



AUBURN MESSENGER

Street Repair Overview

- Potholes being repaired
- Buckled streets being cut and repaired
- Some streets receiving a full resurfacing
- Dedicated road crew seen all over the city

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Street Repairs Continue all over Auburn

AUBURN, GA – The familiar rumble of construction equipment and the sight of hard-working crews have become a welcome sign of progress for Auburn residents. Extensive street repairs are now underway across the city, promising smoother drives and improved infrastructure for all. This renewed push to tackle road maintenance comes as Mayor Rick Roquemore proudly highlights the efforts of Auburn's dedicated Public Works road crew.

"Our Public Works team is out there every day, working diligently to enhance our city's roadways," stated Mayor Roquemore. "Their commitment ensures that our streets are safe and accessible for our citizens. We appreciate their hard work and dedication to

making Auburn an even better place to live."

The current focus of the repairs includes patching potholes, resurfacing worn sections, and addressing drainage issues to prevent future damage. While some temporary inconveniences and detours are expected, the long-term benefits of these upgrades are eagerly anticipated by the community.

Citizens are reminded to exercise caution when driving through work zones and to be mindful of the crews as they carry out these essential improvements. The city is committed to keeping residents informed about the progress of



Crew's Work On College St.

the street repairs and any significant traffic pattern changes. With Mayor Roquemore's support and the tireless efforts of the road crew, Auburn is paving the way for a smoother and brighter future.

Upcoming Road Repairs

AUBURN, Ga. – Residents are seeing smoother travels as the City of Auburn's Public Works Department makes headway on its road repair initiative. Several key thoroughfares have already been repaved, with more projects on the horizon.

Completed repairs include stretches of County-Line Road, Johns Bluff, Lakeview Drive, Meadow Trace, Auburn Park

Drive, St. Andrews, Country Court, and sections of Mt. Moriah.

"We're thrilled with the progress so far," said Iris Akridge, Director of Public Works. "Our crews are working diligently to address the areas most in need, and it's rewarding to see these improvements directly benefit our citizens."

Akridge emphasized that this is just the beginning. "We have a comprehensive plan to continue these repairs throughout the city," she stated. "We appreciate the community's patience and look forward to delivering more restored roadways in the coming months."

Auburn Officials Stress Importance of Proper Permitting for Projects

Auburn, GA – With the spring and summer home improvement season approaching, Auburn city officials are reminding residents of the importance of obtaining the necessary permits before starting any construction or renovation projects. Adhering to the city's permitting process ensures safety, compliance with local ordinances, and can prevent costly delays and penalties.

Code Enforcement Officer Mark Palmer emphasized that permits are a crucial step in protecting homeowners and the community. "Getting the right permits isn't just about following rules; it's about ensuring your project is safe for you, your family, and your neighbors," said Palmer. "We often see issues arise from unpermitted work that could have been easily avoided with a proper review upfront."

The city requires permits for a variety of projects, including new constructions, additions, demolitions, and significant alterations to electrical, plumbing, or mechanical systems. Palmer noted that residents are sometimes unaware of the full scope of work that necessitates a permit.

"We encourage anyone planning a project, big or small, to contact City Hall first," Palmer advised. "Our team is here to guide you through the permitting process and answer any questions. It's much better to clarify requirements beforehand than to face potential stop-work orders or have to redo work that isn't up to code." He added,



Deck Construction

"A smooth permitting process starts with early communication. We're not here to be a roadblock, but a resource to help your project succeed safely and legally."

Residents can find more information about permit requirements and the application process on the official City of Auburn website or by contacting the code enforcement office directly.

"We encourage anyone planning a project, big or small, to contact City Hall first,"

Auburn Reminds Residents: Property Maintenance Crucial for Safety as Summer Growth Surges

AUBURN, Ga. – As summer temperatures rise and rainfall becomes more frequent, the City of Auburn is reminding residents of their responsibilities in maintaining their properties, with a particular emphasis on managing fast-growing grass and weeds. Adherence to city codes is not just about aesthetics, officials say, but is a critical component of community safety.

"During these warmer, wetter months, grass and weeds can get out of hand very quickly," said Code Enforcement Officer Mark Palmer. "What might seem like a small patch of overgrown grass one week can become a significant issue the next. We're urging all property owners to be proactive in keeping their lots tidy."

According to Auburn's property maintenance codes, owners are required to keep

grass and weeds from becoming overgrown. While specific height limits are outlined in the city's ordinances, the general expectation is that yards will be regularly mowed and maintained to prevent them from becoming unsightly or hazardous. The city's regulations aim to ensure that all properties are maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition. This includes not only the control of vegetation but also the proper storage of materials and the general upkeep of structures.

The push for diligent property maintenance is underscored by significant safety concerns. Overgrown vegetation can create numerous hazards. "Tall grass and weeds can become a breeding ground for pests like mosquitoes, ticks, and rodents, which can carry diseases and impact public health," Palmer explained. "It can also obscure visibility for drivers at intersections and create hiding spots for potential criminal activity, making our neighborhoods less safe."

Furthermore, dry, overgrown vegetation can pose a fire risk, especially during periods of little rainfall. A carelessly tossed cigarette or a spark from machinery can quickly ignite tall, dry grass, potentially

endangering homes and property.

"We understand that life gets busy, but regular property maintenance is a responsibility that comes with homeownership and contributes directly to the well-being of our entire community," Palmer stated. "A well-maintained property not only looks good but also demonstrates pride in our city and respect for our neighbors."

Failure to comply with the city's property maintenance codes can result in a notice of violation, followed by potential fines if the issue is not rectified within a specified timeframe. In some instances, the city may undertake the necessary maintenance at the owner's expense.

"Our goal isn't to be punitive," Palmer emphasized. "It's about education and cooperation. We want to work with residents to ensure Auburn remains a beautiful and, most importantly, a safe place to live. A little effort each week in maintaining your yard can make a huge difference."

Residents are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the City of Auburn's specific property maintenance ordinances, which can be found on the city's official website or by contacting the Code Enforcement office.



Overgrown Lot

Auburn City Hall Emphasizes Timely Bill Mailing, Details Summer Guide, and Spotlights Downtown Development Following New Complex Opening

Auburn, GA – Auburn City Hall is assuring residents of its commitment to ensuring utility bills are mailed out consistently and in a timely manner. The city's Utility Billing department has contracted with a new billing provider aimed at prompt processing and dispatch of monthly statements. To further facilitate on-time payments once bills are received and to avoid potential late fees, residents are strongly encouraged to utilize convenient options such as online payment portals and calling City Hall to sign up for auto-pay.

Excitement is also building for the upcoming release of the "Guide to Your Auburn Summer." This comprehensive brochure, soon to be available from the Parks and

Recreation department, will detail a wide array of local activities and community programs. Expect information on popular events like the Summer Kids Crafts series, ensuring residents of all ages have a full and engaging schedule for summer enjoyment.

With last year's completion and opening of the new state-of-the-art Municipal Complex, which now serves as a central hub for city operations, attention is keenly focused on the upcoming and ongoing development of the broader Downtown Auburn area. This continued revitalization effort aims to further enhance the city center by introducing new residential, commercial, and public spaces. The vision is to build upon the



Downtown Survey

QR CODE to Downtown Auburn Survey

foundation of the new complex, creating an even more dynamic, walkable, and inviting downtown district for both residents and visitors. The City of Auburn's official website provides details on the next phases of this exciting transformation.

Auburn, Georgia Gears Up for Spectacular Independence Day Celebration on June 28th, Thousands Expected

AUBURN, GA – The City of Auburn is buzzing with anticipation as it prepares to host its beloved annual Independence Day Celebration, an event renowned for bringing the community together in a grand display of patriotic spirit. Set for **Saturday, June 28th, 2025**, this family-friendly festival promises an unforgettable evening packed with dazzling fireworks, live music, a tempting array of food trucks, and unique craft vendors, all unfolding at **1369 4th Avenue, Auburn, GA 30011**,

starting at **5:00 PM**.

City officials are planning for a significant turnout, as this celebration has consistently drawn large crowds from Auburn and surrounding areas. Events Manager Brooke Haney shared her excitement about the upcoming festivities. "It's truly the highlight of our summer calendar here in Auburn," Haney stated. "Year after year, we're thrilled to see thousands of smiling faces –

our residents, neighbors, and visitors – come together to celebrate. There's a palpable energy in the air, a real sense of community pride, and we're expecting this year to be our best yet."

The festivities will commence in the late afternoon, allowing attendees ample time to explore the diverse offerings before the grand finale. A curated selection of **food trucks** will be on hand, ready to serve up

"We're expecting this year to be our best yet."



everything from savory barbecue and gourmet burgers to sweet treats and refreshing beverages, ensuring there's something to satisfy every craving. Alongside the culinary delights, **craft vendors** will showcase their handmade goods and unique products, offering attendees a chance to find special souvenirs and support local artisans.

As the evening progresses, the sounds of **live music** will fill the air, providing a vibrant soundtrack and inviting folks to tap their feet or even dance along. The atmosphere is designed to be welcoming for all ages, creating a perfect backdrop for families and friends to gather and make lasting memories.

The undeniable pinnacle of the celebration will be the **fireworks display at dusk**. "We take immense pride in our fireworks show," Haney commented enthusiastically.

"Our team works hard to create a truly first-class, breathtaking spectacle that lights up the Auburn sky. Hearing the 'oohs' and 'aahs' from the thousands gathered is the most rewarding part. It's a magical experience that truly caps off a wonderful day of community celebration, and we're aiming to deliver another showstopper this year."

The Independence Day Celebration is more than just an event; it's a testament to the city's vibrant community spirit and its dedication to providing high-quality, engaging experiences for its residents. It's an opportunity for fellowship, fun, and a shared sense of patriotism.

For further details or inquiries about the Auburn Independence Day Celebration, please contact Events Manager Brooke Haney at BHANNEY@CITYOFAUBURN-GA.ORG.

Caption describing picture or graphic.



Your vision. Our passion. Your Auburn

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Auburn Police Department Bolsters Safety with New Technology **and Officers, Urges Summer Vigilance**

AUBURN, GA – May 30, 2025 – The Auburn Police Department is enhancing its capabilities to protect and serve the community with the recent deployment of new FLOCK safety cameras and the welcoming of two new officers to its ranks. Police Chief Christopher Hodge emphasized the department's commitment to proactive policing and community partnership, especially as summer brings more outdoor activities and the Fourth of July approaches.

"Our primary goal is, and always will be, the safety and well-being of our Auburn residents," stated Chief Christopher Hodge. "The new FLOCK cameras strategically placed around the city are a significant step forward in our crime prevention and investigation efforts. They provide an extra layer of security and act as a strong deterrent."

The FLOCK automated license plate reading (ALPR) cameras are designed to capture objective evidence to help solve and reduce crime. These systems are currently being utilized by law enforcement agencies in various jurisdictions, including others within Barrow County, to identify vehicles reportedly involved in criminal activity.

"These cameras are a force multiplier for our officers," Chief Hodge explained. "They provide critical information in real-time, allowing us to respond more effectively and efficiently to incidents, ultimately making our streets safer for everyone."

The department is also celebrating the addition of new personnel. Officer Michael Beasley recently joined the force, bringing with him a passion for community service. "We're thrilled to have Of-

ficer Beasley on board," said Chief Hodge. "His dedication and fresh perspective are already proving to be a great asset to our team and the citizens he serves."

Adding to the growing team is Officer Avery Pittman, the department's newest police academy graduate. "Officer Pittman represents the future of our department," Chief Hodge commented with pride. "Graduating from the academy is a significant achievement, and we are eager to see Officer Pittman apply that rigorous training to serve the Auburn community. It's a testament to our commitment to investing in highly qualified and dedicated individuals."

With schools now out for the summer, Chief Hodge highlighted the increased importance of vigilance from both officers and residents. "We'll naturally see

"Our primary goal is, and always will be, the safety and well-being of our Auburn residents,"

more children playing outdoors, riding bicycles, and enjoying the warm weather. We urge all drivers to be extra cautious in residential areas and around parks. Let's work together to ensure our kids have a fun and safe summer."

The Chief also reminded citizens to be proactive in reporting any suspicious activity. "If you see something that doesn't seem right, please don't hesitate to contact the Auburn Police Department. Your calls can make a real difference in preventing crime and ensuring your neighborhood remains a safe place to live and play. We are your partners in this endeavor."

As the Fourth of July holiday approaches, Chief Hodge also issued a preemptive call for fireworks safety. "Fireworks are a traditional part of celebrating Independence Day, but they can also be

extremely dangerous if not handled properly," he cautioned. "We encourage residents to enjoy public displays conducted by professionals. If you choose to use consumer fireworks, please do so responsibly, keep a safe distance, never allow children to handle them, and always have a water source nearby. Let's prevent injuries and property damage so everyone can enjoy the holiday."

The Auburn Police Department encourages residents to reach out with any concerns or for non-emergency assistance. By working together, the department and the community can continue to make Auburn a secure and thriving city.



FLOCK Camera