Clean Catch Basin 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 maintenance of these catch basins. If the catch basin is within the street right-of-ways, 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 crew 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 keep 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

**Join us at the Auburn Tennis Courts for Group Lessons!**

**Group Tennis Classes available All Ability Levels**

- MONDAYS: March 6, 13, 20, 27 @ 40 (4 lessons—Only $10 per lesson!)
- MONDAYS: April 3, 10, 17, 24 @ 40 (4 lessons—Only $10 per lesson!)

Discount price for both months: $72 (8 total lessons—Only $9 per lesson!)

March and April Tennis Program Sessions Available!

with PTR (Professional Tennis Registry) Certified Professional Instructor Josh Honea

All sessions will be held at the City of Auburn Tennis courts

5:00pm-6:00pm Little Champs Tennis (4-8 yrs. youth) -
6:00pm-7:00pm Future Champs Tennis—Junior Development I (8-12 yrs. old)
7:00pm-8:00pm Competitive Champs Tennis—Junior Development II (For players 13-18 of all abilities, striving toward a higher level of play through competition.)

For more information please contact: Josh Honea. tenniswithjosh@gmail.com  - 770-547-8647

**Save the Date! Auburn "Ever After"**

April 8—4PM

Calling all kids! Auburn Ever After has Princess Carriage Rides, Games, Activities and the movie "Frozen" on the big screen. Extended schedule of carriage rides. Special guests: Elsa, Anna, Shrek, Cinderella, Tiana, Rapunzel and more. Mark your calendars!

**Welcome to March! The weather is warming up and more people are heading out to stroll through downtown Auburn. We are so proud of the entrepreneurs who have joined our Whistlestop Shops Family. The success of the shops and the drive of these entrepreneurs—all of whom are women—have reminded me of the important role that women play in our local community and our society at large.** In fact, of the 13 businesses on 4th Avenue, 11 are run by women! It is very encouraging to see women taking the lead and building their businesses for themselves and their families. I celebrate these women and the contributions they are making to Auburn.

Coincidentally, March is National Women’s History Month which traces its beginnings back to the first International Women’s Day in 1911. From International Women’s Day to Women’s History Week then Women’s History Month, this celebration honors all the contributions and accomplishments of women. President Jimmy Carter proclaimed in 1980 “From the first settlers who came to our shores, from the first American Indian families who befriended the men and women who have worked together to build this nation. Too often the women were unsung and sometimes their contributions went unnoticed. But the achievements, leadership, courage, strength and love of the women who built America was as vital as that of the men whose names we know so well.” ...It is an essential and indispensable heritage from which we can draw pride, comfort, courage, and long-range vision.

Women have always been involved in our community and how you will see them in leadership positions which were once dominated by men. While it is more commonplace than before, as of July 2016, the U.S. Conference of Mayors notes that of the 1,391 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, 263 were women. Since the City of Auburn was established in 1892, I am only the second woman to serve as Mayor. When I was first elected, our entire City Council consisted of women. Sally Brown, Dorissa Shackelford, Peggy Langley and Donna Souteen. Most city councils in Gwinnett County and Gwinnett County have a woman as chair of the Board of Commissioners. In Gwinnett County, 5 of the 16 cities have women Mayors. In Barrow County cities, all but 2 cities have women serving on their City Council.

Of recent female high school graduates and 61% of male recent high school graduates were enrolled in college in the fall following graduation. By 2012, the share of young women enrolled in college immediately after high school had increased to 71%, but it remained unchanged for young men at 61%.

March also celebrates National Girl Scout Day and the Girl Scout Birthday on March 12. This premier girls organization was founded by Juliette Gordon Low who envisioned an organization that would prepare girls to meet the world with courage, confidence, and character. In 1912, in the midst of the Progressive Era—and at a time when women in the United States couldn’t yet vote—this nearly deaf 51-year-old sparked a worldwide movement inspiring girls to embrace together, their individuality, strength, and intellect. Girl Scouts emphasized inclusiveness, the outdoors, self-service and service. Millions of young girls and women have participated in this program.

Please take time today to celebrate the women in your life. Mothers, sisters, daughters, friends, caregivers and more, represent the heart of our community and we couldn’t have gotten here without her

Notice: Water Consumption Rate Increase for April 2017 Water Bills

The water consumption rate increase that was passed on June 6, 2013 by Mayor and Council for the New Increases with Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI-U) effective on March 1st of each year will go into effect on Water Bills due by April 15, 2017 with an increase of 2.1% to an index level of 244.58 (1982-84=100).

The CPI rose 2.1 percent in 2016, a larger increase than the 0.7 percent rise in 2015 and the 0.8 percent advance in 2014. This also represented a larger increase than the 1.8 percent average annual increase over the past 10 years.

The 2.1 % increase will be a $.11 to .16 per 1000 gallons increase for City residents. A City customer using 5000 gallons a month would be billed from $43.02 to $43.61.
It’s Community Garden Time Again!

The time is now! Don’t miss out on your opportunity to participate in Auburn’s Community Garden. Last year we had a bumper crop of tomatoes, green beans, cucumbers, herbs, flowers and more. We have ten beds available and they will go fast!

The community garden will be run by the volunteer Community Garden Steering Committee and volunteers are needed to help! Want to make a difference and share your knowledge of gardening? This is a great way to help. Our community garden participants range from new gardeners to Master Gardeners.

The Auburn Community Garden will provide access to local, organically grown items and offer the opportunity for students (young and not so young) to learn the joy of producing food for themselves. Interested in having a raised garden plot? Email communitydevelopment@cityofauburn.ga.org or call 770-963-4002 ext 202. Applications are being accepted now.

Auburn Library Programs & Events

March 1, 6, 15, 22, 29 at 11:30AM: Auburn Lapat Story Time—up to 2 years
March 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 at 11:15AM: Ready to Read - Pre K Story Time
March 3 at 6PM: Auburn Coding Club
March 5, 12, 19, 26, 30 at 1PM: Stitch, Knit and Crochet Club; Bring yarn and knitting needles
March 9 at 5PM: Teen Advisory board
March 9 at 6PM: Teen Night
March 11 at 12PM: Saturday Creafmorn
March 13 at 6PM: Auburn Cover to Cover Book Club
March 14, 28 at 5PM: Teen Writing Club
March 20 at 6:30PM: Friends of Auburn Library
March 25 at 11:30AM: Family Storytime
March 25 at 4:00PM: Bookworms Book Club for Tweens
March 27 at 4PM: Auburt Library

Auburn Parks & Leisure Commission

is devoted to bringing the best in leisure programming to Auburn. From Auburn Dixie Youth Baseball Programs and the Tennis program to the Auburn OWLS (Older Wiser Laughing Seniors) to green space parks—there is something for everyone. Please note: Parks & Leisure Meetings are moving to the 2nd Wednesday of each month

March 8—Parks & Leisure Meeting—6:30 pm City Hall
March 15—OWLS Luncheon—JD Withers Building 11:30 am
March 18—Barrow County Baseball Opening Day— Barrow County Recreation Fields
March 25—Auburn Youth Athletics Opening Day—Auburn Ball Park Mary Carter Road

Saturday, March 25, 2017
2nd Annual Auburn Elementary Skedaddle 5K
1334 6th Ave, Auburn, GA 30011
5K 7:30 am  Fun Run 7:15 am
Race benefits the Auburn Elementary PTO

For more info: Contact Jennifer Cyran, auburntigerespto@gmail.com or Carole Black, classicraceservices@gmail.com

Auburn Volunteer Corps is Forming Now!

The City of Auburn is looking for volunteers to join their Volunteer Corps. Do you have an interest in helping out in your community? Consider joining the Auburn Volunteer Corps to help out with community and charitable events, festivals, and more!

Contact Michelle Walker at 770-963-4002 ext 204 or mwalker@cityofauburn.ga.org