

# Auburn

MAGAZINE  
WINTER 2023





# Did you know?

All cats and dogs residing in the city limits of Auburn require a pet license.

Licensing your pet provides protection in the event that they go missing.

### AVOID THE FINE!

Failure to license your pet per Auburn City Code 6.04.010 will result in a fine of \$50

# Every day pets are lost.

License your pet today!  
[auburnvalleyhs.org](http://auburnvalleyhs.org)



4910 A St SE  
(253) 249-7849  
[auburnvalleyhs.org](http://auburnvalleyhs.org)



## DISCOVER WHAT AUBURN HAS TO OFFER



## BUY LOCAL AUBURN

Search for & Find Auburn's Local Businesses  
[BUYLOCALAUBURN.COM](http://BUYLOCALAUBURN.COM)



# Auburn MAGAZINE

WINTER 2023

Auburn Magazine is a quarterly publication produced by the City of Auburn

## EDITOR

Jonathan Glover  
jglover@auburnwa.gov

## DESIGNER

Sarah St. George  
City of Auburn  
Multimedia Design



New slate of outdoor sculptures adorn downtown Auburn.

See page 22

## Inside

|   |    |
|---|----|
| From the Mayor .....  | 5  |
| Capital project construction<br>yearly wrap-up .....                                      | 6  |
| Winter weather driving .....  | 8  |
| Auburn Police Department looks to<br>improve its hiring process.....                      | 11 |
| Winter is coming... are you ready? .....  | 12 |
| New mural at Auburn airport<br>honors space shuttle Challenger<br>commander.....          | 13 |
| City of Auburn Comprehensive<br>Transportation Plan 2024.....                             | 14 |
| Stay safe around train tracks .....   | 16 |
| Auburn Makerspace<br>ramps up programming .....   | 17 |
| Sustainable Auburn .....  | 18 |
| Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation<br>Construction Corner .....                              | 20 |
| Have a hippity-hoppity good time<br>participating in Auburn's Peter<br>Cotton Trail ..... | 21 |
| Downtown Auburn comes to<br>life with new public art! .....                               | 22 |
| New exhibit opening at the<br>White River Valley Museum.....                              | 24 |
| Congratulations to the class<br>of 2022 Civics Academy graduates! ....                    | 25 |
| Smash it at the Auburn Community<br>& Events Center this winter!.....                     | 26 |
| Dispatches from the City of Auburn<br>anti-homelessness team:<br>A family in need .....   | 27 |
| Freeze winter fires .....   | 28 |
| The results are in... ..  | 29 |
| Upcoming events .....   | 30 |





Get your creative juices flowing at Auburn's Makerspace!  
See page 17

## Auburn Mayor & City Council



**Nancy Backus**  
Mayor  
[nbackus@auburnwa.gov](mailto:nbackus@auburnwa.gov)  
253-931-3041



**James Jeyaraj**  
Deputy Mayor  
[jjeyaraj@auburnwa.gov](mailto:jjeyaraj@auburnwa.gov)



**Bob Baggett**  
Councilmember  
[bbaggett@auburnwa.gov](mailto:bbaggett@auburnwa.gov)



**Kate Baldwin**  
Councilmember  
[kbaldwin@auburnwa.gov](mailto:kbaldwin@auburnwa.gov)



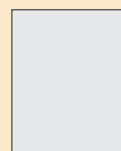
**Larry Brown**  
Councilmember  
[lbrown@auburnwa.gov](mailto:lbrown@auburnwa.gov)



**Robyn Mulenga**  
Councilmember  
[rmulenga@auburnwa.gov](mailto:rmulenga@auburnwa.gov)



**Yolanda Trout-Manuel**  
Councilmember  
[ytrout@auburnwa.gov](mailto:ytrout@auburnwa.gov)



Vacant  
Councilmember  
position

## City of Auburn DIRECTORY

### Address

Unless otherwise noted, departments are located at City Hall, 25 W Main Street

### CITY OFFICES

**City Attorney**  
253-931-3030

**City Clerk**  
253-931-3039

**Community Development**  
1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3090

**Emergency Management**  
1 E Main St, 3rd floor  
253-876-1925

**Engineering Services**  
1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3010

**Finance**  
1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3033

**Human Resources/  
Risk Management**  
253-931-3040

**Innovation & Technology**  
1 E Main St, 3rd floor  
253-804-5078

**Maintenance & Operations**  
1305 C St SW  
253-931-3048

**Mayor's Office**  
(Mayor, City Council and Administration)  
253-931-3041

### Parks, Arts & Recreation

910 9th St SE  
253-931-3043  
[auburnwa.gov/play](http://auburnwa.gov/play)

### Police

340 E Main St, Suite 201  
253-931-3080  
Emergency: 911  
Non-emergency:  
253-288-2121

### Public Works

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3010

### Records Clerk

253-931-3007

### Utilities (Billing)

1 E Main St, 2nd floor  
253-931-3038

### HOTLINES

**Code Compliance**  
253-931-3020 opt. 4

**Graffiti Hotline**  
253-931-3048 opt. 7

**Pothole Patrol**  
253-931-3048 opt. 1

**Spills and Water Pollution**  
253-931-3048 opt. 8

### OTHER NUMBERS

**Auburn Golf Course**  
29630 Green River Rd SE  
253-833-2350  
[auburngolf.org](http://auburngolf.org)

**Auburn Municipal Airport**  
(Dick Scobee Field)  
400 23rd St NE  
253-333-6821

**King County District Court—South Division**  
340 E Main St  
800-325-6165 ext. 59200

**Mountain View Cemetery**  
2020 Mountain View Drive  
253-931-3028  
[mtviewcemeteryauburn.com](http://mtviewcemeteryauburn.com)

**Senior Activity Center**  
808 9th St SE  
253-931-3016  
[auburnwa.gov/seniors](http://auburnwa.gov/seniors)

**Valley Regional Fire Authority**  
1101 D St NE (HeadQs)  
253-288-5800  
Call 911 in case of emergency  
[vrf.a.org](http://vrf.a.org)

**White River Valley Museum**  
918 H St SE  
253-288-7433  
[wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)

## Official City Council MEETING SCHEDULE

City Council Meetings are held on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00pm.

Council Study Sessions are held on the second and fourth Monday each month at 5:30pm.

Meetings can be viewed live at [auburnwa.gov/gatv](http://auburnwa.gov/gatv).



# From the Mayor

First, a belated Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy Hanukkah, and more! And of course, Happy New Year!

The end of the year always makes me think about what we have done together and what we hope to do in the new year. I think that's common for most people, right? As I look back at 2022 I mostly think about how we have endured so much together, and that even though we still have some healing to do, I still have so much pride in our city and how we all look out for each other.

We started out the year with continued uncertainty around COVID-19 but it felt like we were turning a corner towards better times. Like welcoming Kate Baldwin as your newest City Councilmember – it takes a lot of courage to decide to run for public office and I am pleased to see how many active and involved people we have in Auburn with a heart for service!

I also think about how we started the "That's so Auburn!" podcast and already have seven episodes in the can. My schedule tends to be a bit hectic, so any time I can steal away a half-hour or more to talk to some amazing humans in our community is a good day in my book. This year we also welcomed the first full return of in-person City events, a trend I hope is longwinded. We also held our first ever Juneteenth celebration, which was enjoyed by hundreds in our community. It's event I'll be looking forward to every year.

This year I also joined South King County mayors to call on county and state officials to address rising crimes in our cities. The conversations are ongoing and the response has been positive, with continued dialogues on tough subjects.

And of course, this year we said goodbye to Councilmember Chris Stearns. We had the chance to congratulate him in December on his big move to the State Legislature, where he'll be representing the 47th District in the House of Representatives, a job I know he will excel at. I am looking forward to continuing to work with him in his new role as Representative Stearns.

As we wind down for the year, I want to thank all of you for taking the time to read our magazine. Our staff takes great pride in bringing you information you'll find educational and maybe even entertaining about our community and your local government. One thing about being a community is that we continue to learn from each other and I am hoping that you will be willing to help us improve our publication by providing some feedback on how we can make sure we are delivering a great product to your mailbox!

We started the magazine back in 2014 with just one goal in mind – make sure our residents can have a first-hand look inside what we do and how we serve you each and every day. And after all these years, I think we have done that and I think we can also do more! Please consider taking our short reader's survey in order to help us out – all the information can be found below.

Thank you for reading, Auburn!

*Nancy Backus*



**Nancy Backus**  
**Mayor of Auburn**

*nbackus@auburnwa.gov*  
253-931-3041

## Take our reader survey

Thanks for reading the Auburn Magazine and being a part of the community!  
We'd love to hear your thoughts. Survey only takes 2 minutes.



[surveymonkey.com/r/237WTPS](https://surveymonkey.com/r/237WTPS)



# CAPITAL PROJECT CONSTRUCTION YEARLY WRAP-UP

2022 was another busy year for the City's Public Works Engineering Services team designing and constructing capital projects that improve and maintain the City's vast infrastructure. Throughout the year, 21 projects were under construction with total costs of \$35.4 million. Nearly \$5 million of these costs were paid for by outside funding sources such as grants and interlocal agreements. These significant investments support reduced traffic congestion, improved safety of your roadways and pathways for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists, and also contribute toward improving the City's water, sewer, and storm drainage facilities. Details on all the City's capital projects currently in design or under construction by the Public Works Department can be viewed at [auburnwa.gov/capitalprojects](http://auburnwa.gov/capitalprojects)



## By the Numbers, Improvements Include:

- Preserved or reconstructed of over 7.5 lane-miles of pavement
- Replaced over 16,500 linear feet of water main
- Replaced 68 deduct meters with irrigation meters
- Replaced nearly 6,700 linear feet of storm drainage pipe
- Replaced over 4,000 linear feet of sanitary sewer pipe
- Installed two Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) pedestrian crossings and a school zone flashing beacon system
- Installed nearly 9,000 linear feet of new or replaced sidewalks and upgraded 11 curb ramps to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements
- Replaced one water pump station



## Some of the most notable capital projects under construction in 2022

Letters correspond with map on page 6

**A CP1922 Lead Service Line Replacement** - Improved the City's water distribution system by replacing lead gooseneck service line infrastructure. Also replaced approximately 7,100 linear feet of water main, approximately 190 water services, reconstructed or preserved 17 street segments, and upgraded drainage, curb and gutter, curb ramps.

**B CP2102 4th Street SE Preservation** - Reconstructed pavement on 4th Street SE from Auburn Way South to L Street SE. Also replaced City utilities, removed sidewalk obstructions, replaced sidewalk and curb ramps as needed to address ADA requirements, street lighting, and other improvements.

**C CP2019 2021 Local Streets Preservation** - Reconstructed pavement, provided water and storm infrastructure improvements, and upgraded curb ramps on G Street SE from E Main St to 4th St SE and within the Forest Ridge neighborhood off of Auburn Way South and Dogwood Street.

**D CP1916 Academy Pump Station 1** - Demolished and replaced a significant water booster pump station and repurposed the existing pump station, replaced backup power systems at the site, and replaced/installed underground water main.

**E CP1927 Auburn Way North and 1st Street NE Signal Replacement** - Replaced the existing traffic signal at Auburn Way North and 1st Street NE with a new traffic signal per the City of Auburn standards for Downtown. Added a left turn pocket on 1st Street NE and flashing yellow arrows in all four directions.

**F CP2003 2nd Street SE Preservation** - Reconstructed the pavement on 2nd Street SE between A Street SE and Auburn Way S. Also replaced 450 feet of sewer main, constructed new curb ramps, installed new LED Street lighting, replaced damaged curb & gutter, and upgraded storm drainage infrastructure.

**G CP2007 Lea Hill Bridge Deck Preservation** - Removed and replaced the top surface deck of the Lea Hill bridge to extend the overall service life of the bridge.

**H CP2006 3rd Street SW Bridge Deck Preservation** - Sealed and re-surfaced the 3rd Street SW bridge decks to extend the overall service life of the bridges.

## What other projects can we expect to see begin construction as we prepare for 2023?

### Some of the more significant upcoming construction projects include:

- **CP1603 Coal Creek Springs Transmission Main Replacement** - This project will replace an existing 100-year old water transmission pipeline that currently crosses under the White River with a new pipe on a new bridge over the river. The new bridge will include a pedestrian walkway.
- **CP2121 Riverwalk Drive Non-Motorized Improvements** - In partnership with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Washington State Department of Transportation, this project will eliminate the sidewalk gap along the east side of Riverwalk Drive SE between Auburn Way South (SR-164) and Howard Road SE.
- **CP2129 Auburn Way South South Side Sidewalks** - In partnership with the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Washington State Department of Transportation, this project will construct approximately 1,700 feet of new sidewalk along the south side of Auburn Way South (SR-164) between Howard Road and the Muckleshoot Plaza intersection.
- **CP2117 A Street Loop** - In partnership with Sound Transit and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), this project will construct a new one-way (eastbound) roadway connection between A Street SW/S Division Street and A Street SE.

For more information about these or any capital project, please visit the interactive capital project mapping tool at [auburnwa.gov/capitalprojects](http://auburnwa.gov/capitalprojects) or contact the Public Works Engineering Services mainline at 253-931-3010.





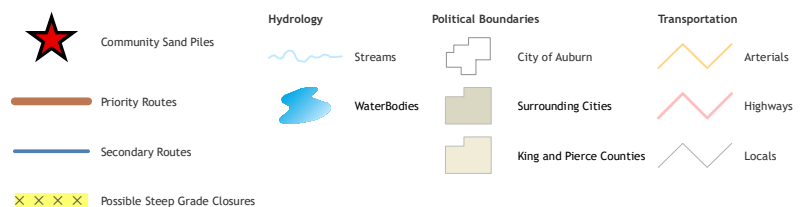
# Winter weather driving

La Niña conditions are expected for the third year in a row, which means we can expect another colder, wetter winter in Auburn. While snow gives us picturesque landscapes and the opportunity for fun activities, it also makes navigating roads a challenge. Luckily, when the storms hit, your City of Auburn Maintenance and Operations (M&O) team has already been hard at work preparing equipment and material to be ready. We're in action in advance if the roads are dry, pretreating them with de-icing agent.

As the snow arrives, our team begins to plow and treat the streets according to priority. Most important are major routes throughout the city, allowing for emergency vehicles to move through the city to help those in need of assistance. Once these routes are cleared, we move on to secondary routes, though many times during a typical two-to-four-day snow event, the weather changes to rain and melts the snow before we can complete the secondary routes.

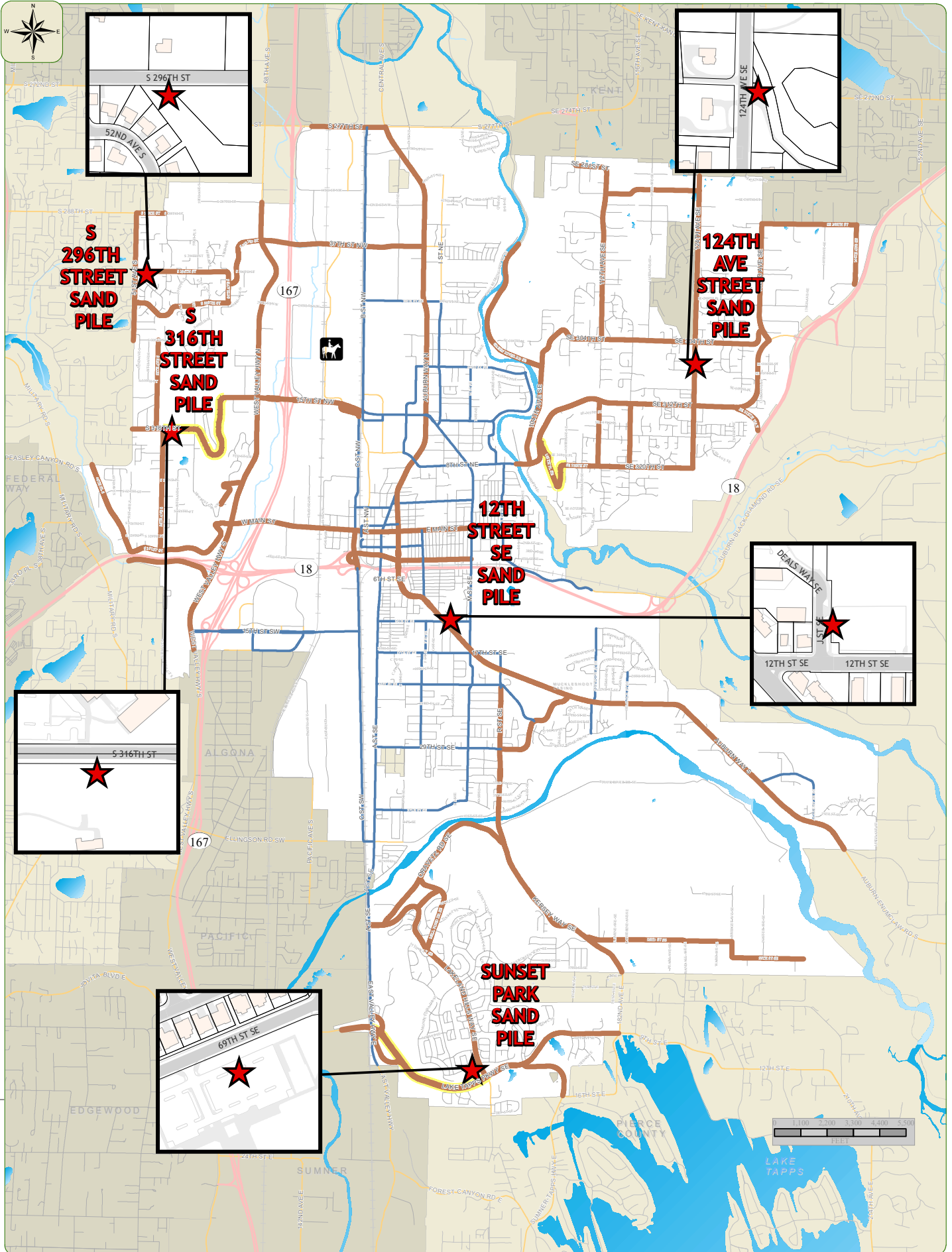
You will see maintenance crews all over the city during a major storm event, as they clear and treat roadways for all of us to travel. This means that crews may be working in shifts over a 24-hour period to keep Auburn moving, so you may hear plow trucks in or near your neighborhood during the night!

We would enjoy nothing more than to clear and treat every street in the city, including all the residential streets, but the reality is that we don't have enough staff or equipment to be able to accomplish a task that large. In order to serve the greatest number of residents as quickly as possible, we've developed a plan to maximize our efficiency with the City of Auburn Snow and Ice Routes Map. This map shows at a glance what our priority and secondary routes are and where we will be focusing our resources. Once these routes are completely cleared and treated, we will then begin clearing the neighborhood collector streets (these are the roads that connect your neighborhood to the primary or secondary routes on the map) and only when these are completely cleared and treated will we move to the remainder of the neighborhood streets.





# City of Auburn Snow & Ice Routes





## Winter driving tips



### Prepare your car

- Check your battery – battery power drops in cold weather.
- Check your lights.
- Make sure you have enough coolant.
- Make sure your windshield washer fluid reservoir is full of “winter” fluid with de-icer.
- Check that your wiper blades are working properly.
- Keep at least half a tank of fuel to avoid gas line freeze.
- Pack a winter emergency kit, including blankets, shovel, broom, ice scraper, jumper cables, abrasive material (sand or kitty litter), cell phone with charger, water, and food.

### Before you drive

Check the forecast, especially for long trips. If winter weather is coming, only travel if it is necessary. If you must travel, share your plans with someone before you leave.

- Clean your car’s external cameras and side view mirrors so you can see what’s around you.

### Check the mountain passes!

If you’re planning to travel through any of Washington’s mountain passes, make sure to check if it’s open and the conditions. WSDOT provides up-to-date information about mountain passes and winter travel around the state. Visit [wsdot.com/travel/real-time/mountainpasses](http://wsdot.com/travel/real-time/mountainpasses) or call 5-1-1 to find out more!

### While driving

- Drive slowly, and make sure to accelerate and decelerate slowly.
- Increase following distance.
- Avoid using cruise control.
- If possible, don’t stop when going uphill.
- As always, pay attention and avoid texting, social media, or using handheld devices while driving.

### If you get stuck in the snow or a storm

- **Stay with your vehicle.** It gives you temporary shelter and makes it easier for rescuers to find you.
- **Don’t overexert yourself.** If you are digging your car out of the snow, stop if you become tired.
- **Be visible.** Tie a brightly colored cloth to the antenna or place a cloth at the top of a rolled-up window to make it easier for rescuers to find you.
- **Clear the exhaust pipe.** A blocked exhaust pipe can cause carbon monoxide to leak into the car while the engine is running.
- **Stay warm.** Use whatever is available, including extra blankets, sweatshirts, newspapers, or even the floor mat, to insulate your body from the cold.
- **Conserve fuel.** If possible, only run the engine and heater long enough to remove the chill to help conserve fuel.

## Don’t forget the sidewalks!

Did you know that per Auburn City Code 12.40 it is your responsibility to remove all ice and snow from the sidewalks

abutting your property within 24 hours of a snow event? Make sure you stock up on your rock salt and snow shovels, and don’t forget to clear the sidewalk so that you and your neighbors can safely get where you need to go!



## Transit route changes during snow events

### Transit alerts

As winter weather and storms approach, it is a good idea to sign up for transit alerts for

the routes you regularly take. See the following websites or phone numbers to sign up for alerts or to learn more about route changes.

#### King County Metro

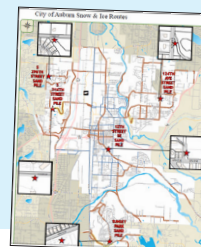
[kingcounty.gov/depts/transportation/metro/alerts-updates.aspx](http://kingcounty.gov/depts/transportation/metro/alerts-updates.aspx) | 206-553-3000

#### Sound Transit

[soundtransit.org/ride-with-us/service-alerts](http://soundtransit.org/ride-with-us/service-alerts)  
1-888-889-6368

#### Pierce Transit

[piercetransit.org/snow-extreme-weather/](http://piercetransit.org/snow-extreme-weather/)  
253-581-8000



Scan this QR code for a downloadable version of the City of Auburn Snow & Ice Routes map.





# Auburn Police Department looks to improve its hiring process

The Auburn Police Department continues to face challenges with staffing. As they continue to try and fill open positions, current officers may retire, leave for other opportunities, or suffer an injury that keeps them on restricted duty. This affects every division within the agency.

In recent months, APD has focused energy on the recruiting process. Recently, an outside team was brought in to build a new recruiting website along with the creation of several recruitment videos. In theory, the videos will attract new employees, and the new website will hopefully make the things more accessible.

While at events, officers will hand out a QR code that people can scan. Once scanned, the QR code will take them straight to the new recruitment website. You will be able to click "Apply Now" right on the first page. The website will also feature the new videos, tips and advice, hiring information and much more.

The site is almost complete, but not yet ready for release. Once it's done, we'll share it on all our social platforms.

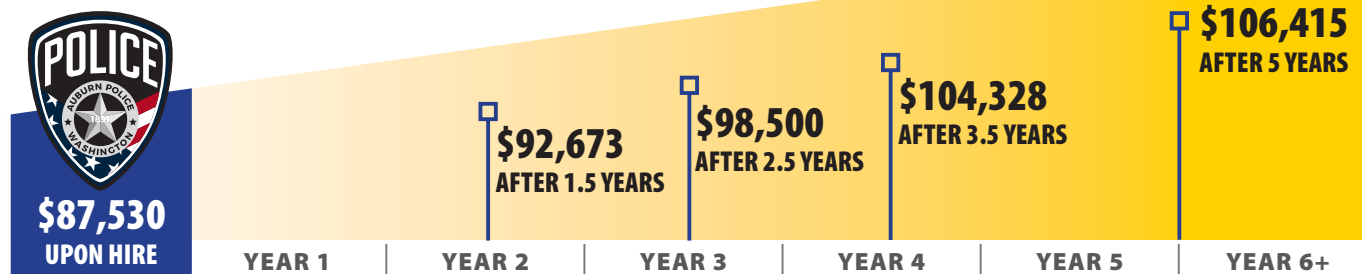
"Here at APD, we continue to try innovative ways to recruit officers to provide professional and personal service to our community," said Chief Mark Caillier. "We strive to find the highest quality candidates that will bring their unique experiences and personality to our agency."

Even though the website isn't complete, you can still consider joining today!



[auburnwa.gov/jobs](http://auburnwa.gov/jobs)  
#TEAMAUBURN

## AUBURN POLICE OFFICER SALARY WITHIN THE FIRST 5 YEARS



Officers can receive a 4% premium for a job-related AA Degree and a 6% premium for a BA or Master's Degree.

An additional 2% to 9% longevity pay premium. The 2022 base salary listed above includes longevity rates starting at the 5 year mark.

Additionally, Officers can receive additional compensation in the form of overtime and specialty assignments:

- 2% premium – Community Response Team (CRT), TAC Officer
- 3% premium – Motorcycle Patrol, K-9 Officer, Bicycle Patrol, Hostage Negotiator, Valley SWAT, & Bilingual
- 4% premium – Detective
- 5% premium – Field Training Officer
- 6% premium – Defensive Tactics Instructor







## Winter is coming... are you ready?

Snow and ice and power outages, oh my! With the joy and wonder of the winter season comes a few hazards that can be difficult to navigate — especially if you aren't prepared. Auburn's Office of Emergency Management can help you figure out how to get yourself and your household ready for just about anything winter weather can throw your way!



### Build a kit

It's always important to have an emergency kit, and there are some extras to consider adding to get fully prepared for winter weather. Start with these basics and then visit [ready.gov/kit](http://ready.gov/kit) for more inspiration.

- 1 gallon of water per person in your household per day, for several days. Make sure to store water in a location where it won't freeze
- Food, at least several days' worth of non-perishable food
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- A NOAA weather radio
- First Aid supplies
- Warm clothing
- A whistle
- Sanitation supplies: moist towelettes, garbage bags, toilet paper, feminine hygiene products
- Cell phone chargers and power banks

In addition to having a household emergency kit, make sure your vehicle is equipped for winter. In addition to adding tire chains, ice scrapers, and emergency flares, think about what you would want in your car if you got stuck in the snow overnight. Keep snacks, water, good walking shoes, and warm clothes on hand for vehicle emergencies. As always, don't forget those jumper cables!

### Be informed

The best way to get prepared is to know what to expect. Keeping an eye on the forecast is important, and there are lots of other ways to get emergent alerts and updates during severe winter weather.

- Follow the Auburn Emergency Management on Facebook (AuburnEM) and Twitter (@AuburnWA\_EM) for regular updates.
- Visit Auburn's Emergency Alert and Updates webpage at [auburnwa.gov/emergencyinfo](http://auburnwa.gov/emergencyinfo).
- Report non-emergency issues to the City using the SeeClickFix app. Learn more at [auburnwa.gov/seeclickfix](http://auburnwa.gov/seeclickfix).
- Check conditions before you travel at [wsdot.gov/travel](http://wsdot.gov/travel).
- Sign up for ALERT King County at [kingcounty.gov/alert](http://kingcounty.gov/alert) to receive emergency alerts via email, text message, and/or phone call. Sign up is free and secure.
  - Auburn residents who live or work in Pierce County should also sign up for Pierce County ALERT at [piercecountywa.gov/alert](http://piercecountywa.gov/alert).
- Get power outage updates through Puget Sound Energy (PSE) at [pse.com/outagemap](http://pse.com/outagemap).

### Emergency Management's role during winter weather

You're not alone in preparing for winter weather. Auburn Office of Emergency Management's role is to help the whole Auburn community get ready for and respond to winter weather. We do that by writing the City's emergency plans, and when conditions get severe enough, our role is to help coordinate the behind-the-scenes planning, logistics and operations that helps our boots-on-the-ground responders such as Police, Public Works, and the Valley Regional Fire Authority work together to best help Auburn residents. That might mean we help bring needed supplies to residents during a disaster, help coordinate volunteers, or activating our Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as a command post where different City agencies can work together in the same space. During the winter months, we also help coordinate the City's Warming Center along with the Auburn Food Bank. We're here to answer questions and help you get prepared! Visit [auburnwa.gov/disaster](http://auburnwa.gov/disaster) to learn more.





## New mural at Auburn airport honors space shuttle challenger commander

Visitors to the Auburn Municipal Airport will see a new face this winter and it's likely to look a bit familiar: Richard "Dick" Scobee, an Auburn native, pilot, engineer and commander of the Challenger Space Shuttle. And most recently, the first subject of a new mural project at the airport

Scobee, a 1957 graduate of Auburn Senior High School, enlisted in the Air Force after graduation. While in the Air Force he pursued his degree in aerospace engineering at the University of Arizona and attended flight school. Scobee went on to serve as a combat aviator in the Vietnam War and then served as an Air Force test pilot before being selected as an astronaut candidate by NASA in 1978.

In September, the Auburn Municipal Airport completed a project that the airport staff had in mind for the last few years – the creation of a mural on the exterior of an airplane hangar wall that honors Dick Scobee and his contributions to aviation.

"The purpose of the mural was not just to beautify the airport, but also memorialize and honor Dick Scobee," said Airport Intern Silvana Vasquez, who was instrumental in bringing the mural to life. "The mural has added color and an identity to the hangar wall and the airport, and it has been a treat for pilots who get to see it when they operate at the airport."

Airport Manager Tim Mensonides agrees.

"We wanted to make the airport stand out and create a sense of place," he said. "The idea came from a conversation with a tenant about the neat things we could do at the airport to help it stand out and add value."

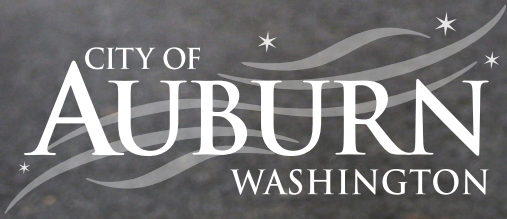
Mensonides praised Vasquez's management of the project and the talent of Seattle artist Myron Curry who brought the vision to life.

Vasquez complimented Curry's work and professionalism, as well.

"Myron did an amazing job gathering the ideas that the staff had and putting them in the mural," she said, adding that Curry has specialized in murals in and around the Seattle area along with his other artwork. "Pilots who have visited the airport recently are delighted when they see it. The goal is to complete at least six murals along the taxiway that will continue to create that sense of community and help Dick Scobee Field become and stay one of the best general aviation airports in the state."

Vasquez relayed the airport staff's desire to hear from the Auburn community regarding suggestions for the upcoming murals. Email the airport at [airport@auburnwa.gov](mailto:airport@auburnwa.gov) with suggestions or ideas.





# CITY OF AUBURN COMPREHENSIVE TRANSPORTATION PLAN 2024

Since the adoption of the Growth Management Act by the State of Washington in the 1990s, Cities like Auburn are required to adopt and periodically update a comprehensive plan to address the needs of the city and plan for the expected growth in population and employment in the next 20 years. Minor updates were made to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan between periodic updates, as allowed by state law.

The last periodic (major) update to Auburn's comprehensive plan took place in 2015, and the city is currently working on the next periodic update, which is required to be adopted by December 31, 2024, to address the expected growth through 2044. This is a citywide effort involving subjects such as transportation, parks and open space, land use, housing, climate change, and utilities.



## Plan requirements

The Comprehensive Transportation Plan, adopted by reference in the Comprehensive Plan, must meet specific requirements, as the transportation system is not isolated but instead is a part of the regional transportation network. Therefore, the transportation plan must be consistent with the goals of the regional transportation plan, the county's planning policies, as well as with neighboring cities. The plan must also address how to accommodate the population and employment growth expected in the next 20 years. All elements of the Comprehensive Plan must be consistent with each other, such as land use, utilities, transportation, economic development, etc. The final Comprehensive Plan must be adopted by City Council, and approved by Puget Sound Regional Council, and the State.

## Technical analysis

An important part of the planning effort is to analyze the current and future conditions of the transportation network, set minimum standards, and identify projects that would help meet these standards. An example of a typical standard established by the Plan is the maximum allowed vehicle delay time at intersections during peak traffic times. If the analysis shows that this standard is not being met under current or future conditions, an improvement project and/or other approaches are identified to address the issue and included in the Plan.

## Policies

Another important part of the plan revisions is the review and update of City transportation policies, which guide future requirements for new constructions from private developments and city projects. These policies must align with the regional plan, the county policies, and reflect the needs of the Auburn community.

A focus of the transportation plan policies review will be to support multimodal transportation by addressing and meeting the needs of all road users, encouraging travel choices other than driving alone, and to support access to transit by encouraging development near transit service (also known as Transit Oriented Development or TOD). Another focus is equity, and our policies will need to include a review of demographic data where transportation projects are planned and applying an equity lens to ensure we are considering all potential outcomes of a project and if there are any unintended consequences.

## What's new?

The revised transportation plan will include new standards that are geared towards multi-modal level of service (MMLOS). MMLOS expands the standards to address all transportation system users including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users and freight. An example of an MMLOS standard includes the level of comfort for bicycle riders along specific roadways based on the location and bicycle facilities available, or the quality and connectivity of pedestrian facilities, such as sidewalks, between key destinations, such as community services or bus stops.

These standards will help move the city closer to having a connected network of comfortable bicycle and pedestrian facilities and improve access to bus stops and other key destinations, which will provide more mobility options for those who choose or need to travel by other modes of transportation than cars.

### Public input

We want to hear from you through this process, to understand the varied needs and visions from people who live or work in Auburn.

It is important to have a plan that reflects the community's vision for the future, in addition to meeting State requirements. Please visit Auburn's Comprehensive Plan Website – [speakupauburn.org/comprehensive-plan](https://speakupauburn.org/comprehensive-plan) for more information about the City's Comprehensive Plan update and to sign up for email updates regarding opportunities for you to provide input and feedback throughout the plan's development process.

# Stay safe around train tracks



September marked a collaborative effort among Operation Lifesaver, Inc., local programs and rail safety partners across the U.S., Canada and Mexico. According to Operation Lifesaver, track crossing and trespassing incidents in North American injure or kill more than 2,100 people every year. Safety education is a key component to reducing the probability of an incident occurring.

**Trains can't stop, but you can.** Being safe around trains only takes a few seconds. Here are a few actionable items so you can stay out of harm's way around Link and Sounder trains:

## Look both ways

Always expect a second train! Trains come from both directions, so always be alert to your surroundings.

## Headphones off, screens down

Being preoccupied near rail tracks never leads to a positive result. Put your phone away, so you can keep your mind present on where you are.

## Take crosswalks, not shortcuts

Trains will always have the right of way, so pay attention to traffic signals. Do not walk around or under rail crossing gates—they're diverting you for a reason. You may think you'll have enough time to get across the tracks, but don't leave it to guesswork.

## Stay behind the yellow line

The yellow strip creates a boundary between the train and the station platform. Step back and look up, to make sure you're at a safe distance from where the trains will be. Also, don't run in this vicinity—you may think you're fast, but trains are much faster.

## Bike smart, ride safe

Always remember to pay attention when cycling or scootering around train tracks. When riding across tracks, be sure you're at a legal crossing, look both ways and cross the tracks carefully. Also, always cross tracks at a right angle to avoid getting your tires stuck in the track.







The MakerSpace is located within the Auburn Community & Event Center  
910 9th Street SE



## Auburn Makerspace ramps up programming

The Auburn Makerspace has returned to pre-COVID era programming with new offerings this winter. The Makerspace, located within the Auburn Community & Event Center, is a creative workspace where art meets technology. It includes an Epilog Laser cutter/etcher, a 36-inch vinyl cutter, a silhouette cutter, a 3-D printer, an embroidery sewing machine, a jewelry kiln and large project tables. Classes are available that teach how to use the different machines, and a certification is awarded enabling the participant to attend Open Make and use the equipment independently.

Open Makes have returned with weekly daytime offerings on Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and evening sessions on the second and fourth Mondays from 5 to 8 p.m. A new option for Open Make is geared especially to small businesses with a Small Business Open Make each Friday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Makerspace is a great place for small businesses to create displays and booth décor for craft fairs, farmers markets and Etsy shops.

Over the past two years, the Makerspace started offering Take & Make Craft Kits. These kits were a big hit for kids and adults to get crafty at home with all supplies and instructions included. The kits were so popular that they've been added to the permanent Makerspace lineup. Make & Take classes for kids and adults also continue for those who like to come in and enjoy community and social interaction while they complete their projects. Make & Take classes are offered several times each month and a full schedule and project photos can be seen at [auburnwa.gov/makerspace](http://auburnwa.gov/makerspace). Registration links are also available on the webpage.

New to the Makerspace is the option for private parties. Private parties are perfect for workplace teambuilding activities, moms groups, youth groups, sports teams and birthday parties, just to name a few. Private parties for adults offer multiple project and price options, youth parties can include an additional hour of play time in the REC Teen Center which includes air hockey, ping pong, foosball and games. Parties can be customized to suit your group's needs. Visit [auburnwa.gov/makerspace](http://auburnwa.gov/makerspace) for package details and project options.

Follow the Makerspace on Instagram @auburnmakerspace where you'll find information on upcoming projects, classes and events. Drop by, checkout the space and tap into your creative side!

## Battery Recycling 101

Recycling your batteries can make our community and the planet safer, and provide many benefits including:

- Preventing potentially hazardous materials from entering the waste stream
- Protecting against fires that can be caused by batteries thrown in the trash
- Conserving the use of natural resources

In Washington, there are specific rules that apply for handling batteries depending on type.

Most batteries meet the definition of Dangerous Waste, but when they are properly recycled, they are minimally regulated under the category of Universal Waste. Information on Universal Waste can be found at [apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC](http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC).

Batteries that are improperly stored or disposed of can leak toxic materials that can pose human and environmental risks. Businesses are responsible to designate types of batteries and determine if they are a dangerous waste and handle them accordingly. Homeowners are not required to manage their batteries as universal waste but are strongly encouraged.

### What are the major battery types & categories?

**Primary.** This type includes AA, AAA, 9-volt, D-cell, and button cell batteries. They are typically non-rechargeable and are used in common household items.

**Nickel cadmium.** NiCad batteries are rechargeable and can be reused up to 1,000 times. They're often used in cordless household items and digital cameras.

**Nickel metal hydride.** NiMH batteries are used in high-drain household devices because of their high-quality rechargeability.

**Lead acid.** As the original rechargeable batteries, lead acid batteries are used in work vehicles. They're highly toxic, but there are many options for recycling them.

**Lithium ion.** Lithium ion batteries power items such as laptops and tablets, as well as electric vehicles.

### Safety & environmental concerns

There are a growing number of fires caused by lithium-based batteries disposed of in the waste management process (garbage, recycling, and yard+food waste systems). Risks from fire include injuring people, the environment, and damaging property - all which increase the cost of insurance premiums, shipping surcharges, and regulatory compliance.

#### Tips for recycling and storing household batteries

- Properly Prepare! Be sure to safely prep your batteries for recycling and storage.
- DO NOT PUT batteries into the recycle or garbage OR mix and match battery types.
- Keep them cool. Store the batteries in a cool, dry place where they are not exposed to inclement or excessively hot weather.
- Damaged? DO NOT PUT damaged Lithium Ion or Lithium primary batteries or swollen or bulging batteries in the trash or recycle. Immediately put them in a non-flammable material such as sand or kitty litter in a cool, dry place. Contact the King County Haz Waste Help Line at 206-296-4692 or email [haz.waste@kingcounty.gov](mailto:haz.waste@kingcounty.gov) for handling instructions, especially if the label says it is Lithium or Lithium-Ion.
- Schedule a recycling day. Aim to recycle batteries within six months, ensuring they are bagged or taped.

### Where can you recycle household batteries?

**Auburn Wastemobile** - Located at the Outlet Collection northwest side of facility by Nordstrom Rack, 1101 Outlet Collection Way, Auburn. Open Saturday & Sunday, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

**Auburn Lowes**, 1232 A ST NE, Auburn  
253-804-2600 (rechargeable only)

**Mail-back Kits.** Order a battery collection box:

- Call2Recycle [Call2Recycle.org](http://Call2Recycle.org)
- WM Think Green From Home [wm.com/us/en/home/recycle-by-mail](http://wm.com/us/en/home/recycle-by-mail)
- Big Green Box [biggreenbox.com](http://biggreenbox.com)
- Earth 911 [earth911.com/how-to-recycle](http://earth911.com/how-to-recycle)



# WM Curbside Bulk Item Pickup Program

Waste Management Auburn residential garbage customers receive a FREE bulky item collection. Once per year, customers can schedule a pick-up of up to four bulky items. Collection must be scheduled in advance and will occur on your regular service day. Be prepared to tell the customer service agent which bulky items you are placing at the curb. Call 253-939-9792 to schedule your bulky item pickup.

## ACCEPTABLE BULKY ITEMS

### Up to four (4) large items.

*No single item may weigh more than 300 pounds and easily lifted by two people.*

*Limited to 8' in length and free of liquids, including oils and fuel.*

*Please tape/tie closed any cords, etc. for easy handling.*

- **Appliances** – Refrigerator & freezer (must be emptied), stove, cook top or hood range, clothes washer, clothes dryer, hot water heater, dishwasher, trash compactor, window or floor air conditioner, dehumidifier, water cooler, small furnace.
- **Furniture** – Sofa couch (no sleeper sofas), sectional sofa, loveseat, futon, recliners, lounge chair, ottoman, mattress & box spring (set counts as 1 item), bed frame & rails (set counts as 1 item), dresser, bookcase, desk, end table or nightstand (set), coffee table, dining table & chairs (set counts as 1 item), small entertainment center, filing cabinet.
- **Power Yard Equipment** (Electric, motorized, or non-motorized) – Trimmer, weed whacker, lawn mower (remove oil, fuels, batteries).
- **Large Power Equipment** - Table saw, chop saw, generator, snow blower, power washer. (remove oil, fuels, batteries).
- **Exercise & Recreation Equipment** - Treadmill, circuit trainer, rowing machine, exercise bike, elliptical, bicycle, basketball hoop (separate post from base), metal swing set (disassembled).
- **Miscellaneous**
  - BBQs (remove propane tanks, charcoal, ashes)
  - Rug (no longer than 6 feet by one-foot diameter)
  - Hot tub cover (only)
  - Ladder (6-foot limit)
  - Large plastic play toy & outdoor kiddie pool
  - Wheelbarrow
  - Microwave
  - Canopies (outdoor type pop-up or metal frame and no longer than 6 feet in length and 3 feet in diameter)
  - Vacuum cleaner
  - Child car seat or stroller
  - Artificial Christmas tree.

## UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

This is not a complete list. For disposal options, visit [auburnwa.gov/solidwaste](http://auburnwa.gov/solidwaste) Click on Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Disposal (menu on left).

- **Garbage** – Household garbage, animal waste, food waste, tires, truck canopies, riding lawn mowers, hot tubs/jacuzzi tubs, etc.
- **Remodeling or Building Material** – Doors, cabinets, bathtubs/tub walls, sinks, toilets, vanity's, countertops, carpets, flooring, sheet rock, insulation, roofing, cement blocks, decking, fencing, lumber, etc.
- **Hazardous Waste** – Batteries, fluorescent fixtures/bulbs, hazardous materials, propane tanks, chemicals, etc.
- **Electronics** – TVs, computer monitors, laptops, tablets, e-readers, portable DVD player, etc.
- **Vehicles & Parts** – Trailers, boats, seats, fenders, doors, canopies, engines, transmissions, etc.
- **Recycling** – Cardboard, paper, cans, bottles, etc.

## Illegal Dumping & Litter Collection Report

The City of Auburn Waste Management Litter Crew, Community Services Crew, and Maintenance & Operations Litter Crew have been hard at work cleaning up Auburn. During the second and third quarters of 2022, nearly 204.7 tons or 409,400 pounds of litter and illegal dumping was collected. Year-to-date (January – September) the crews have collected 226.6 tons or 453,200 pounds.

Please submit a Service Request to report litter and illegal dumping at [auburnwa.gov](http://auburnwa.gov) click on “Report An Issue” or your use the mobile app “SeeClixFix” (download on the Service Request webpage).

|                             |                                       |                  |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| City Public & Downtown Cans | Recycle & Garbage                     | 2,836 cans       |
| Road Litter Bags            | Trash, Tires, Small Bulky Items, etc. | 4,295 bags       |
|                             |                                       | <b>66.3 tons</b> |

|                              |                         |            |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| Bulk items                   |                         | 138.4 tons |
| Sanitary clean-ups performed | Biohazards, sharps, etc | 233 each   |



# Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation Construction Corner



## Downtown Auburn

Construction is currently finishing up on a re-tooled downtown park, Plaza Park. The park space includes new urban-style benches that wind through the plaza around several enjoyment areas including two turf areas with play elements, a sitting area with Adirondack chairs (that were hand-built by Green River College's Carpentry Program) and pedestals for more exciting downtown art pieces. The bright yellow Adirondack chairs are removable to allow for other activities to take place in that space.



## New playgrounds

Two new playgrounds are being installed in the city. Both playgrounds should be completed by early 2023.



Fulmer Park, located at 101 5th Street NE



Auburndale Park on Lea Hill, located at 31802 108th Avenue SE

## 2023 park construction projects

Staff continues to work towards construction and completion of the Cedar Lanes Bike Pump Track and Mountain Bike Course for Spring of 2023 for programming in summer 2023. This project was slated for completion in 2022, however, due to supply chain and other delays, was pushed to 2023. The other major projects include the 104th Avenue Park on the Green River and the pedestrian bridge crossing the White River, connecting Game Farm Park and Game Farm Wilderness Park; this is a joint project with the city's water division, which requires a new water line across the river to replace the aging line under the river.



# Have a hippity-hoppity good time participating in Auburn's Peter Cotton Trail

Here comes Peter Cotton Tail, hoppin' down the bunny trail... actually, hundreds of cute little bunnies will be hidden in Auburn's parks and trails April 7 through 10 for the third annual Peter Cotton Trail event held Easter weekend.

Grab your Peeps and hop around Auburn in search of the elusive bunny. Find ten bunnies and have a chance to win great prizes! This is a safe and FREE event for all ages and ability levels, and anyone looking for an opportunity to get outside and get active in an outdoor setting.

Before you start your search, you'll want to print a 'Bunny Scorecard' or bring something on your search to track your bunnies such as a notepad and pen, a phone or tablet. Scorecards are available at [auburnwa.gov/events](http://auburnwa.gov/events). Scorecards may also be picked up at local businesses as the event approaches.

Each bunny will have a unique number. When you find a bunny, write the corresponding number on your scorecard or tracking device. You'll need to find at least ten (10) bunnies. In most cases, you may need to visit a few parks to do so! Printed scorecards are for tracking purposes only. Complete the online Bunny Scorecard Submission Form, which will be available the morning of April 7, through 11:59 p.m. on Monday, April 10. Adults can participate too! Submit a scorecard for each person who searched so they can be entered to win the fab prizes!

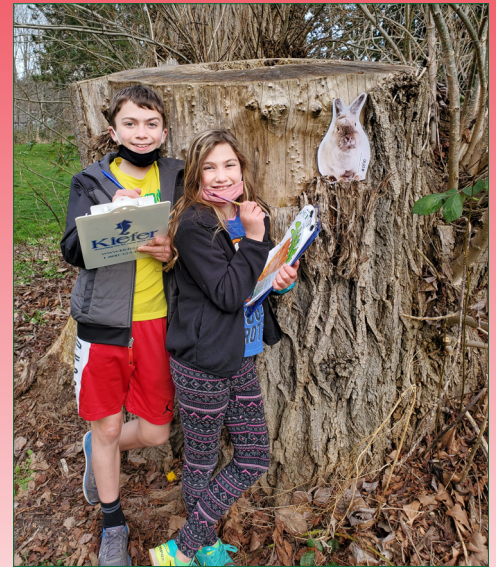
Prizes?!? That's right! There's an eggs-citing list of prizes including gift cards to local establishments, Make & Take Craft Kits, plush animals and more! Prize offerings will be listed on our website, so hop over there and check it out!

It is important to leave the bunnies in their location, so they are safe from mowers and other maintenance equipment. Please don't take or move the bunnies, so everyone can enjoy this activity.

Locations will be announced at 8 p.m. on April 6.

A note for those of you with special needs: two of the parks will have more accessible bunnies which are in view from the trail/path to accommodate wheelchairs, strollers, wagons, and scooters. Grab your peeps and have fun searching!

Check the website for updates [auburnwa.gov/events](http://auburnwa.gov/events)



CITY OF  
**AUBURN**  
WASHINGTON  
PARKS, ARTS & RECREATION





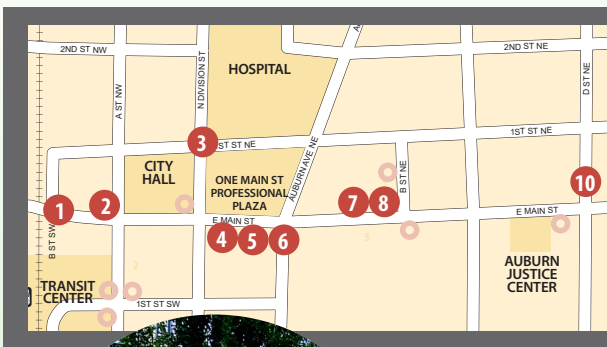
# CITY OF AUBURN DOWNTOWN SCULPTURE GALLERY

## Downtown Auburn comes to life with new public art!

Grab some coffee, zip up the parka and take a stroll through downtown Auburn to enjoy the newest art on display – and don't worry, you have plenty of time to see it. Auburn's Downtown Sculpture Gallery has eleven new sculptures installed as part of this annually rotating public art program. Now more than a decade old, the program loans sculptures from artists throughout the region and proudly displays them for all to enjoy and experience. Every year, the goal of this program is to enliven the City of Auburn with beautiful and thought-provoking public art for visitors and locals to enjoy!

Artworks featured in the 2022-23 Downtown Sculpture Gallery program showcase a variety of materials, subjects and techniques. New sculptures on view include animal-inspired artworks like Steve Tyree's beautifully crafted bronze *Ram* and Matt Babcock's colorful *Blue Spoonbill*, and artworks whose subject matter is drawn from the natural environment like *Burning Tree* by Don Anderson, cloud-like *Tough Puff* by Jenny Ellsworth, and the unique *Breathe Deep: Raven Moon* made of a reclaimed nuclear cooling tower blade by artists Jill Drillewich and Craig Breitbach. There is so much artistic talent to see on a short walk through Auburn! From the beautiful, spiral simplicity of Ken Turner's *Cipher* to the joyfully colorful curves of *Blue Spire* by Gerry Newcombe and *Growing Love* by Shon Forsyth, Jennifer Kuhns, and Carrie Ziegler, there is something for everyone to enjoy! Also featured this year is the elegant bronze and basalt *Silent Words* by artist Lloyd Whannell, and the visually striking abstracted forms of *Harp Unstrung* by Ed McCarthy and *Geo Cubes* by Jan Hoy.

A fun community-engagement element of the Downtown Sculpture Gallery program is the "People's Choice" competition, in which residents and visitors are encouraged to vote for their favorite sculpture. These votes are tallied at the end of the summer and determine which artist wins the \$500 award. The winner of the 2021-22 People's Choice Award was Seward Johnson's *Los Mariachis*. Voting has already begun for the 2022-23 year, so don't forget to go see the sculptures and vote for your favorite at [auburnwa.gov/sculpture](http://auburnwa.gov/sculpture).



### 2022-2023 DOWNTOWN SCULPTURE GALLERY







1 W MAIN ST & B ST SW

**HARP UNSTRUNG**

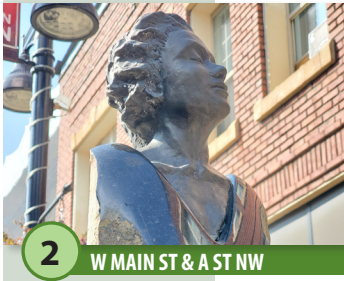
**Ed McCarthy**  
*Powder-coated steel*



7 E MAIN ST & A ST SE

**TOUGH PUFF**

**Jenny Ellsworth**  
*Powder-coated steel*



2 W MAIN ST & A ST NW

**SILENT WORDS**

**Lloyd Whannell**  
*Basalt body with limited edition bronze head and steel base*



8 B ST SW & W MAIN ST

**BLUE SPOONBILL**

**Matt Babcock**  
*Powder-coated aluminum*



3 1ST ST NW & N DIVISION ST

**BURNING TREE**

**Don Anderson**  
*Stainless and painted steel*



9 E MAIN ST & AUBURN WAY

**GEO CUBES**

**Jan Hoy**  
*Bronze, corten steel*



4 10 E MAIN ST

**GROWING LOVE**

**Shon Forsyth, Jennifer Kuhns, Carrie Ziegler**  
*Ferrocement and Mosaic*



10 D ST NE & E MAIN ST

**BREATHE DEEP:**

**RAVEN MOON**  
**Jill Drlevich and Craig Breitbach**  
*Reclaimed nuclear cooling tower blade*



5 10 E MAIN ST

**BLUE SPIRE**

**Gerry Newcombe**  
*Cast glass, steel*



11 R ST SE & 29TH ST SE

**RAM**

**Steve Tyree**  
*Bronze*



6 123 E MAIN ST

**CIPHER**

**Ken Turner**  
*Stainless steel, paint*



# New exhibit opening at the White River Valley Museum

## Cocktail Party: Dressing the Midcentury Hostess On Display February 1 - June 11, 2023

We made it through the holidays – let someone else take care of entertaining! **Cocktail Party** explores an era of martinis and Manhattans, as well as jello molds and casseroles. The Museum will have some of its favorite cocktail dresses from the 1940s to 1960s on display, as well as accessories and household artifacts from the era.

The midcentury was known as one of the first great cocktail eras; a time when mixology became an artform, not just a way to cover-up the flavor of poor-quality spirits. One of the most popular cocktail movements of the time was Tiki drinks. Tiki culture was often glamorized in midcentury film and television, commercialized as exotic destination travel to Hawaii and the South Pacific, and coopted for profit in island tchotchkes and fashion.

One of the most enduring Tiki cocktails (and one whose origin is still disputed) is definitely the Mai Tai. Trader Vic is accredited for inventing this Mai Tai in Tahiti in 1944. If you are interested in Tiki drinks, the original Trader Vic recipe is a good place to start.



### 1944 TRADER VIC MAI TAI

Ingredients:

1 oz. aged Jamaican rum

1 oz. 100-proof blanc rhum agricole

½ oz. dry curaçao

1 oz. fresh lime juice

1 oz. almond orgeat

Bouquet of mint, for garnish

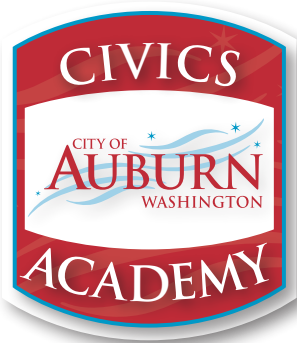


The Museum is open Wednesday to Sunday, from Noon to 4 p.m.

Admission is Free!

[wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)





## Congratulations to the class of 2022 Civics Academy graduates!

This Fall, we had our first in-person Civics Academy class since 2019! Civics Academy is an 11-week, 14 session class that allows

residents and local community members the chance to look behind the scenes of City Government.

In Council Chambers at City Hall on Thursday, Nov. 17, all 18 participants of the class graduated. These graduates now have more knowledge of how the City of Auburn operates, how decisions are made, and how funds are allocated and budgets balanced.

This ceremony included a panel discussion about volunteering, with different representatives from Boards and Commissions, along with a volunteer from our Communications Emergency Response Team (CERT) and Auburn Area Emergency Communications Team (AAECT), and an Auburn City councilmember. We're so grateful to Bruce Koch (CERT/AAECT Volunteer), Judi Roland (Planning Commission Chair/Cemetery Board Member), Kate Baldwin (Auburn City Councilmember) and Kelly Murray (Human Services Committee) for sharing their perspective and engaging with the graduates.

We're also grateful to the participants who are so invested in their city and local community. From activities that mimicked actual city decisions to field trips highlighting different areas around Auburn, along with some incredible food from local restaurants, the 2022 Civics Academy class has now seen different sides of the city, and we're excited to see them continue to support the Auburn community.

Want to learn more about the program, or be added to the mailing list for future classes? Reach out to Chris Lovings, Neighborhood Programs Coordinator by calling 253-876-1988 or email [clovings@auburnwa.gov](mailto:clovings@auburnwa.gov).

*I was surprised that the city 1) funded a history museum and 2) that it is so upfront and inclusive about the area's history. — David W.*

*Just where our tax dollars go and how creative departments have to get to with those dollars. It is much more complicated than you would think. — Amy W.*

*I think my biggest take away is our cities need us to participate. Citizens and staff need to have a relationship and communication for the city to thrive. Staff does so much!!! — Kimberly R.*

*There are people willing to help - but they don't have a crystal ball. Citizens need to bring concerns to their attention so they can remedy problems and prevent new ones. — Sharon S.*

*Politics plays such a small part in city government compared to how the mainstream imagines it. — A.J. V.*

*That the vast majority of city employees are not politicians sitting in City Hall, but blue-collar workers just trying to keep the City functioning for services that are presumed to be available. — Matt R.*



# Smash it at the Auburn Community & Events Center this winter!



Come on out and see what all the excitement is about and try pickleball with Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation!



If you've not heard of pickleball, we feel bad for you son. We've got 99 problems, but pickleball ain't one! Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the country and the official state sport of Washington. The City of Auburn has several Pickleball courts – four indoor courts located in the gymnasium at Les Gove Park attached to the Auburn Community & Event Center, one court at Scootie Brown Park, one court at Shaughnessy Park, and four dedicated pickleball courts and an additional eight courts overlaid on the tennis courts at Game Farm Park.

As the weather changes to cold and wet, the Auburn Parks, Arts & Recreation Department has a number of pickleball options for those that prefer to play indoors. Options for drop-in play at the gymnasium at Les Gove Park include Monday through Thursday, noon to 1:30 p.m. and Friday evenings from 6 to 8 p.m. (except the third Friday of the month). The drop-in fee is \$4 per player or \$3 per player for those ages 50 and up. A monthly pass option is also available. Pickleball league play for all levels is offered on Monday evenings through May.

New to pickleball? Consider joining one of the Introduction to Pickleball clinics on two Tuesdays a month at 11 a.m. Want to increase your skills and impress your friends? Check out our Pickleball Instructional clinics on Saturdays in January, February and March.

All information, dates, and fees can be found by visiting [auburnwa.gov/play](http://auburnwa.gov/play). Visit [auburnwa.gov/play](http://auburnwa.gov/play) or call 253-931-3043 to register.



# Dispatches from the City of Auburn anti-homelessness team: A family in need



Imagine being in your late teens with a small child (one month old baby boy) living outside in the cold in your RV along with your boyfriend. Imagine not having access to clean water and consistent food along with heating. You have to scrimp and scrape to get food and diapers for your baby, let alone feeding yourself and your boyfriend. This is the story of Aaliyah along with her boyfriend, Clinton, and their one-month-old baby boy. They're originally from Micronesia and immigrated to the United States seeking a better life for themselves and now for their new baby. They had been experiencing homelessness in the city of Auburn for several months on the north end of town. They felt "stuck" and were just "looking for a hand-up to move forward in life, specifically around transitional and ultimately permanent housing." In early November, Auburn Parking Enforcement Officer, Suzie Conner, reached out to the City of Auburn's Anti-Homelessness Outreach Coordinator, Matt Landis, to try and fulfill these needs Aaliyah and her family expressed. She contacted Matt late afternoon in the middle of November about these folks on C St NE. If she hadn't noticed leaking coming from the RV, she likely wouldn't have stopped to investigate further and been able to speak to the individuals inside.

Initially while driving to this call, Outreach Coordinator, Matt, felt a sense of concern for the baby. Ultimately however upon arrival, he shared that he could tell that they were good parents but just needed a little bit of handholding to take the next step.

Further, the City of Auburn connected them with Salvation Army about permanent housing and they will be following up with them tomorrow by phone. They also contacted Mary's Place Family intake line this evening. The city was able to get them into family shelter where they can also park their RV at Mary's Place' shelter and transitional housing program on the eastside of King County. They have settled in there now and will eventually move from there directly into permanent housing. As a parent of two including a 10-month-old baby boy, Matt reported that this certainly tugged at his heart strings. Matt and Officer Conner were thankful that they were willing to go and ultimately this will allow them to exit out of homelessness in the City of Auburn and move forward in life. They are also so young themselves. Aaliyah is 19 and Clinton is 27. They have been working to get back on their feet and just needed a little bit of assistance with it.

Matt expressed that he is so grateful every day for the collaborative spirit of our folks here at the City of Auburn. He and Suzie value the chance to change lives. During follow-up conversation, Aaliyah informed Matt that she is "thankful for the help and grateful for the chance to change their lives."

"We have a renewed sense of hope for ourselves and the future of their beautiful baby boy thanks to the help we've received," Aaliyah said. "We're no longer shivering in our cold RV but have a warm place to sleep and get back on our feet. We can ever safely park our RV here at the Mary's Place program."



# Freeze winter fires



**The winter season brings fun holiday festivities but also a greater risk of structure fires. Following a few simple tips will ensure a happy and fire-safe winter season.**

Heating is the second leading cause of U.S. home fires, deaths and injuries according to the National Fire Protection Agency (NFPA). We often see a rise in fires as temperatures drop. When baseboard heaters activate for the first time, a couch pushed against the heater or clothing and/or toys piled next to it are often the cause of fires. Keep anything that can burn away from all heating equipment and have furnaces inspected regularly. If you have a chimney, have it checked for creosote buildup and cleaned when needed. Dispose of fireplace ashes carefully by placing them in a metal container, mixing with water, and waiting until completely cooled to place in any trash receptacles.

Candles cause more fires in December than any other time of the year, says the NFPA. You can keep this from happening in your home by selecting battery-powered candles rather than the open flame type. If you do choose to use traditional flame candles, keep them a foot away from anything that can burn – especially decorations. Be sure to use sturdy candle holders and blow them out when you leave the room or go to bed. Also, replace candles before they burn down to the holder or container.

Christmas Tree fires are not common, but when they do occur, they are more likely to be serious. If you are selecting a cut tree rather than artificial, be sure it has fresh, green needles that do not fall off when touched. Cut 2" off the base before placing in a stand. Keep the tree at least three feet away from any heat source, and water it daily. Use lights approved by an independent testing laboratory for indoor use. Dispose of the tree as soon as possible after Christmas.

Electrical cords should be inspected for breaks in the protective covering and placed so they are not running across doorways or under carpets where they can be damaged by heavy foot traffic. Use light bulbs that match the recommended wattage on the lamp or fixture. Use only one heat-producing appliance (such as a coffee maker, toaster, space heater) plugged into a receptacle outlet at a time. Holiday lights should be approved by an independent testing laboratory and used as directed. Pay close attention to instructions on how many strings can be safely connected together. Throw away strings that have breaks in the protective covering on the cord.

Generators are often used as a temporary solution to storm-related power outages, but users should be aware of the risks associated with their use. Use generators only in well-ventilated locations outside, at least five feet away from all doors, windows and vent openings with exhaust fumes directed away from the building. Do not use generators in an attached garage, even with the door open. Always turn off generators and let them cool down before refueling. If you have not had a transfer switch installed by a qualified electrician, plug appliances directly into the generator using a heavy-duty, outdoor-rated extension cord.





# 2023



## 2023 EVENT SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES



*Make your sponsor commitment before January 14, 2023 and save 10%*

Partnering with Auburn's community-wide events, cultural arts and other park and recreation programs is a fantastic marketing option for your business!




Auburn Farmers Market



4TH OF JULY Festival

Visit [auburnwa.gov/events](http://auburnwa.gov/events) for 2023 package options!

## The results are in...

In the Winter 2022 Auburn Magazine, we shared about the Community Fund Program. This program — the first of its kind in Auburn - focused on receiving community ideas from residents living in the Valley area on ways to improve their local community. We received 15 proposals and put together a ballot that had 6 of those ideas. During the months of August - October, community members were able to vote (in multiple languages) on those ideas both virtually and in-person, with voting boxes at the Community Center, Senior Center, Library, and Downtown Auburn Cooperative. After receiving the vote totals from our partner on this project (the Stanford Crowdsourced Democracy Team), we are pleased to announce that the Playground Improvement Project submitted by the team at Firwood Circle are the winners! We're excited about the proposal and look forward to working with the team at Firwood Circle to implement the project.

And the cycle will begin again at the beginning of the year! Visit [SpeakUp Auburn \(speakupauburn.org/communityfund\)](http://SpeakUpAuburn.org/communityfund) to stay updated on the 2023 Community Fund.

Questions? Reach out to Chris Lovings, Neighborhood Programs Coordinator at 253-876-1988 or [clovings@auburnwa.gov](mailto:clovings@auburnwa.gov).





Wednesday, January 18

7-8:30pm

## WHISKEY AND WIRETAPS: THE NORTHWEST'S RUMRUNNING KING

Online | FREE | Register at [wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)

On Thanksgiving Day in 1925, Roy Olmstead, the Northwest's most notorious and prolific bootlegger, was arrested on a dock in South King County. What can we learn today from "The Good Bootlegger's" story of whiskey-driven politics, culture wars, criminalization of social behavior, illegal surveillance, spies, sensational trials, and more? Join local historian and storyteller Steve Edmiston to learn more about the wild-but-true tales surrounding Olmstead, and his impact on our region.

Saturday, January 21 | 7:30pm

## JUST ONE LOOK & KINGS OF HOLLYWOOD

Green River College - Cascade Hall, 12401 SE 320th St | Tickets: \$23/\$20

Just One Look - a tribute to Linda Ronstadt, brings you the music of the greatest female vocalist of the 1970s! Linda's musical style spanned genres to include popular, rock and folk music, and later in her career, traditional Mexican songs. This tribute to the pop/rock female vocalist of the 1970's brings hits like, You're No Good, It's So Easy, and so much more. As if this night couldn't get any better, you'll enjoy the music of The Kings of Hollywood, a faithful recreation of Eagles hits through the decades, focusing on the vocal harmony that defines this supergroup! With no lack of material to draw from, you'll enjoy the hits of Henley, Frey, Walsh, Felder and Schmidt and Meisne.

Friday, January 27 | 7:30pm

## JANUARY COMEDY AT THE COURSE

Auburn Golf Course - Bogey's Public House Banquet Room, 29630 Green River Rd. SE  
Tickets: \$20/\$17 | Ages 18 and over only  
Purchase tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

Comedy at the Course will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone.

Saturday, January 28 | 7:30pm

## ANTHEM - RUSH TRIBUTE

Green River College - Cascade Hall, 12401 SE 320th St

Tickets: \$23/\$20 | Purchase tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

ANTHEM is a RUSH tribute band out of Seattle, Washington. With the same power trio configuration as RUSH, this band has mastered the authentic sound and style of the iconic group. If you love RUSH, then get ready to rock with ANTHEM! You won't be disappointed.

Friday, February 3 | 7:30pm

## BUDDY, RITCHIE & THE BOPPER

Auburn Performing Arts Center, 702 4th St NE | Tickets: \$30/\$25

Purchase tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

Join us for the 64th anniversary of these three great stars passing. This tribute pays respect to three entertainers who were taken from us way too early in their young musical careers, Buddy Holly, Richie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson. Buddy, Ritchie & the Bopper are backed by seven professional musicians, as well has historic narration; this show will keep your toes tapping and make you want to dance in the aisles to songs like That'll be the Day, Peggy Sue, La Bamba, Chantilly Lace and so much more!

Wednesday, February 1

6:30-8:30pm

## FASHION NIGHT

White River Valley Museum

\$20 per person | Ages 21+

Register at [wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)

Come as you are, or come dressed to the nines, sample some nibbles, and enjoy some wines! See fashions from the White River Valley Museum collection on opening night of our new fashion exhibit, while enjoying wine, music, and fashion activities.

Saturday, February 4 | 2pm

## AVE KIDS: STORYBOOK THEATER - 3 PIGS

Les Gove Gymnasium, 910 9th St SE

All tickets \$12 | Purchase tickets at

[auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

When the wolf is on the hunt for some mouthwatering pork, the shakin' bacon starts makin' a sturdy, tooth-proof home for protection. This zany rendition of a favorite tale will have audiences, small and tall, rooting for the little piggies as they scramble to save their skins.

Saturday, February 11 | 12-4pm

## FAMILY FASHION FEST

White River Valley Museum

All are welcome | FREE

View our new exhibit, featuring fashions from the White River Valley Museum, use fashions from the past to design your own fashions and accessories, and join in the fashion show!



**Saturday, February 18 | 7:30pm**

## **WILDFLOWER & AMERICAN FOOL**

Green River College - Cascade Hall, 12401 SE 320th St | Tickets: \$23/\$20

Purchase tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

Wildflower - Tribute to Sheryl Crow. Flanked by talented musicians, Wildflower delivers Sheryl's three decades of hits - Rock, Blues, Country and Americana to make you get up and dance. American Fool is a Seattle based tribute band faithfully recreating the greatest hits of John Cougar Mellencamp.

**Friday, February 24 | 7:30pm**

## **FEBRUARY COMEDY AT THE COURSE**

Auburn Golf Course - Bogey's Public House Banquet Room, 29630 Green River Rd SE |

Tickets: \$20/\$17 | Ages 18 and over only  
Purchase tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

Comedy at the Course will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone.

**March 3, 4, 10, 11 | 7:30pm**

**March, 4, 5, 11, 12 | 2pm**

## **AUBURN COMMUNITY PLAYERS: NUNSENSE**

Green River College - Cascade Hall, 12401 SE 320th St | Tickets: \$20/\$17 (pre-sale); \$25/\$22 (at the door)

When the Little Sisters of Hoboken discover that their cook, Sister Julia, Child of God, has accidentally poisoned 52 of the sisters, and they are in dire need of funds for the burials. The sisters decide that the best way to raise the money is to put on a variety show. Featuring star turns, tap and ballet dancing, an audience quiz, and comic surprises, this show has become an international phenomenon.

**Wednesday, March 8 | 1-2pm**

## **CURATOR'S TALK: SWIMWEAR**

Online | Register at [wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)  
Swimwear is one of the most politicized pieces of clothing a person can wear. From bikinis to burkinis, what we choose to wear while we spend time in the water has been a lightning rod for conversations about morals, technology, health, and fashion. Curator of Collections Hilary Pittenger will walk you through a history of swimwear in the West from the 1600s through today, with a special focus on what everyday people were actually wearing and how that relates to historical high fashion trends.

**Saturday, March 11**

**Ages 3-6 | 3:30-5:30pm**

**Ages 7-13 | 7-9pm**

## **DADDY DAUGHTER PRINCESS BALL**

Auburn Community & Event Center, 910 9th St SE | Space is limited. \$45/\$57 | Additional Sibling \$27/\$34 | Pre-registration required for all attendees at [auburnwa.gov/events](http://auburnwa.gov/events) or 253-931-3043.

Dads, Grandfathers, Uncles or Big Brothers, treat your little girl to a night she will talk about all year! Join us for light refreshments, dancing, fun and activities. Consider it your daughter's first date. Memory Photo and party favor included.

**Saturday, March 18, | 7:30pm**

## **GEOFFREY CASTLE- ST. PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION**

Auburn Performing Arts Center, 702 4th Street NE | Tickets \$30/\$25 | Tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043  
Keep the spirit of St. Patrick's Day alive the day after with a live band, Irish dancers and lots of Celtic Fiddling. Electric six-string Violinist Geoffrey Castle fearlessly brings the violin back to center stage with virtuoso showmanship and a 21st century attitude. Join Geoffrey for his high energy St. Patrick's Day Concert!

**Sunday, March 19 | 1-3pm**

## **TEXTILE BLOCK PRINTING**

White River Valley Museum | \$15/person  
Register at [wrvmuseum.org](http://wrvmuseum.org)

Local textile artist Francisca Ossiander invites us to learn the art of wooden block printing on fabric, a technique used around the world for centuries. All guests will leave with a printed kerchief and tote bag. Participants are welcome to bring other items for printing as well.

**Friday, March 24 | 7:30pm**

## **MARCH COMEDY AT THE COURSE**

Auburn Golf Course - Bogey's Public House Banquet Room | 29630 Green River Rd SE  
Tickets: \$20/\$17 | Ages 18 and over only  
Purchase tickets at [auburnwa.gov/theater](http://auburnwa.gov/theater) or 253-931-3043

Comedy at the Course will keep you laughing all night long as three comedians work to twist your funny bone.

**Saturday, March 25 | 6:30-8:30pm**

## **LADIES & LIL GENTS - WILD WORLD OF SPORTS**

Ages 3-11 | Auburn Community & Event Center, 910 9th St SE

Pre-registration required for all attendees  
Space is limited | Fee: \$45/\$57

Additional Sibling \$27/\$34  
Visit [auburnwa.gov/events](http://auburnwa.gov/events) or 253-931-3043

A fun 'date night' for mom's and their little boys! Come dressed as your favorite Sports Fan and enjoy light refreshments, dancing, entertainment, hands-on activity, memory photo and a few surprises. Grandmother's and aunts are welcome.



# AUBURN COMMUNITY FITNESS

AUBURN COMMUNITY & EVENT CENTER



Unlimited access to fitness classes both virtual and in-person

Unlimited use of the fitness center

Open gym programs

Unlimited access to the full virtual fitness class library

Drop-in childcare

## MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP

Adult • \$25/month

Senior/Teen • \$20/month

## MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP WITH UNLIMITED CHILDCARE

Adult + 1 child • \$35/month

Adult + 2 children • \$50/month

Adult + 3 children • \$65/month

## DAILY DROP-IN

Adult \$5 • Senior/Teen \$4



Auburn Community & Event Center

910 9th St SE | Auburn, WA 98002

Monday-Thursday 7am-8pm

Friday 7am-7pm

Saturday 9am-4pm

253-931-3043 | auburnwa.gov/fitness