

Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

January 2010

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Governor Riley Visits RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center

Governor Bob Riley recently visited the RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center, 365-A North Donahue Drive, to issue an update on grants from the Alabama Recycling Fund. These grants are designed to help municipalities and local organizations initiate or expand recycling efforts. During his visit, the Governor had the opportunity to tour the RecycleAuburn Center and noted its aesthetic qualities and convenient proximity to residential areas. The Governor commended City of Auburn staff and officials for their leadership and proactive approach to offering recycling programs. "Alabama can and must encourage more recycling efforts like this," said Governor Riley.

In 1987, Auburn became the first city in the state to offer a municipal curbside recycling program. Today, more than 2,500 residences and commercial businesses participate in the weekly curbside program, and an additional 250 vehicles visit the RecycleAuburn Drop-Off Center each week. In 2008, Auburn citizens recycled more than 986 tons of commodities and diverted 8,863 tons of wood waste from landfills.

While Auburn's recycling programs continue to set the standard for communities across the state, City officials realize the importance of expanding the program. The 2009 Citizen Survey showed that citizens want to see additional emphasis on curbside recycling. Through the efforts of the Lee County Recycling Partnership, an intergovernmental alliance between Auburn University, the Cities of Auburn and Opelika, and Lee County, more than \$120,000 in grant funds have been secured from the Alabama Recycling Fund. The City of Auburn will utilize its portion of the grant to provide stackable recycling bins for citizens, additional recycling containers for City parks, and promotional and educational materials. By working together and creating a regional approach to recycling, the partnership promises to further its member agencies' recycling efforts.



For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/es or contact the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department at 501-3080.

2010 Citizen Survey Coming Soon

Auburn citizens once again have an opportunity to shape their local government by participating in the 2010 Citizen Survey, scheduled to get underway in January. The survey, now in its twenty-fourth year, plays an integral role in Auburn's interactive government. Results of the survey are used to set priorities and formulate the budget.

Last year's survey results identified two primary areas where citizens indicated they would like to see the City focus its attention:

- 1) the management of traffic flow and congestion and
- 2) the maintenance of City streets and facilities.

City officials responded to those requests with projects such as the East Samford Avenue extension to improve east-west traffic flow, improvements to the Donahue Drive – Magnolia Avenue intersection, the addition of pedestrian crosswalk countdown signals throughout downtown, and more than \$1 million in repaving, resurfacing, and restriping. Additional projects include renovations to the Frank Brown Recreation Center (FBRC) and preliminary plans for Phase II of the FBRC, including a Senior Center. In 2010, Auburn citizens can expect to see the replacement of the North Donahue Drive Bridge, the Wire Road Bridge, the addition of a traffic signal at East Glenn Avenue and Airport Road, continued pedestrian improvements to the downtown area – including additional street lighting along West Magnolia Avenue, more pedestrian crosswalk countdown signals in downtown, and additional repaving and resurfacing projects.

Citizens who receive a survey in the mail are asked to take a few moments to complete the survey and return it in the postage-paid envelope. Telephone follow-up surveys will be provided for citizens unable to complete the survey by mail.

If you don't receive a survey, we still want to hear from you. The City of Auburn welcomes all feedback by email, telephone, or mail. City Council and City department contact information is available online at www.auburnalabama.org/about/contact.asp and on page four of this newsletter.

For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/survey or contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260.

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Open Line is produced by
Office of the
City Manager

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City of Auburn



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Holiday Schedules

City Hall will be closed on Friday, January 1 for the **New Year's holiday** and Monday, January 18 in observance of the **Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday**. Public Safety services, including Police, Fire, and Communications, will remain on their regular schedules both days. Please see the 2010 holiday garbage, trash, and recycling schedule in this newsletter for changes to collection schedules.

Auburn City Council Authorizes New Non-Exclusive Cable Franchise with Knology of Alabama, Inc.

At its November 3, 2009 meeting, the Auburn City Council unanimously approved an ordinance granting Knology of Alabama, Inc. a non-exclusive cable franchise in the City of Auburn. Immediately following the Council's authorization, Knology published a copy of the ordinance and franchise agreement, in accordance with Alabama law. Now that legal requirements have been met, Knology officials can begin preliminary engineering plans and capital expense allocations to locate infrastructure in Auburn. It will likely take Knology several years to build out an infrastructure that will allow them to serve a substantial portion of Auburn.

Visit www.auburnalabama.org/agenda and view the November 3, 2009 City Council agenda packet or contact Auburn City Hall at 501-7260 for more information.

FEMA Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study Update

Proposed maps scheduled to go into effect in July 2010

Lee County and the City of Auburn are in the process of updating their Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Maps and Flood Insurance Study. Property owners affected by the proposed floodplain have been notified by mail. The proposed maps are scheduled to go into effect in July 2010.

Visit www.auburnalabama.org/fema/maps.asp for an interactive map of the current and proposed FEMA floodplains. Property owners are encouraged to visit the site to determine if their property is in the proposed floodplain.

For more information, please visit the City's FEMA webpage at www.auburnalabama.org/fema or contact the City of Auburn Public Works Department at 501-3000 or webpw@auburnalabama.org.

Board Vacancies

- Two vacancies on the **Board of Zoning Adjustment** will be filled at the January 5 City Council meeting.
- One vacancy on the **Water Works Board** will be filled at the January 5 City Council meeting.



Citizens interested in serving on a City Board or Commission are encouraged to contact their City Council member or notify the City Manager's Office at webocm@auburnalabama.org or call 501-7260.

THE BIG EVENT 2010

Mayor Bill Ham, Jr. has declared Saturday, February 6 THE BIG EVENT Day in the City of Auburn in recognition of Auburn University's Student Government Association's (SGA) one-day, student-run community service project.

The program is a way for AU students to give back to the communities of Auburn, Opelika, and Lee County. If you would like to request student volunteers for a project, please visit www.auBIGEVENT.com to download a job request form or contact the SGA Office at 844-4240 for more information. Job request forms must be postmarked by **Friday, January 8**. Forms are also available in the December 2009 issue of Open Line, available online at www.auburnalabama.org/openline.

The City of Auburn would like to thank Auburn University and the Student Government Association for their contributions to the Auburn community.



MEETING SCHEDULE

JANUARY

- 4 Cemeteries Advisory Board**, 4 p.m., Dean Road Recreation Center
- 5 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
- 6 Board of Zoning Adjustment**, 4:30 p.m., Council Chamber
- 8 Tree Commission**, 11:30 a.m., Chamber of Commerce Conference Room
- 12 Greenspace Advisory Board**, 11:30 a.m., City Meeting Room
- Historic Preservation Commission**, 4 p.m., Development Services Building
- Board of Education**, 6 p.m., AHS Multi-Media Room
- 14 Planning Commission**, 5 p.m., Council Chamber
- 19 City Council**, 7 p.m., Council Chamber
- 21 Water Works Board**, 4 p.m., Water Board Conference Room
- 26 Library Board**, 2 p.m., Library Board Room
- Bicycle Committee**, 7 p.m., Development Services Building

Meeting times and places are subject to change.

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

Last Day to Pay on Time Dates for December Water Bill Cycles

In an effort to help customers of the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn (AWWB) adjust to the new multi-cycle billing schedule, *Open Line* will include the *last day to pay on time* dates for each residential billing cycle. The billing cycle number is located on your water bill.

Cycle	Last Day to Pay Bill Received in December
1	December 17
2	December 28
3	January 4
4	January 11

Payments may be made by cash, check, money order, automatic bank draft, credit, or debit card. Payments are accepted at the following locations:

- **Online** at www.auburnalabama.org/wro
- **In-person** at the Bailey-Alexander Complex, 1501 West Samford Avenue
- **Payment drop boxes** located in front of Auburn City Hall on Tichenor Avenue and at the Bailey-Alexander Complex, 1501 West Samford Avenue

For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/wro or contact the Water Works Board of the City of Auburn - Water Revenue Office at 501-3050 during regular business hours, Monday - Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Political Sign Regulation Reminder

With the election year upon us, the City of Auburn would like to take a moment to remind citizens of regulations governing the placement of political signs in the City limits:



- Signs may not be placed earlier than 30 days prior to the election date. This includes signs for primary elections.
- Signs may not be placed in the public right-of-way, on any structures in the right of way (power poles, traffic signs, and medians), or on any property owned by the City of Auburn or Auburn City Schools.
- Signs are limited to a maximum size of 32 square feet.
- Signs must be removed within seven days following the election.
- It is the responsibility of the candidate to ensure that volunteers who distribute and install political signs are in compliance with these regulations.

For more information, please visit www.auburnalabama.org and select the "Guide to Political Signs" under the "Residents" tab or contact the City of Auburn Planning Department at 501-3040.

Political sign regulations are set forth in Chapter 8 of the City Code.
www.auburnalabama.org/code

Reporting Street Light Outages

To report a street light outage in the City of Auburn, please contact Alabama Power's 24-hour customer service number at 1-800-245-2244.

Receive Schedules via e-Notifier

Citizens interested in receiving garbage, trash, and recycling announcements and holiday schedules via email may sign up for the e-Notifier online at www.auburnalabama.org/e-Notifier.

Please visit www.auburnalabama.org/es/holiday.asp or contact the City of Auburn Environmental Services Department at 501-3080 for more information.

✂ clip out and save

2010 Garbage, Trash, and Recycling Holiday Schedule

Citizens are encouraged to keep this schedule to use as a reference throughout the year

January

New Year's Day

There will be no change in the collection schedule the week of December 28 - January 1.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

Monday, January 18	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, January 19	Monday's route
Wednesday, January 20	Tuesday's route
Thursday, January 21	Wednesday's route
Friday, January 22	Thursday's route

May

Memorial Day

Monday, May 31	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, June 1	Monday's route
Wednesday, June 2	Tuesday's route
Thursday, June 3	Wednesday's route
Friday, June 4	Thursday's route

July

Independence Day

Monday, July 5	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, July 6	Monday's route
Wednesday, July 7	Tuesday's route
Thursday, July 8	Wednesday's route
Friday, July 9	Thursday's route

September

Labor Day

Monday, September 6	HOLIDAY
Tuesday, September 7	Monday's route
Wednesday, September 8	Tuesday's route
Thursday, September 9	Wednesday's route
Friday, September 10	Thursday's route

November

Veterans Day

All routes will remain the same with the exception of Thursday's route, which will run on Friday, November 12.

Thanksgiving

Monday, November 22	Monday and Tuesday's routes
Tuesday, November 23	Wednesday's route
Wednesday, November 24	Thursday's route
Thursday, November 25	HOLIDAY
Friday, November 26	HOLIDAY

December

Christmas

There will be no change in the collection schedule the week of December 20 - 24.

Collection carts and recyclable materials should be placed at the curb by 6 a.m. on your scheduled collection day. Please avoid placing items on or near storm drains, mailboxes, utility boxes, utility poles, or other fixed objects. All items should be properly contained or bundled so they do not fall into the street or down storm drains. All carts and collection bins should be removed from the curb by 6 a.m. the following day.

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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.



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, contact the Arts Center at 501-2963.

- **PTA Reflections Exhibition and Reception**, January 4 - 15. PTA Reflections is an art education program that gives Auburn City Schools students the opportunity to create works of art in a variety of media. Student winners will be announced at the PTA Reflections reception on January 10 from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. The public is invited to attend.
- **Found Objects II**, January 4 - 30. An annual exhibition featuring works utilizing non-traditional art materials

Weekly in January...Auburn Public Library Story Times for Children - Join the Auburn Public Library as they host special story times for children ages 6 months - 5 years and their caregivers. All story times are held at 10 a.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

- **Tuesdays** - Baby Time (ages 6 - 18 months)
- **Wednesdays** - Preschool Story Time (ages 3 - 5 years)
- **Thursdays** - Toddler Time (ages 18 months - 3 years)



Due January 4...Spring Baseball Coaching Applications - The Auburn Dixie Baseball/Softball Association (ADBSA) is recruiting coaches for spring baseball. Applications are available at the Dean Road Recreation Center and may be emailed by request. All applications must be postmarked by January 4. For more information, contact the Dean Road Recreation Center at 501-2930.

January 5...Auburn History Club - Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn History Club at the Auburn Public Library on January 5 at 4 p.m. January's topic will be the legend of Chewacla. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

January 6...Magic Tree House Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for the Magic Tree House Club on January 6 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured book title is *Blizzard of the Blue Moon*. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.



January 12...LifeSouth Blood Drive - The City of Auburn will hold a LifeSouth Blood Drive on January 12 from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the City of Auburn Meeting Room, located at 122 Tichenor Avenue. Citizens are invited to participate. For more information, contact Stephanie King in the City of Auburn Human Resources Department at 501-7240.



January 12...Puppet Show - Youth of all ages are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a puppet show entitled *No More Monkey Business* on January 12 at 3:30 p.m. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

January 19... Auburn Public Library Book Group - The Auburn Public Library Book Group will meet on January 19 at 6:30 p.m. For more information, including January's topic, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact the Reference Desk at 501-3195.



January 21...American Girls Club - Youth in grades K - 5 are invited to join the American Girls Club at the Auburn Public Library on January 21 at 3:30 p.m. This month's featured character is Kirsten. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

January 26...Teen Café - Teens in grades 8 - 12 are invited to join the Auburn Public Library for a BRAND NEW program, Teen Café! Join us for a book to movie discussion of Jane Eyre. For more information, visit www.auburnalabama.org/library or contact Youth Services at 501-3196.

Spring 2010 Parks and Recreation Youth Athletics Registration

Soccer

Online Registration will be held January 18 - February 3 at www.auburnalabama.org/soccer.

Walk-in Registration will be held on February 3 from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m. at the Auburn Soccer Complex on Wire Road.

Baseball • Softball • T-Ball

Online Registration will be held January 18 - February 6 at www.auburnalabama.org/baseball.

Walk-In Registration will be held February 6 from 9 a.m. - Noon at the Dean Road Recreation Center.

Registration Reminders

- A birth certificate is required to register for any sport.
- Registration fee assistance is available through the City of Auburn Community Development Division as funds allow. In order to qualify for assistance, a household must meet the US Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) income requirements. Funds are available on a first come, first serve basis. **Arrangements for scholarships must be made prior to registration.** For more information, contact the City of Auburn Community Development Division at 501-7280

For more information on registration, visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks or contact the City of Auburn Parks and Recreation Department at 501-2930.