

# Open Line

A Monthly Newsletter for City of Auburn Citizens

March 2021

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**Open Line** is produced  
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City of Auburn

## Trash Amnesty 2021

Ready to clear out the clutter in and around your home this spring? Trash Amnesty 2021 will take place March 15 through April 23, allowing Auburn residents to take care of spring cleaning without paying extra fees.

During Trash Amnesty 2021, collection fees for oversized yard debris and other bulky items that exceed five cubic yards will be waived. Please follow these guidelines when taking advantage of Trash Amnesty 2021:

- We will accept yard waste, appliances and bulky items for collection. Please do not include household garbage or hazardous waste.
- Place debris at the curb no later than 6 a.m. on your regularly scheduled collection day.
- Place items at least 3 feet from mailboxes, utility boxes, poles or other fixed objects.
- Contain or bundle items so they do not fall into the street or down storm drains.
- Limbs and other debris should be no longer than 5 feet.
- Place all items in one pile for pickup.



Because of the large volume of pickup expected during Trash Amnesty 2021, residents may experience a delay in their normal collection schedule. For questions, contact Environmental Services at (334) 501-3080 or [webenvirsvc@auburnalabama.org](mailto:webenvirsvc@auburnalabama.org).

## COVID-19 vaccine update

At the time this issue is being written in late January, the Alabama Department of Public Health currently lists five locations in the Auburn area that are providing COVID-19 vaccinations. These include East Alabama Medical Center, the Lee County Health Department, Thomas Pharmacy, Auburn Urgent Care and Auburn University.

Information about the availability of the vaccine at each of these sites is available below:

- East Alabama Medical Center: [eamc.org/patient-and-guests/covid-19-information](http://eamc.org/patient-and-guests/covid-19-information)
- Lee County Health Department:

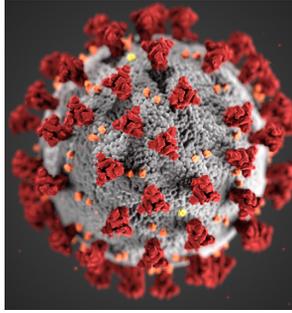
[alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/vaccine.html](http://alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/vaccine.html)

- Thomas Pharmacy: (334) 745-3632; Please note, Thomas Pharmacy does not currently have doses available, but community members may call to be placed on a waiting list. Please be patient as the pharmacy is experiencing high call volumes at this time.
- Auburn Urgent Care: [facebook.com/AuburnUrgentCare](https://www.facebook.com/AuburnUrgentCare)
- Auburn University: [auburn.edu/covid-resource-center/vaccine-information](http://auburn.edu/covid-resource-center/vaccine-information)

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## COVID-19 vaccine update, continued.

The City of Auburn is working with East Alabama Medical Center and the City of Opelika to establish a large vaccine center in Auburn, which is expected to be available by the time this issue is delivered. Keep an eye on [news.auburnalabama.org](https://news.auburnalabama.org) for more details.



Information about the prioritization and availability of the vaccine is available at [alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/vaccine.html](https://alabamapublichealth.gov/covid19/vaccine.html).

The public is asked not to call the hospital directly regarding vaccines. Relatives or friends may register those 75 years old and older who may need assistance filling out the online form. Please note, the Alabama Department of Public Health determines which groups are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine based on recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Find more information at [eamc.org/patient-and-guests/covid-19-information](https://eamc.org/patient-and-guests/covid-19-information) and [facebook.com/EAMCnow](https://facebook.com/EAMCnow).

## Lane shifts at intersection of North College, 280

The Alabama Department of Transportation is installing a new traffic signal at the intersection of Alabama Highway 147 (North College Street) and U.S. Highway 280. As part of the project, they are lowering the hill on U.S. Highway 280, and a new traffic pattern has been put in place until the end of construction. Work is expected to last through the end of spring 2021.

The eastbound lanes of U.S. Highway 280 are temporarily closed from Alabama Highway 147 North to approximately half a mile east of Alabama Highway 147 South. All eastbound traffic has been shifted to the inside lane of U.S. Highway 280 West. All westbound traffic has been shifted to the outside lane of U.S. Highway 280 West. Traffic is separated by a concrete barrier.

Traffic is not permitted to make a left from Alabama Highway 147 North or South onto U.S. Highway 280 at this time. Travelers wishing to make a left from Alabama Highway 147 will first make a right onto U.S. Highway 280, follow the detour signs and make a U-turn at the designated crossover, approximately one mile down the road.

Once construction and signal installation are complete, the traffic pattern will resume to two lanes of traffic in each direction on U.S. Highway 280. Thank you for your patience as ALDOT works to improve this intersection.

## Opelika Road lane closures expected through summer 2021

Temporary lane closures on Opelika Road between Gentry Drive and Saugahatchee Road are expected as JLD Enterprises, LLC starts utility work for Phase 4 of the Renew Opelika Road project.

This phase of the project includes creating a new grassed median, left-turn lanes, new sidewalk, pedestrian lighting and additional roadway lighting to improve the driver and pedestrian experience along Opelika Road. Motorists should be careful as they travel through the construction area. Work is expected to finish in summer 2021.

This is just one more piece of the Renew Opelika Road Plan implementation, which was adopted by the Auburn City Council in 2013. The plan was developed to revitalize one of Auburn's most important corridors. Work done as part of the plan—including improvements near East University Drive, Gay Street, Gentry Drive, etc.—has been a catalyst for investment and redevelopment in the area. Find more information at [auburnalabama.org/opelikaroadplan](https://auburnalabama.org/opelikaroadplan).



## Auburn Floral Trail

The annual Auburn Floral Trail will begin Monday, March 8, and run through Friday, April 16, highlighting some of the finest foliage Auburn has to offer. The trail features some common springtime flowers such as azaleas and blooming trees such as cherry and plum trees.



The 14-mile, self-guided trail is broken into a 10.5-mile South trail and a 3.5-mile North trail along with two optional sections. It takes drivers along Auburn's neighborhood streets to view trees, shrubs and flowers that come alive after a cold winter. Find more details and a map of the trails at [auburnalabama.org/environmental-services/auburn-floral-trail](https://auburnalabama.org/environmental-services/auburn-floral-trail).

## Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day

The City of Auburn will host its biannual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day on Saturday, March 27. Auburn residents are invited to drop off materials from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Environmental Services Complex at 365-A N. Donahue Drive.

During the event, we will accept hazardous waste not accepted in regular garbage and trash collection. Computers and electronics will be accepted as well as paper documents for secure, on-site shredding. Residents may bring up to 20 pounds of material per household for disposal at no charge.

To help reduce the spread of the COVID-19 virus, those participating in the event are asked to register ahead of time by filling out the form at [auburnalabama.org/HHW](http://auburnalabama.org/HHW). On the day of the event, participants



should load the materials they wish to drop off in the trunk or rear of their vehicle. Participants should enter the Environmental Services Complex via North Donahue Drive.

Once participants have arrived, workers will remove the materials from vehicles. Participants are asked to stay in their vehicle and leave windows rolled up until instructed to do otherwise. Workers will be equipped with face masks and face shields, gloves and other gear to ensure all are protected during this time.

Participation is limited to Auburn residents, and proof of residency can be shown

by bringing a recent water bill. A list of acceptable materials can be found at [auburnalabama.org/environmental-services/household-hazardous-waste-collection-day](http://auburnalabama.org/environmental-services/household-hazardous-waste-collection-day).

## Tails & Trails 3K

Join Active Auburn as we kick-off the 9th annual Bark in the Park with a 3K for you and your furriest friends. Grab your running shoes and your perfect running "pawtner" for a dog gone good time!

The Tails and Trails 3K will begin at 8 a.m. on Saturday, March 20, at Kiesel Park followed by Bark in the Park at 9 a.m. Online registration is available now. Please visit [auburnalabama.org/parks/register](http://auburnalabama.org/parks/register) to register for this inaugural run. Early Bird registration is underway through Feb. 26 and is \$15. Registration will continue Feb. 27-March 15 for \$25.



## Board Vacancies

Two vacancies on the Commercial Development Authority will be announced at the Feb. 2 Auburn City Council meeting and will be filled at the March 2 meeting. Applications will close at 5 p.m. on Feb. 22.

One vacancy on the East Alabama Mental Health Board and one on the Library Board will be announced at the Feb. 16 Auburn City Council meeting and will be filled at the March 16 meeting. Applications will close at 5 p.m. on March 8.

One vacancy on the Board of Education will be announced at the Feb. 16 Auburn City Council meeting. Applications will close at 5 p.m. on March 22. The Mayor Pro-Tem will then screen and select candidates to participate in in-person interviews, and the City Council will make an appointment at its April 20 meeting.

Applications are available online at [auburnalabama.org/boards](http://auburnalabama.org/boards), along with information about our 22 boards and commissions. Vacancies are announced at City Council meetings a minimum of four weeks before an appointment will be made. Vacancies on the Board of Education and the Planning Commission are announced a minimum of eight weeks before appointments are made to allow the City Council time to conduct interviews. You can also find upcoming vacancies at [auburnalabama.org/boards](http://auburnalabama.org/boards).

# MARCH UP COMING EVENTS

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

7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Cemeteries Advisory Board 4 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board 11:45 a.m. Committee of the Whole TBD City Council 7 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Board of Zoning Adjustment 4:30 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Youth Track Online Registration Ends	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Tree Commission 11:30 a.m. Virtual Puppet Shows 3:30 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	Planning Commission Packet Meeting Noon	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Historic Preservation Commission 4 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Planning Commission 5 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. City Council Agenda Review Meeting Noon	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
		Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Library Board 10 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Greenspace Advisory Board Noon Reader's Review Book Club 5 p.m. Committee of the Whole TBD City Council 7 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Water Works Board 4 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Virtual Puppet Shows 3:30 p.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m. Empy Bowls @ Kiesel Park
28	29	30	31	<p>Programs and events are subject to change. Please visit <a href="http://auburnalabama.org">auburnalabama.org</a> for up-to-date information on program and event cancellations.</p>		
		Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m.	Outdoor Story Time 9:30 a.m. Virtual Story Time 10:30 a.m.	<p>Auburn Public Library <a href="http://auburnalabama.org/library">auburnalabama.org/library</a> (334) 501-3198</p> <p>City Meeting Schedule <a href="http://auburnalabama.org">auburnalabama.org</a> (334) 501-7260</p> <p>Parks and Recreation <a href="http://auburnalabama.org/parks">auburnalabama.org/parks</a> (334) 501-2930</p>		

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