April showers bring May flowers but I think all our March showers will bring us a beautiful Spring this month in Auburn. Flowers and trees are blooming and we are gearing up for our next event “Auburn Ever After.” Scheduled for Saturday, May 5, Auburn Ever After is our premier children’s event featuring over 20 of your favorite storybook characters visiting with the children. Come out for horse-drawn carriage rides, meet Tiana, Moana, Cinderella, Sleeping Beauty, Shrek, and other characters. Photos of this event will be a treasure to you and your children for years to come!

Events like Auburn Ever After are a part what the City staff works hard to bring to our community. Auburn hosts 4 large events each year including Auburn Ever After, Independence Day Celebration (June 30), AuburnFest (October 20) and Sounding Off the Christmas Season (December 1). Thousands of folks come to Auburn because it is known as a safe, friendly place to enjoy events. Our staff works hard to make these events a success, but they could not do it without the help of our outstanding volunteers. Volunteers help with planning, participating in helping our vendors find their spaces and work closely with City staff on the events. Volunteers also play part in making decisions in the City in many capacities. Our Parks & Leisure Commission, Planning and Zoning, Zoning Board of Appeals, and DDA/Main Street Boards help keep our City running smoothly. Currently, we are working on our visioning for the City in our Comprehensive Plan—volunteers are the heart of that project, working side by side with our staff. Volunteers help us with our Citizens Police Academy and our Police Explorer Program. What would our Library be without the help of these volunteers? We would especially like to acknowledge our volunteers that have served year after year at our events. There are so many that help us we could never name every one in the space available in the Messenger. We would like to call out Tina Parks, Wanda Hawthorne, Bill Ackworth, Grace Axford, and Burt Souten for their many years of service to the City at our events.

The City is proud of our Volunteer force. They keep us going but did you ever wonder what impact YOUR volunteerism has on our community? According to statistics, volunteerism has a value of over $184 billion dollars each year. Volunteers, on average, spend 50 hours per year donating their time to the greater good; 4% of college graduates, 25 years or older, volunteer each year. Volunteering also improves health by strengthening the body, improving mood, and lessening stress in participants. Those who volunteer regularly have a 27% better chance of gaining employment—80% of hiring managers see the act of volunteerism as a valuable asset when making recruitment decisions according to a study performed by CareerBuilder. One out of four American’s volunteer in their community but... two out of three Americans help their neighbor according to a study performed by The Corporation for National & Community Service. Volunteer programs happen in big and small ways.

The City of Auburn will honor our volunteers by proclaiming April 23 through April 29 as Volunteer Appreciation Week in Auburn. Aristotle (born: 384 BC) once said; “the essence of life is to serve others and do good.”

Notice: Water Consumption Rate Increase for April 2018 Water Bills
The water consumption rate increase that was passed on June 6, 2013 by Mayor and Council for the New Increases with Conservation Rate is effective on March 1st of each year will go into effect on Water Bills Due by April 15, 2018 with an increase of 2.1%. The CPI rose 2.1 percent in 2017, same as 2016 and 0.7 percent advance in 2015. The 2.1% increase will be a $3.11 to $4.16 per 1000 gallons increase for City residents. A City customer using 5,000 gallons a month would be billed from $43.61 to $44.21.

April and May Tennis Program Sessions Available
City of Auburn Tennis Courts!
Join us at the Auburn Tennis Courts for Group Lessons! Group Tennis Classes available All Ability Levels

**MONDAYS: April 2, 9, 16, 23 (4 lessons—Only $11 per Lesson) - $44**
**MONDAYS: May 7, 14, 21 (3 lessons—Only $11 per Lesson) - $33**
*Discount Price for Both Months: $70: ($10 less a $10 lesson)!*
*with PTR (Professional Tennis Registry) Certified Professional Instructor Josh Honea*

**Step 1: ENROLLMENT and SCREENING**

**Step 2: ENROLLMENT and SCREENING**

**April 30th - Monday Statham Elementary**

**May 1st - Thursday Wingo Elementary**

**May 2nd - Friday Graniteville Elementary**

**May 3rd - Monday Holdenback Elementary**

**May 7th - Monday Auburn Elementary**

**May 8th - Monday stadium Elementary**

**May 14th - Tuesday Winder Elementary**

**May 15th - Monday Kennedy Elementary**

**May 16th - Monday Bethelheim Elementary**

**May 21st - Monday Make up day - Central Office**

Please bring all of the required documents to the Central Office on your child’s scheduled registration day. To help alleviate crowding and disperse the registrations throughout the day, if at all possible, please attend during the time period listed that corresponds to the first initial of your child’s last name (A-C 8:00 AM, D-J 9:00-11 AM, K-M 11AM-12PM, N-S 12-1:30PM, T-Z 1:30-4PM). This day will be your child’s registration and blue and the biological parent/legal guardian must be present.

- If the biological parent/guardian cannot be present on the school’s scheduled day then you may:
  - Bring the required documents to the Central Office prior to the kindergarten screening/registration dates above. Your child will then receive an enrollment for school. (Your child does not need to be present for this part, but the biological parent/legal guardian registering does!)
  - You will also need to make sure your child attends the scheduled screening/registration day for his/her school (see above), where he/she will be screened. (Since your child already has an enrollment, anyone can bring him/her in for screening)
  - You’re done!

You’re done! Register between April 30th & May 21st and your child will receive a FREE book courtesy of the Barrow Book Partnership. You will also have an opportunity to sign up for a FREE FINES library card from the Piedmont Regional Library System-Winder, Auburn and Staton Public Libraries.

Please see the Barrow County School System website for a list of required documents or contact your school or Registration Department at 770-867-4527, www.barrow.k12.ga.us

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**City of Auburn**

**1369 Fourth Avenue**

**P.O. Box 1093**

**Auburn, GA 30011**

**770-963-4002**

**www.cityofauburn-ga.org**
Auburn Libraries Programs & Events
April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club:
Bring yarn and knitting needles
April 5 at 11:30AM: Between the Pages Adult Book Club
April 5, 12, 19, 26 at 5PM: Auburn Teen Nights
April 5 at 5:30PM: Auburn Coding Club
April 4 at 11AM: It Might Come in Handy—ASL Basics and Deaf Culture
April 4 at 3PM: Lego Club
April 9, 16, 23, 30 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read—Pre-K Story Time
April 9 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
April 10, 24 at 5PM: Teen Writing Club
April 10 at 6PM: When it’s Black, Preventing Sexual Assault
April 11, 18, 25 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time
April 10 at 6PM: #fightback: Preventing Sexual Assault
April 9 at 6PM: Cover to Cover Book Club
April 11, 18, 25 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time
April 11 at 6PM: Planning & Zoning
April 11 at 6:30PM: Parks & Leisure Commission
April 12 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
April 12 at 6PM: Downtown Development Authority
April 13 at 4PM: Planning & Zoning
April 13 at 4PM: Planning & Zoning
April 14 at 12PM: Saturday Craftroom
April 15 at 5PM: Friends of the Library Meeting
April 17 at 5PM: Unbirthday Party
April 26 at 7PM: We’re Wine Club
April 27 at 11AM: Men’s Book Club
April 28 at 6AM: Auburn Transportation
April 28 at 3PM: STEAM
April 29 at 3PM: Lego Club
April 30 at 11AM: Auburn Lapsit Story Time
April 30 at 3PM: STEAM

Whistlestop Shops Market Days
Whistlestop Market Days run the 2nd Saturday of each month April through October with fun activities, vendors, food and more! Visit www.whistlestopshops.com
Thank you to the generous sponsors of the Market Days! Boise Cascade, Metro PCS, Hill’s Ace Hardware and Mitsubishi

Auburn Parks & Leisure Commission
is devoted to bringing the best in leisure programming to Auburn. From Auburn Youth Athletics Baseball Programs and the Tennis program to the Auburn OWLS (Older Wiser Laughing Seniors) to green space parks—there is something for everyone.

April 11—Parks & Leisure Commission
April 18—OWLS Field Trip—State Botanical Gardens—9:30 am—Register with Michelle (770-963-4002 ext 204) or mwaller@cityofauburn-ga.org by April 13

City of Auburn
Earth Day Cleanup
Friday, April 20—8:00AM—4:00PM and Saturday, April 21st—8:00AM—2:00PM
Mary Carter Ballfield Parking Lot

We will be collecting:
• Batteries
• Ink Cartridges
• Eye Glasses (for Lion’s Club)
• Scrap Metal
• Motor Oil
• Old Cameras/Radios
• Cell Phones
• Electronics
• Junk (includes anything you don’t want whether usable or not)
• Tires—A cost of $2.00 - $5.00 per tire (depending on size)

Questions? Contact Iris Akrige 770-963-4002 ext. 207 or email lakridge@cityofauburn-ga.org

Clean Catch Basins Mean….WE can all weather this storm!

What are catch basins and what do they do?

Catch basins are the square grids that are placed along the curbs to collect water from our streets during storm events. They are the entryway from our streets to our storm water drainage system and represent the first step in storm water collection. On rainy days, rainwater and anything else on the streets enter our storm water drainage system through the catch basins. The City owns all the catch basins within the right-of-ways and is responsible for the maintenance of these catch basins. If the catch basin is not within the street rights-of-way, it is considered to be on private property and should be maintained by that property owner.

How Can You Help keep catch basins flowing freely?
The City of Auburn’s Public Works crews clean catch basins. However, with the City having to maintain other areas, the need to have the crew in your neighborhood may not come as frequently as needed. Therefore, by helping to clean the catch basins in front of your house you can greatly reduce the risk of a clogged drain during heavy rain events until the City crew can respond to your area.

Remember YOU can make a difference! Reducing water pollution takes everyone working together! or more information contact the Stormwater Coordinator at (770)963-4002 X207.