

open line

a monthly newsletter for you, our residents.

JANUARY 2024



City of Auburn

Cold weather safety tips for pets



It's important to take care of your pets as the colder temperatures come to our area. 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. Try to face the dog house opening away from the direction the wind typically 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. Proper hydration is important to help your dog stay warm. 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 than warmer times of year 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 the cold because of age, illness or breed, adjust winter care accommodations accordingly.

Hypothermia: Know the warning signs! 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.

2024 Polar Plunge

JANUARY 20 • 9 A.M.

Dive into the winter waters of Samford Pool to raise money for the Lee County Special Olympics! Our 12th annual Polar Plunge will be held on Jan. 20 at 9 a.m.

Each participant is encouraged to recruit sponsors to support their plunge. All dollars raised go directly to the amazing athletes of the Lee County Special Olympics.

The annual costume contest will return with the theme 2023 Trends! Participants are encouraged to dress as their favorite trend, event, news story or anything from 2023. Prizes will be given to the winners of the costume contest and those who raise the most money.

Register online at auburnalabama.org/parks/register. Those who register before Jan. 3 will be guaranteed a T-shirt. All donations should be brought to Samford Pool on the day of the event.

For more information, email Elizabeth Kaufman at ekaufman@auburnalabama.org.



House check for the holidays

Heading out of town for a while and need someone to keep an eye on your home? Our Auburn Police Department can help.

Auburn Police offer periodic house checks at no cost to Auburn residents. If you plan on being away from your home for an extended amount of time, you can fill out a form at auburnalabama.org/police/house-check or call (334) 501-3150 to sign up for the service. Please include helpful information like if you'll be leaving vehicles parked at the residence, if lights will be left on or if you expect any authorized visitors. Be sure to leave us your local emergency contacts. And, before you leave, make sure to lock your doors and secure all windows.

This is just one way that we're working to keep our community safe during the holiday season! For more tips and info about services, follow Auburn Public Safety on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @COAPublicSafety.



REMINDER: Weigh in on the City of Auburn's branding initiative

The City of Auburn is embarking on a research-driven, community-wide branding initiative, and we need your input! You're invited to participate in a survey at theauthenticauburn.com to help us uncover Auburn's authentic story to inform the City's branding. Your brand is what people say about you when you're not around, and the City's branding needs to reflect Auburn's reputation.



TAKE THE SURVEY

While this is a branding project for the City of Auburn as a municipal government, the City's brand must reflect Auburn's identity both as a government and as a community. We are in the research phase of the project and want your input as we aim to discover Auburn's authentic and ownable brand identity.

Want to do the survey on paper instead of online? Please visit Auburn City Hall, the Auburn Public Library or the Boykin Community Center for a copy or call (334) 501-7266 to request a copy.

Boards and commission vacancies

Ready to serve? Two vacancies on the Board of Zoning Adjustments will be announced at the Dec. 5 Auburn City Council meeting. Applications will open on Dec. 6, and appointments will be made at the Jan. 2 City Council meeting.

Two vacancies on the Cemetery Advisory Board will be announced at the Dec. 19 Auburn City Council meeting. Applications will open on Dec. 20, and appointments will be made at the Jan. 16 City Council meeting.

Visit auburnalabama.org/boards for more information about both of these boards and to apply.

Local Authors at the Library

PEGGY JACKSON WALLS
Saturday, Jan. 6 - 2 p.m.

You're invited to meet local author Peggy Jackson Walls at a special event at the Auburn Public Library. Walls will discuss her books, "Lost Towns of Central Alabama" and "Alabama Gold: A History of the South's Last Mother Lode." Walls is an author and retired educator who enjoys interviewing people and researching and writing about state and local historical topics. Her latest book, "Lost Towns of Central Alabama," shares stories about central Alabama's abandoned towns and the people who populated them.

TAYLOR BELICH
Saturday, Jan. 13 - 1 p.m.

Local children's book author Taylor Belich will visit the Auburn Public Library at Movers & Shakers story time. Belich will read from her debut book, "Calming My Body is as Easy as ABC." Belich lives in Auburn with her husband and two dogs, Charlie and Barkley. She is an Auburn University graduate and a full-time occupational therapist with a passion for helping others improve their quality of life and increase their independence.

Books will be available for purchase and signing at both events.

2024 Holiday Collection Schedule

The New Year brings a new garbage, trash and recycling pickup schedule. Keep this list to refer to throughout the year and avoid missing your garbage pickup day. You can also find the schedule online at auburnalabama.org/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						
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JANUARY 2025						
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January holiday schedules

City Hall and most City facilities will close on Monday, Jan. 1, for New Year's Day and Monday, Jan. 15, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Garbage, trash and recycling collection will be delayed by one day both weeks.

Public Safety services including police, fire and communications will remain on their regular schedules. The Auburn Public Library's book drops will remain open, and the online collection of ebooks, e-audiobooks, and digital magazines are available 24/7.

Keep an eye on news.auburnalabama.org for Parks and Recreation facility hours during the holidays.



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JANUARY 2024 **upcoming events**

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

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i> Tails & Trails Fun Run Registration Begins	2 Preschool Story Time Tuesdays @ 9:30 a.m. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m. PreK in PJs Tuesdays @ 1 p.m. S.T.E.A.M Lab (Grades K-3) Tuesdays @ 3:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole TBD City Council 6 p.m.	3 Baby's 1st Story Time Wednesdays @ 9:30 a.m. Untidy Tales Wednesdays @ 1 p.m. Culture Explorers Club (Grades 4-6) Wednesdays @ 4 p.m. Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.	4 Toddler Tales Thursdays @ 9:30 a.m. Lullabies for Little Ones Thursdays @ 1 p.m. #TeenTrends (Grades 7-12) Thursdays @ 4 p.m.	5 Puppet Shows (in person/ virtual) Fridays @ 9:30 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. Tree Commission 11:30 a.m. Spring Baseball, Softball, T-Ball Registration Begins	6 Family Story Time Saturdays @ 9:30 a.m. Untidy Tales Saturdays @ 10:30 a.m. Author Talk - Peggy Jackson Walls @ 2 p.m.
7 Fit Week Jan. 7-13	8 Planning Commission Packet Meeting Noon Cemetery Advisory Board 4 p.m.	9 Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.	10	11 City Council Agenda Review Meeting 4 p.m. Planning Commission 5 p.m.	12	13
14	15	16 Library Board 10 a.m. Greenspace Advisory Board Noon Reader's Review Virtual Book Club 5:30 p.m. Committee of the Whole TBD City Council 6 p.m.	17	18 Water Works Board 4 p.m.	19	20 Polar Plunge 9 a.m. @ Sanford Pool Adult Create! Tea Towels & Recipe Swap @ 2 p.m.
21	22	23	24	25 Spring Baseball, Softball, T-Ball Registration Ends	26	27
28	29	30	31 Programs & events are subject to change. Find up-to-date information at auburnlabama.org .			Auburn Public Library auburnlabama.org/library City Meetings auburnlabama.org/boards Parks & Recreation auburnlabama.org/parks Citywide Events auburnlabama.org

Background Photo: Polar Plunge