

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

July 2008

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Downtown Parking: Extreme Makeover Edition

New Metered Spaces to Open on Ground Floor of Parking Deck

Have you visited downtown Auburn lately? If not, now is the perfect time to come see the changes taking place with downtown parking. In May, the Auburn Municipal Parking Deck received a mini-makeover, including an exterior clean-up and regular maintenance to the deck. In late June, crews also performed regular maintenance and cleaning of the downtown sidewalks.

One of the most exciting changes to downtown is the addition of new metered parking spaces. Over the last year, the City of Auburn has been working to transition leased parking spaces on the ground floor of the parking deck to the 2nd and 3rd floors of the deck as spaces have become available. Effective July 1, the ground floor of the Auburn Municipal Parking Deck will feature all metered parking, providing over 60 additional parking spots for citizens wishing to shop, dine, and conduct business in downtown. The City is also working this summer to improve striping and signage in the parking area adjacent to the deck.

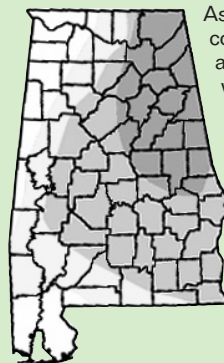
In the 2008 Citizen Survey, Auburn citizens identified additional downtown parking as a high priority. With the addition of new metered spaces in downtown and the maintenance of existing spaces, citizens will hopefully experience a new and convenient way to park downtown. There's never been a better time to *ShopAuburn* and support your downtown businesses or enjoy the unique charm and university spirit of downtown in the Loveliest Village.

For more information, please contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260.



Phase I Drought Watch Continues

Auburn Residents Encouraged to Conserve



Map of Alabama indicating moderate (light gray) and severe (dark gray) drought areas, courtesy of the US Drought Monitor

As the Southeast's drought continues, Auburn residents are encouraged to conserve water, particularly when watering outdoors. According to the US Drought Monitor's mid-June report, 22.3% of Alabama, including the Auburn area, remains in a severe drought. The Drought Monitor classifies drought areas in five categories: abnormally dry, moderate drought, severe drought, extreme drought, and exceptional drought. While the Auburn area

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Drought Watch Continues

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remains in a severe drought, statistics are much-improved over last year. By mid-June 2007, 94% of the State was in a severe drought.

Auburn's water supply continues to fare well amidst dry conditions. Residents can help continue this trend by monitoring their household usage and practicing simple and effective water conservation tips. City officials are asking residents to follow a simple guideline when using water: take what you need and use it wisely. Residents are encouraged to continue to employ simple outdoor conservation tips, including:

- Water during efficient water times: before 8 a.m. and after 8 p.m.
- Reposition sprinklers so that water lands **only** on the lawn and shrubs and not the driveway or sidewalk.
- Mulch effectively around all plants, trees, and shrubs. Mulching results in better soil moisture retention and weed control.

Auburn's Phase I Drought Watch remains in effect until further notice. City officials are hopeful that additional rainfall and responsible stewardship of Auburn's water resources will not only prevent the need for a Phase II Drought Warning, but will eliminate the current Phase I Drought Watch altogether.

Visit www.auburnalabama.org/waterconservation for more information or contact the City of Auburn Water Resource Management Department at 501-3060.

Auburn Preservation League Photography Contest



The Auburn Preservation League (APL), in partnership with the Auburn Arts Association and the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center, will host their inaugural photography contest featuring Auburn's historic sites and structures. The contest, open to all artists and photographers 18 years of age and older, seeks to recognize images of historical sites inside Auburn's City limits, excluding Auburn University property. Subjects include existing, endangered, and no longer existing historical sites and/or buildings.

All photographs submitted to the contest will be evaluated by a panel of judges and cash prizes will be awarded. The deadline for photo entries is August 30. An exhibition of entries will be on display at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center September 15 - 28. A reception announcing the contest winners will be held on Friday, September 19 from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Arts Center.

For more information, including a list of categories and prizes, please visit www.auburnpreservationleague.org or contact the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center at 501-2963.

Finance Department and Revenue Office to Close Early Friday, July 11

The City of Auburn Finance Department and Revenue Office will close at noon on Friday, July 11 for staff development and training and will reopen on Monday, July 14 at 8 a.m.

Board Vacancies

- One vacancy on the **Planning Commission** was announced at the June 17 City Council meeting and will be filled at the July 15 meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Planning Commission** will be announced at the July 1 City Council meeting and will be filled at the August 5 meeting.
- Two vacancies on the **Greenspace Advisory Board** will be announced at the July 1 City Council meeting and will be filled at the August 5 meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Lee County Youth Development Center** will be announced at the August 19 City Council meeting and will be filled at the September 16 meeting.

Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact Mayor Pro Tem Dick Phelan or notify the City Manager's Office.



MEETING SCHEDULE

- ### JULY
- 1 Industrial Development Board**, 4 p.m., City Hall Conference Room
 - Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
 - City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
 - 7 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Resource Management Conference Room
 - 8 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City Hall Conference Room
 - Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building
 - Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room
 - 9 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
 - 10 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
 - 15 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
 - 22 Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building
 - 24 Library Board**, 10 a.m., Library Board Room

- ### AUGUST
- 1 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
 - 4 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
 - 5 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
 - City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
 - 6 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber

Meeting times and places are subject to change

For a map of City meeting locations, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/maps/MeetingLocations

Job Vacancies

The City of Auburn has full-time and part-time positions in a wide range of areas. Two of the current regular, full-time job openings are:

- **Planner**
(\$3,445.68 - 4,114.32/month)
- **Construction and Maintenance Division Manager**
(\$4,634.06 - 5,533.31/month)

For updated job opportunities, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/jobs, contact the Alabama State Employment Office, or call the City's job line at 501-7250.

The City of Auburn is an equal opportunity employer.



FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study Update

Currently, Lee County is in the process of updating its Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study. The City of Auburn's FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study will also be updated as part of the countywide map modernization project.

A preliminary Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map (DFIRM) community coordination meeting for the City of Auburn will be held this fall at a date and time to be determined by State officials. The meeting will be open to the public. Additional information regarding the study and public meeting will be available in the August issue of *Open Line*.

For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000.

Blood Drive



The City of Auburn Life-South Blood Drive will be held on Tuesday, July 8 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the City Meeting Room, located at 122 Tichenor Avenue. Citizens are invited to participate.

For more information, please contact Stephanie King at 501-7240.

City Council to Hold FY 2009 & FY 2010 Biennial Budget Work Sessions

The City Council will hold the FY 2009 & FY 2010 Biennial Budget Work Sessions on Monday, July 28 and Monday, August 4 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Meeting Room, located at 122 Tichenor Avenue. Council members will evaluate the proposed FY 2009 & FY 2010 Biennial Budget. The public is invited to attend. The first reading and public hearing for the Biennial Budget is scheduled for the Tuesday, August 19 City Council meeting at 7 p.m.

For more information, please contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260.

clip out and save

Because Every Drop Counts... Water Conservation Tip For July

Did you know a broom can help conserve water? Use a broom to clean your driveway or sidewalk between rain showers instead of your garden hose. By sweeping the dirt over your lawn or disposing of it in your compost pile, you can prevent dirt from entering the storm sewer and reduce the amount of water you use.

For more water conservation tips, visit www.auburnalabama.org/waterconservation

Independence Day Holiday Schedule

City Hall will be closed on Friday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules. There will be no change in the collection of garbage, trash, and recycling for the week of June 30 - July 4.

Annual Fourth of July Celebration

Sponsored by
Briggs & Stratton Corporation



Celebrate our nation's 232nd birthday at the City of Auburn's Annual Fourth of July Celebration, sponsored by Briggs & Stratton Corporation, on Friday, July 4 behind the home side of Duck Samford Stadium. Gates open at 6 p.m. Enjoy great food, live music from the Parrots of the Caribbean, and a show-stopping fireworks display. Music and children's activities begin at 7 p.m., followed by one of the largest fireworks displays in Lee County at 9 p.m. Admission is free to the public. Attendees are encouraged to bring a blanket or chairs. Enjoy a picnic dinner with family and friends or purchase BBQ sandwiches and refreshments from local vendors on-site. In the event of rain, the fireworks display will be rescheduled for Saturday, July 5. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



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up COMING EVENTS



Open Line Feedback

Do you have any suggestions, feedback, or story ideas that you would like to share? If so, please contact us at openline@auburnalabama.org or call 501-7255.

Due to space considerations, we are unable to publicize any events that are not directly affiliated with a City department

Wednesdays in July...Preschool Story Time - Preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Preschool Story Time every Wednesday this month at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



Wednesdays in July...Salmagundi - Youth in grades K-5 are invited to Salmagundi at the Auburn Public Library every Wednesday this month at 2 p.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Thursdays in July...Toddler Time - Toddlers ages 18 months - 3 years are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for Toddler Time every Thursday this month at 10 a.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



Thursdays in July...Young Adult Coffeehouse - Young adults in grades 6-12 are invited to Young Adult Coffeehouse at the Auburn Public Library every Thursday this month at 6:30 p.m. For more information, contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Now Showing...Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions - Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibitions. The exhibits are free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. For more information on the Gallery or future exhibitions, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.



- **Summer Invitational 2008: Letters and Numbers**, through July 7. Recent works by June Corley and Ray Dugas.
- **Art Elements I: Color**, July 14 - August 22. An exhibition of works emphasizing color.



July 12...Auburn Dog Club Volunteer Work Day - Calling all dog lovers. Join the Auburn Dog Club for a fun-filled morning of soap suds, bubbles, and wagging tails at the Lee County Humane Society's Wash-n-Wag fundraiser on July 12 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. in the parking lot of the Lee County Humane Society. Participants must be 16 or older. For more information, or to volunteer, contact Melissa Weldon at 501-2946 or mweldon@auburnalabama.org.

July 15...Auburn Public Library Book Group - Join the Auburn Public Library Book Group on July 15 at 6:30 p.m. for a discussion on American History. Participants may read a fiction or non-fiction book related to the topic. For more information, contact the Reference Desk at 501-3190.



Register by July 18...Auburn Soccer Association Soccer Camps - The Auburn Soccer Association will host Goalkeeper Soccer Camp and Advanced Soccer Camp July 28 - 31 from 9 a.m. - noon at the Auburn Soccer Complex. Both camps are for youth ages 10 - 18. The cost is \$95/camp, payable to the Auburn Soccer Association. Registration ends July 18. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/soccer or contact Ryan Molt at 501-2943.



Beginning July 21...Fall 2008 Soccer Registration - Registration for Fall Soccer begins July 21. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/soccer or contact Ryan Molt at 501-2943.

- **Online Registration**, July 21 - August 6. To register, visit www.auburnalabama.org/soccer.

- **Mail-In Registration**, due by August 1. Mail completed registration forms to:

Auburn Soccer Association
P.O. Box 1533
Auburn, AL 36831

- **Walk-In Registration**, August 6, 6 p.m. - 7 p.m., Auburn Soccer Complex on Wire Road.

Available July 28...Parks and Recreation Fall Brochure - The Parks and Recreation Fall Brochure will be released on July 28. Copies will be available at various City facilities or download a copy online at www.auburnalabama.org/parks/brochure/asp. The brochure includes registration for fall sports and programs, as well as information on fall events such as the Sundown Concert Series at Kiesel Park and Downtown Trick-or-Treat. For more information, contact Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.

ShopAuburn!

August 1 - 3...Sales Tax Holiday Weekend - The Auburn City Council has unanimously approved an ordinance authorizing Auburn's Sales Tax Holiday Weekend to begin at 12:01 a.m. on Friday, August 1 and end at midnight on Sunday, August 3. For a complete list of items exempt from sales tax during the weekend, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/taxholiday. For more information, please contact the City of Auburn Revenue Office at 501-7239.



LeisureLink
A monthly online newsletter provided by the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department

Visit Parks and Recreation's monthly online newsletter, *LeisureLink*, at www.auburnalabama.org/leisure for the latest Parks and Recreation news, events, and registration information. Be sure to see this month's newsletter for information on the X-Cell Club's Kayaking on the Coosa River field trip, the Auburn Stride Walkers Club's monthly schedule, Auburn City Pool schedules, and much more. Sign up for monthly email notices of the latest issue of *LeisureLink* at www.auburnalabama.org/e-Notifier.

