

open line

a monthly newsletter for you, our residents.

AUGUST 2023

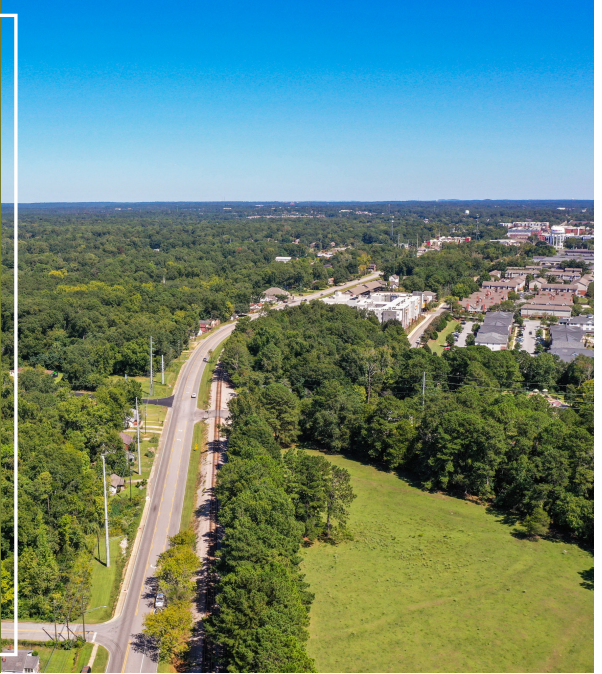


PROJECT UPDATE MLK DRIVE STREETScape

Work to enhance the streetscape along Martin Luther King Drive between North Donahue Drive and Shug Jordan Parkway began in mid-June. The project includes a 10-foot-wide multiuse path, a right-turn lane onto North Donahue Drive, a new water line and upgraded landscaping and lighting along this key corridor into Auburn.

The project will connect to the recently completed multiuse path on Martin Luther King Drive from Richland to Webster roads, creating a two-mile path for pedestrians and cyclists to travel safely to downtown Auburn.

Intermittent lane closures will take place throughout the project, which is currently expected to finish in February 2023. Keep up with the project's progress and find more details at auburnalabama.org/cip.



Engage with local government at second annual Neighborhood Conference

AUGUST 19 • 8 AM-1 PM

Save the date for the second annual City of Auburn Neighborhood Conference — an event geared toward neighborhood groups and residents interested in the quality of life in Auburn's neighborhoods.

The Neighborhood Conference is a free event that will take place on Saturday, Aug. 19, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Harris Center and Frank Brown Recreation Center. It will include break-out sessions and a keynote speaker along with opportunities to meet fellow neighbors who work to make Auburn safer, friendlier and lovelier every day.

The conference will begin with morning refreshments and an opportunity to network with fellow neighborhood leaders and residents. Each participant will then have the opportunity to attend three break-out sessions during the conference. Preregistration is required to attend, and attendees will select their sessions during the signup process. Registration will open on Wednesday, July 19, and close Wednesday, Aug. 2.

The sessions will provide valuable information about City services and resources for neighborhoods. They will tackle topics like neighborhood safety and effective communication as well as information and tips from different City departments on things like code enforcement, neighborhood traffic and opportunities available through Parks and Recreation. For the full session list, visit auburnalabama.org/neighborhood-conference.

The Neighborhood Conference will conclude with lunch and a speaker. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided. To learn more, visit auburnalabama.org/neighborhood-conference or email ablankenship@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.

stay connected to your community.

Between community events, traffic updates and new initiatives — there are a lot of reasons to keep up with the City of Auburn. And we've made it easy for you.



eNotifier

Sign up for text/email notifications at auburnalabama.org/eNotifier



Social Media

Follow us @CityofAuburnAL, @COAPublicSafety, @COAParksandRec & @COALibrary



Open Line

Find our monthly newsletter in your water bill or at auburnalabama.org/OpenLine



Auburn News

See press releases at news.auburnalabama.org



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 the Harris Center, the Auburn Public Library, or online at auburnal.myrec.com.

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. at auburnal.myrec.com. 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. 8.



Auburn Public Library event spotlights: Culture Explorers & #TeenTrends

CULTURE EXPLORERS CLUB

Wednesdays @ 3:30 p.m.

Rising 4th-6th graders are invited to embark on an expedition of discovery and learning in Culture Explorers Club every Wednesday in August at 3:30 p.m. Each week, participants will explore the traditions, customs, food and more of a different culture from around the world.

#TEENTRENDS

Thursdays @ 4 p.m.

Rising 7th-12th graders are invited to explore a different topic each week, from anime and manga to gaming and more! Teen participants will help guide the topics for future #TeenTrends!



AWWB annual water report: come on in, the water's fine

Each year, the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn (AWWB) distributes its Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report to help keep you informed about the quality and safety of your drinking water. You can find this year's report online by visiting auburnalabama.org/water-resource-management and clicking "Consumer Confidence Reports."

In this year's report, you'll find that our drinking water met all water quality standards in 2022 thanks to the diligent efforts of our Water Resource Management Department. In addition to discussing water quality, the report also overviews our drinking water sources, treatment techniques and delivery methods used to ensure compliance with State and Federal laws.

A copy of the report has been mailed to all customers, and print copies will be available at the Bailey Alexander Water and Sewer Complex (1501 W. Samford Ave.) and other City facilities. Have questions? Contact the Water Resource Management Department at (334) 501-3060 or webwtrswr@auburnalabama.org.

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AUGUST 2023 upcoming events

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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	<p>Auburn Public Library auburnlabama.org/library</p> <p>City Meetings auburnlabama.org/boards</p> <p>Parks & Recreation auburnlabama.org/parks</p> <p>Citywide Events auburnlabama.org</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Preschool Story Time Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m.</p> <p>PreK in PJs Tuesdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>Committee of the Whole TBD</p> <p>City Council 6 p.m.</p> <p>Itty Bitty Auburn Begins</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Baby's 1st Story Time Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Untidy Tales Wednesdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>Culture Explorers Club (Grades 4-6) Wednesdays @ 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Toddler Tales Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m.</p> <p>Lullabies for Little Ones Thursdays @ 1 p.m.</p> <p>#TeenTrends (Grades 7-12) Thursdays @ 4 p.m.</p> <p>Family Story Time @ Boykin Thursdays @ 6 p.m.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Puppet Shows (in person/virtual) Fridays @ 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.</p> <p>Tree Commission 11:30 a.m.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>City Market Town Creek Park @ 8-11 a.m.</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>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<p>Planning Commission Packet Meeting Noon</p> <p>Cemetery Advisory Board 4 p.m.</p>	<p>Industrial Development Board 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>
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		<p>Library Board 10 a.m.</p> <p>Greenspace Advisory Board Noon</p> <p>Reader's Review Virtual Book Club (Adults) 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>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
						<p>City Market Town Creek Park @ 8-11 a.m.</p>
27	28	29	30	31	<p>Programs & events are subject to change.</p> <p>Find up-to-date information at auburnlabama.org.</p> <p><i>Background photo: City Market @ Town Creek Park</i></p>	
				<p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p> <p>Itty Bitty Auburn Ends</p>		