoid unnecessary water loss because of evaporation. Irrigating in the middle of the day can result in losing as much as 40-60% of the water to evaporation. Water before 8 a.m. As a general rule, the earlier, the better!
- **Check irrigation systems on a regular basis** to ensure the system's parts (pipes, sprinkler heads, etc.) are not damaged or broken. Many irrigation systems use about 1,000 gallons of water an hour!
- **Install rain sensors and/or moisture sensors** on irrigation systems to eliminate unnecessary watering during rainy periods.
- **Don't leave sprinklers or hoses unattended.** Use a timer to remind you to turn the water off.
- **Use xeriscaping**, or landscaping and horticultural practices that minimize water usage. Get more info about xeriscaping from the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service's website, aces.edu.
- **Consider rainwater harvesting.** Consider collecting rain using rain barrels, etc. that can be used for outdoor watering. Note that rain barrels can collect pollutants and bacteria from roofs, animals, etc. This should be considered when using rain barrels for edible plants. Water from rain barrels should never be used for human consumption. Find more info at adem.alabama.gov/programs/water/waterforms/LIDHandbook.pdf.
- **Increase your lawn mower blade height.** A higher-cut lawn will encourage deeper-growing roots and will result in better soil moisture retention.
- **Mulch effectively** around all plants, trees and shrubs. Mulching helps soil retain moisture and controls weeds.

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AUGUST 2022 **upcoming events**

Open Line is produced by the Office of the City Manager
334.501.7268 | openline@auburnalabama.org

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	<p>Cemetery Advisory Board 4 p.m.</p> <p>Itty Bitty Auburn Begins</p> <p>Fall Program Registration Begins</p>	<p>Story Time (in person/virtual) Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m.</p> <p>Committee of the Whole TBD</p> <p>City Council 6 p.m.</p>	<p>Story Time (in person/virtual) Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.</p> <p>Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Story Time (in person/virtual) Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.</p>	<p>Puppet Shows (in person/virtual) Fridays @ 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>City Market Town Creek Park @ 8-11 a.m.</p> <p>Story Time (in person/virtual) Saturdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.</p>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	<p>Planning Commission Packet Meeting Noon</p>	<p>Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.</p>		<p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p> <p>Planning Commission 5 p.m.</p>		<p>City Market Town Creek Park @ 8-11 a.m.</p>
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		<p>Library Board 10 a.m.</p> <p>Greenspace Advisory Board Noon</p> <p>Reader's Review Virtual Adult 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>City Market Town Creek Park @ 8-11 a.m.</p>
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		<p>2022 Municipal Election</p>				<p>City Market Town Creek Park @ 8-11 a.m.</p>
28	29	30	31	<p>Programs & events are subject to change.</p> <p>Find up-to-date information at auburnalabama.org.</p>		<p>Auburn Public Library auburnalabama.org/library</p> <p>City Meetings auburnalabama.org/boards</p> <p>Parks & Recreation auburnalabama.org/parks</p>
						<p><i>Background photo: Town Creek Park Inclusive Playground</i></p>