

open line

a monthly newsletter for you, our residents.

SEPTEMBER 2022



City of Auburn



rent, reserve & register **ONLINE**

with Auburn Parks & Recreation

We've launched a new site that lets you register for Parks and Recreation programs and reserve facilities completely online! Just visit auburnalabama.org/parks and click on Register or Rent & Reserve. Create an account, and get signed up today!

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM...

Click on the Register button at the top and select Programs. There, you'll see a list of all the athletic, arts, fitness and other programs that are open for registration. Don't see something you're interested in? Our Parks and Recreation programs are seasonal, and registration typically begins a few months before each season starts. You can view a brochure with a list of the upcoming season's programs online at auburnalabama.org/parks/programs, or you can pick up a physical copy at any of our Parks and Rec facilities.

Questions? Contact Parks and Recreation at 334-501-2930 or registration@auburnalabama.org.

Fall Sundown Concert Series

SEPT. 22 & 29 • 5:30 P.M.

Our Fall Sundown Concert Series will begin in September! Join Auburn Parks and Recreation on Sept. 22 and 29 from 5:30-7 p.m. at Kiesel Park. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and a picnic dinner for a fun evening of music in the park as the temperatures begin to cool down. A food vendor will be onsite with dinner options and frozen treats. Pets are welcome on a leash. This event is FREE to the public.



TO RENT OR RESERVE A FACILITY...

Click on the Facilities button at the top of the page. You can either view our facilities by list or see a calendar that shows all the planned activities at each of our Parks and Rec facilities. To request a facility, field or park pavilion, select the list view and click "Request" to the right of the location. Once your request is reviewed and approved, you can make your payment online or pay by cash or check in person at the Harris Center.

Board & commission vacancies

One vacancy on the Lee County Youth Development Center Board of Directors will be announced at the Aug. 2 Auburn City Council meeting and will be filled at the Sept. 6 meeting. Applications will close at 5 p.m. on Aug. 29.

Three vacancies on the Industrial Development Board will be announced at the Aug. 16 City Council meeting and filled at the Sept. 20 meeting. Applications will close at 5 p.m. on Sept. 12.

Learn more about these boards and find links to apply at auburnalabama.org/boards.

auburnalabama.org

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2022 CITY OF AUBURN municipal election

R • E • M • I • N • D • E • R • S

The 2022 Municipal Election is right around the corner on Aug. 23. While some of you may receive this after the election is past, we wanted to include a few reminders for most of you who will receive this before Aug. 23.

DEADLINE TO REGISTER TO VOTE: The last day to register to vote will be Aug. 8. According to state law, voter registration for an election shouldn't take place within 14 days of that election. Register to vote at alabamavotes.gov or at the Lee County Courthouse. Please note that last month's issue of Open Line listed the voter registration deadline as Aug. 9 instead of Aug. 8.

ABSENTEE VOTING: The last day to submit an absentee ballot application will be Aug. 16 if sent by mail and Aug. 18 if submitted in person at City Hall. The deadline to turn in absentee ballots is Aug. 22, whether by mail or in person.

ELECTION DAY: The election will take place on Aug. 23, and polls will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

WARDS & VOTING LOCATIONS: With post-census redistricting now in place, you may not live in the same ward that you did during the 2018 election, and your voting place may have changed. Your voting location for a county, state and federal election may also differ from your voting location for a municipal election. Find your current ward and voting location by entering your address into the footer at auburnalabama.org.

CANDIDATES: Candidate qualifying ended on June 28. Mayor Ron Anders, Ward 3 Councilperson Beth Witten and Ward 8 Councilperson Tommy Dawson were unopposed and were certified elected by the Auburn City Council on July 5, in accordance with state law. The following candidates will appear on the ballots for the Aug. 23 election:

- Ward 1: Arthur L. Dowdell Sr., Connie Fitch-Taylor
- Ward 2: Kelley Griswold, Paul West
- Ward 4: Tyler Adams, Chad Leverette
- Ward 5: Sarah Jane Levine, Sonny Moreman, Leah Billye Welburn V
- Ward 6: Bob Parsons, Phillip Pollard
- Ward 7: Max Coblentz, Greg Lane

Questions? Find more election info at auburnalabama.org/elections or give us a call at City Hall at 334-501-7260.

A better way to get rid of used cooking oil

Over the years, we've kept more than 14,700 gallons of used cooking oil and grease out of the City's sewer system through our Fats, Oil and Grease (FOG) Recycling program. And you can help us collect even more!

Our Water Resource Management Department began the FOG Recycling program in 2009 to bring awareness to the harmful effects of improper disposal of grease and used cooking oil. Through this program, residents are reminded that oil should never be poured down the drain. Even if oil is poured slowly down the drain with hot water, this will eventually cause problems with your plumbing and the City's sewer system as a whole.

The program offers a responsible means of recycling, providing plastic containers that customers can pick up from the Recycling Drop-Off Center at 365-A N. Donahue Drive. Once they're full, customers can bring them back to the drop-off center to be properly disposed. A grease renderer turns the recycled oils into raw materials that can be used in animal feeds, pet food and industrial formulations.

For more information, visit auburnalabama.org/water-resource-management/fog-recycling or contact the Water Resource Management Department at (334) 501-3060 or webwtrswr@auburnalabama.org.



The Cooking Oil and Grease recycling receptacle is located at the Recycling Drop-Off Center, 365-A N. Donahue Drive.

Introducing our new Public Services director



In May, we were excited to welcome Keith Williams as the City of Auburn's new Public Services executive director. Williams comes to Auburn with experience in both the private and public sectors, having served 15 years in municipal governments in Georgia and Florida.

Williams' appointment marks the substantive completion of a reorganization process within the City that began in 2017. As the executive director of the Public Services Business Unit, Williams oversees the Auburn Public Library, Environmental Services, Parks and Recreation, Public Works and Water Resource Management departments. As such, Williams will ensure efficient operations and continuous communication within the Public Services Business Unit.

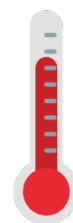
"I am pleased to join the talented staff with the City of Auburn and, more so, honored to serve the community and its residents in stewardship of this great town," Williams said.

Williams served as the city engineer for Smyrna, Georgia, and as the Public Works director/city engineer and ultimately the Community Services director of Sanibel, Florida. His public sector career has touched on many aspects of municipal government including public works, parks, water and sewer, disaster recovery, infrastructure, planning, code enforcement and more.

Before entering the public sector, Williams worked for engineering and design firms, giving him an understanding of project management, residential and commercial development and related issues.

Williams holds a bachelor's in civil and environmental engineering from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville and an MBA in public administration from Southern New Hampshire University.

"I'm excited to welcome Keith to the team and am confident that the experience he brings to the table will help the City continue to improve and move forward," City Manager Megan McGowen Crouch said.



Safety tips for extreme heat

FROM AUBURN PUBLIC SAFETY



Never leave pets or children in a parked car unsupervised, even if the windows are open!



Always wear sunscreen



Save outdoor activities for the morning or evening during the coolest times of the day



Drink plenty of fluids to stay hydrated



Wear light-colored, lightweight loose-fitting clothing



TAILGATES & TURKEYS reading challenge

The Auburn Public Library invites you take part in this fall's Tailgates and Turkeys Reading Challenge! The challenge: Read 1,000 minutes in 60 days.

Participants who complete the challenge will receive their choice of a 75th anniversary commemorative Auburn Public Library T-shirt or hoodie (while supplies last) and will be entered into a grand prize drawing. The challenge begins Sept. 1 and ends Oct. 31. Happy Learning!

Have questions? Email libraryevents@auburnalabama.org for more information.

Labor Day holiday schedules

Most City facilities will be closed on Monday, Sept. 5, in observance of Labor Day. Public Safety services including police, fire and communications will remain on their regular schedules. Garbage, trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day during the week of Sept. 5.

The Auburn Public Library's book drops will remain open, and the online collection of e-books, e-audiobooks and digital magazines is always available at auburnalabama.org/library.

city council

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PARKS AND RECREATION
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PLANNING
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WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
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SEPTEMBER 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	
	<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>			1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
	<p>Planning Commission Packet Meeting Noon</p> <p>Cemetery Advisory Board 4 p.m.</p> <p>Last Day of Pool Season</p>	<p>Story Time (in person/virtual) Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.</p> <p>Library Card Sign-up Month Proclamation 10 a.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>Planning Commission 5 p.m.</p>	<p>Tree Commission 11:30 a.m.</p> <p>Puppet Shows (in person/virtual) Fridays @ 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Story Time (in person/virtual) Saturdays @ 9:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.</p> <p>Multilingual Game Hour 10:30 a.m.</p>	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
		<p>Library Card Sign-Up Day 3-6 p.m. @ Boykin Community Center</p> <p>Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.</p>		<p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p>			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
	<p>Youth & High School Basketball Registration Begins</p> <p>Jingle Jog Registration Opens</p>	<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>Sundown Concert Series Kiesel Park @ 5:30-7 p.m.</p>			
25	26	27	28	29	30		
		<p>Author Talk: Lisa McNair 10 a.m. @ Boykin Community Center</p> <p>Author Talk: Lisa McNair 6 p.m. @ Auburn Public Library</p>		<p>City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m.</p> <p>Sundown Concert Series Kiesel Park @ 5:30-7 p.m.</p>		<p><i>Background photo: Children craft during Story Time at the Auburn Public Library</i></p>	