

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

January 2014

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Provisions for Operating a Golf Cart on City Streets

Auburn's numerous golf courses, mild climate and university campus make it a prime location for golf cart owners. And while it's tempting to take to the road in a golf cart on neighborhood or other city streets, it's important to remember that the average golf cart isn't street legal. Failure to abide by the Alabama Motor Vehicle Law on Auburn's streets and roadways could lead to the issuance of a citation.

Golf carts can generally be classified as motor vehicles under state law, but that doesn't make them street legal. According to the Alabama Attorney General, "vehicles specifically designated by their manufacturers as off-the-road vehicles are not to be used on the streets and highways of this state. However, if one of these vehicles is operated upon the streets and highways of this state, the operator thereof is subject to all of the rules of the road and the statutes regulating the use of streets and highways, including the requirements respecting operators' or drivers' licenses."

Only golf carts manufactured for street and highway use are permissible on Alabama streets and roadways, and only when they are outfitted and licensed as required by law.

Golf carts manufactured for on-the-street use require the following features:

- Two types of brakes
- Horn that can be heard at least 200 ft. away
- Rear view mirror meeting certain requirements
- Windshield and wipers
- Muffler
- Seat belts
- Headlights and brake lights with requirements
- License plate and registration



In addition to these physical requirements for a golf cart to be used legally on the street, every operator must procure a drivers' license and obey all rules of the road. Since only licensed drivers may operate a golf cart on the road, children may never drive such a vehicle on neighborhood or other city streets, and parents may be held legally responsible for a child's on-the-street use of a golf cart. Those who violate state law by improperly operating a golf cart or other off-road vehicle, such as a 4-wheeler, on city streets are subject to the same fines and penalties as any motor vehicle driver.

Winter Evenings Require Increased Reflectivity on the Road

As the Winter months bring shorter days, be cognizant of limited visibility for drivers when the sun sets. City Ordinance 1272 requires all walkers or joggers to wear reflective material after dark. Reflective material should be worn on the front and back, between the waist and shoulders, and should be visible from a distance of at least 500 feet. Bicyclists should have a bicycle headlight visible from a distance of at least 500 feet, and a red reflector on the rear of the bicycle visible from a distance of at least 300 feet.

Whether walking, running or riding a bike, if you're not properly outfitted with reflective gear after dark, a motorist may not see you until it is too late to avoid an otherwise preventable accident. Please take the proper precautions to protect yourself and others on the road at night and to help make Auburn an even safer place to live.

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City of Auburn



Reporting Streetlight Outages

Citizens should report street light outages directly to Alabama Power by dialing 1-800-245-2244 (24 hours, 7 days per week) or online at <https://customerservice.southerncompany.com/outage/streetlight.aspx>.



Winter Activities for Adults 50+

Adults 50+ are invited to head indoors for the winter months and explore new programs at the Harris Center. New, FREE weekly and monthly programs begin this month, including game days, craft times, crosswords & coffee, lunch & learn series, speakers, workshops, fitness classes, and more! A variety of new classes are being offered as well, including couponing workshops, AAA Safe Driving for Mature Adults, yoga, memoir writing, and more. Visit www.auburnalabama.org/seniors to download a calendar or stop by the Harris Center Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. to pick up a brochure and sign up for classes.

For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930.



Business License Renewal Reminder

City of Auburn business licenses must be renewed by Monday, February 17, 2014 to avoid penalties and interest. Business license renewal forms will be mailed the last week of December 2013. For additional information on renewing a business license, contact the Revenue Office at 501-7239 or visit the City's webpage at www.auburnalabama.org/fi.

Library to Host Post-Holiday eBook Open House

Did you get an eReader, tablet, or MP3 player for the holidays? Not sure how to use it? Or maybe you need more books, movies, and music? Drop by the Auburn Public Library between 12:30 and 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 2 for our "Post-Holiday eBook Open House." We will show you the basics on how to use your tablet or device, and we'll teach you how to use your library card to access eBooks and other media.



MEETING SCHEDULE JANUARY

- 3 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room, 714 East Glenn Avenue
- 6 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4:00 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- 7 Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**, 5:15 p.m., Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 8 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 9 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 14 Greenspace Advisory Board**, Noon, Harris Center, 425 Perry Street
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Library Board Room, 749 East Thach Avenue
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., Auburn High School Multi-Media Room, 405 South Dean Road
- 21 Committee of the Whole**, 6:55 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber, 141 North Ross Street
- 23 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- 28 Library Board**, 2:00 p.m., Library Board Room, 749 East Thach Avenue

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

For more information, including a map of City meeting locations, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/boards.

2014 Holiday Collection Schedule-Calendar

We encourage you to keep this schedule handy for reference. Visit www.auburnalabama.org for updates throughout the year as this schedule is subject to change.

New Year's Day Holiday

Monday, December 30 - Monday's route
Tuesday, December 31 - Tuesday's route
Wednesday, January 1 - Holiday
Thursday, January 2 Wednesday's route
Friday, January 3 Thursday's route

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 20 - Holiday
Tuesday, January 21 - Monday's route
Wednesday, January 22 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 23 - Wednesday's route
Friday, January 24 - Thursday's route

Memorial Day Holiday

Monday, May 26 - Holiday
Tuesday, May 27 - Monday's route
Wednesday, May 28 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, May 29 - Wednesday's route
Friday, May 30 - Thursday's route

Independence Day Holiday

Monday, June 30 - Monday's route
Tuesday, July 1 - Tuesday's route
Wednesday, July 2 - Wednesday's route
Thursday, July 3 - Thursday's route
Friday, July 4 - Holiday

Labor Day Holiday

Monday, September 1 - Holiday
Tuesday, September 2 - Monday's route
Wednesday, September 3 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, September 4 - Wednesday's route
Friday, September 5 - Thursday's route

Veterans Day Holiday

Monday, November 10 - Monday's route
Tuesday, November 11 - Holiday
Wednesday, November 12 - Tuesday's route
Thursday, November 13 - Wednesday's route
Friday, November 14 - Thursday's route

Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 24 - Monday's route
Tuesday, November 25 - Tuesday's route
Wednesday, November 26 - Wednesday/Thursday's route
Thursday, November 27 - Holiday
Friday, November 28 - Holiday

Christmas Holiday

Monday, December 22 - Monday's route
Tuesday, December 23 - Tuesday's route
Wednesday, December 24 - Wednesday's route
Thursday, December 25 - Holiday
Friday, December 26 - Thursday's route

Carts and recycled materials must be placed at the curb for collection by 6 a.m. on your scheduled collection day. All carts and recycling bins must be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the following day. The holiday collection schedule is available online at www.auburnalabama.org/es/holiday.asp. For more information contact 501-3080.

Christmas Tree Recycling

You may not know it, but if you place your Christmas tree on the curb after the holidays, you are recycling it. Employees with the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department will collect Christmas trees placed out with your weekly curbside collections, and recycle them as part of the City's routine bulky waste (trash) collection program. Trees should be placed at the curb for recycling on your regularly scheduled collection day.

Recycle Your Holiday Boxes

In addition to recycling your tree, don't forget to recycle the boxes from your gifts this holiday season. Cardboard boxes and gift boxes are picked up as part of the City's Curbside Recycling Program and may also be recycled at the RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center, located at 365-A North Donahue Drive. If you wish to place cardboard at the curb for recycling, you should break down all boxes and leave them at the curb for pick-up on your regularly scheduled collection day.



The 2013 Kevin Bell Memorial Blast & Cast hosted by Andy Lamar, Jr. raised \$6,000 in proceeds for the Auburn Veterans Committee Scholarship Fund. The proceeds were presented to the Auburn Veterans Committee on Monday, November 11 at the Auburn Veterans Memorial.

Board Vacancies

Three vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** were announced at the December 3, 2013 City Council meeting and will be filled at the January 7, 2014 City Council meeting.



One vacancy on the **Water Works Board** was announced at the December 3, 2013 City Council meeting and will be filled at the January 7, 2014 City Council meeting.

Citizens interested in serving are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office.

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Auburn City Schools
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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.

up COMING EVENTS

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

Auburn Public Library

For more information, contact Auburn Public Library's Youth Services at 501-3196.

There will not be any Library Youth Services programs during the week of December 28 – January 3 in observance of the Christmas Holiday.

Baby Time - Tuesdays at 10 a.m. for ages birth – 18 months and their caregivers.

Toddler Time - Wednesdays at 10 a.m. for ages 18 months - 3 years and their caregivers.

Preschool Time - Thursdays at 10 a.m. for preschoolers ages 3 - 5 years and their caregivers.

Legomania – Saturdays from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. for “free play” with Legos®.

ARF! – Thursdays at 3:45 p.m. for beginning readers. Share a good book with our canine reading friend, Gemini.

Special Programs

Puppet Shows – Monday, January 6 at 3:30 p.m. for children ages 3-7.

Teen Café – Thursday, January 9 at 6:30 p.m. for students in grades 8-12. Let's play Jeopardy! Join APL Youth Services for gaming fun and refreshments.

New! Fractured Fairy Tales – Tuesday, January 14 at 3:30 p.m. for students in grades K-2. Students will hear their favorite fairy tales and then the humorous 'fractured' versions and are invited to make a craft.

Poetry for Kids – Wednesday, January 15 at 4:30 p.m. for grades K-5. Join AU Live Poets Society for a poetry writing workshop.

New! ConnectKids – Wednesday, January 22 at 3:30 p.m. This dynamic program allows kids grades 3-5 to explore diverse topics related to libraries, digital information, and the arts.

Poetry for Teens – Wednesday, January 29 at 4:30 p.m. for students in grades 6-12. Join AU Live Poets Society for a poetry writing workshop.

Parks and Recreation

For more information on any of the events listed, or to pre-register for a program, contact Auburn Parks and Recreation at 501-2930 or visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition – Mark your calendar for the following Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center Exhibition. The exhibit is free and open to the public Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Winter Invitational 2014, January 7 - February 14. Invitational exhibition featuring two and three-dimensional works based on a common theme.

Tickets on Sale Dec. 9...Daddy-Daughter Date Night 2014 “Winter Wonderland” - Dads and daughters, don't miss Daddy-Daughter Date Night 2014 at the Clarion Inn & Suites on Thursday, Feb. 6 from 5:30 - 8 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, Feb. 7 and 8, from 6:30 - 9 p.m. Join us for music from DJ Ozz, a dance contest and refreshments. This event is open to girls 12 and under. Tickets are \$30/couple and \$5/additional child. Tickets are on sale at the Harris Center Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., while supplies last.



Due Jan. 3...Spring Baseball/Softball Coaching Applications – The Auburn Baseball/Softball Association is recruiting coaches for spring baseball and softball. Applications are available online at www.auburnalabama.org/baseball. All applications must be received by Friday, Jan. 3.

Register by Jan. 3...ABC-123 - Toddlers ages 3 - 5 are invited to join Auburn Parks and Recreation's ABC-123 preschool readiness program. The winter quarter begins Jan. 13. Classes meet Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 7:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Dean Road Recreation Center. Children will enjoy storytelling, arts & crafts, creative learning, and take walking field trips to the Auburn Public Library. Registration is \$225/quarter. Register at the Harris Center by Jan. 3.

Jan. 11...2nd Annual Polar Plunge to Benefit Special Olympics – Lee County Special Olympics will host the 2nd Annual Polar Plunge on Saturday, Jan. 11 at 10 a.m. at Samford Pool. Sign up, dive in, and brave the cold as we raise money to help support Lee County Special Olympics athletes at area, state, and national games. Registration forms and details are available online at www.auburnalabama.org/specialolympics. Come brave the cold!

Beginning Jan. 13...Online Baseball, Softball, and T-Ball Registration – Online registration for spring baseball, softball, and t-ball begins Monday, Jan. 13. Log on to www.auburnalabama.org/baseball to register. Registration ends Saturday, Feb. 1. Walk-in registration will be held Saturday, Feb. 1 from 10 a.m. - noon at the Dean Road Recreation Center.

Beginning Jan. 13...Online Soccer Registration – Online registration for youth soccer begins Monday, Jan. 13 and continues through Wednesday, Jan. 29. Log on to www.auburnalabama.org/soccer to register. Walk-in registration will be held Wednesday, Jan. 29 from 6 – 7 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex.

Feb. 22...25th Annual Love Your Heart Run and 7th Annual Crank Your Heart Ride – Mark your calendars for Saturday, Feb. 22 and join the Exceptional Outreach Organization and Auburn Parks and Recreation for the 25th Annual Love Your Heart Run at Chewacla State Park. Participants may choose to run or walk either a one-mile course or the Love Your Heart 10K (6.2 mile) course, or try your hand at the Crank Your Heart Ride, consisting of a 3.5, 11, or 22 mile bike ride. Register online at www.loveyourheartrun.com. Proceeds benefit special needs individuals in Lee County.

