

City of AUBURN

Water & Sewer Rate Study: The Cost of Clean Water

Auburn became a city because the people here wanted good, clean drinking water for their families. Now, many of those pipes we installed are getting old and need to be replaced. We are also living in a post-Flint water crisis world. Now don't worry, we have no lead in our system like Flint does, but as a result, we have many new rules which we have to live with that are going to cost us money to implement.

In January, the City Commission authorized a water and sewer rate study to see just where we stood and how to go about getting the needed upgrades to our systems taken care of. We found that currently a homeowner that uses 4,500 gallons/month pays about \$25/month for water and sewer combined, or less than a dollar a day. On average, a bottle of water costs \$1.45. With the recently passed rate changes it will increase that water bill by about \$4.50 a month and the sewer bill by about \$5.05 a month. That's \$9.55 per month. Of course, your personal bill will vary by just how much you use. These increases will still keep us at lower rates than many other communities.

We have worked hard over the years to keep our rates as low as possible for all of you. Times are changing, we have to operate by different rules and we need to maintain and start planning on replacing older water lines so we don't have problems later on. We do not believe in kicking the can down the road. Let's do it right for all of our families and future generations yet to come. I trust that you will understand and support us in our decision.

The City of Auburn Water Quality Report is available

The water quality report describing the source and quality of your drinking water is available at

www.auburnmi.org/Portals/11/WaterQualityReport.pdf

To receive a paper copy in the mail, contact us at clerk@auburnmi.org or 989-662-6761.

CITY NOTES

Grass Clippings

Chapter 53. Grass clippings and yard waste in City streets are not only an eyesore, but they can clog storm sewers and are a violation of City Ordinances. Sweeping, throwing or depositing materials is not allowed onto City streets, including landscaping materials, grass clippings and leaves.

Burning Ordinance (Fire Pits)

Chapter 92. Open burning and outdoor burning are prohibited in the city unless specifically permitted in the ordinance. When burning is allowed it must be burning clean wood only and it must not create a nuisance. Additional regulations can be found in the City Ordinances.

Trailer Coach Parking

Chapter 152. It is prohibited to park any trailer coach overnight on any street or other public place within the City. Occupying a trailer on any land may require a permit. Please check with City Hall if you are unsure. Additional regulations can be found in the City Ordinances.

City Ordinances may be found on the web at www.amlegal.com/codes/client/auburn_mi/ or by contacting the City Clerk.

Upcoming Events



Cornfest – July 11 – 14. “Cornfield of Dreams” - Contact Auburn Jaycees by email at auburncornfest@yahoo.com or message on Facebook.

Tri-City Motor Speedway – Friday nights from late April – early September at the racetrack on Wheeler Rd by 8 Mile. Gates @ 5:30pm and races start @ 7:55pm.

Movies Under the Moonlight at Tri City Furniture @ 8pm.
July 16 – Raiders of the Lost Ark, July 30 – Elf, Aug 13 – The Incredibles 2, Aug 27 – Aquaman.

Bay Co. Library (Auburn) – Summer Movie Series.
July 17 @ 1pm – The Lego Movie 2.
August 2 @ 10am - How to Train Your Dragon 3.
Contact the Childrens’ Department (989) 662-2381 ext. 206

Summer Polka Series with Bay City Polka Panic – July 21 and Aug 18 – \$3 admission at the door. Bring your own lawn chair.



Grace Block Party – July 26 at Grace Lutheran Church @ 303 Ruth St in Auburn.

 45th Annual Book Sale – Aug 1 – 3 @ Bay County Civic Arena. Contact Bonnie Darby at (989) 284-3835 (Volunteers needed)

 Saginaw Rods & Classics Car Show – Aug 3 from 8 am – 3pm @ Auburn Farmer’s Market – food trucks, 50/50 drawing, Chinese auction and more. Contact SRC at (989) 928-1374.

Ales & Ears Downtown Festival – September 21 – 10am – 10pm. “Party in the Streets” with all day entertainment. Art fair, cornhole tournament, tractor show, history display, kids’ activities, food and more. Contact: Auburnmichamber@gmail.com

Dates to Remember...



May 24 – Aug 31
Summer Hours
at City Hall are in affect
Mon – Thurs 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am – 12:30 pm

June – September
Farmers Market on
Tuesdays and Thursdays
from 4 – 7pm

July 4 – 5
Independence Day
City Hall Closed

July 15
City Commission @ 7pm

August 19
City Commission @ 7pm

September 2
Labor Day
City Hall Closed

September 24
City Commission @ 7pm

Billing Changes for Seasonal Usage (Irrigation/Pools)

The City of Auburn will be discontinuing the automatic adjustment of bills for seasonal usage in the summer due to irrigation sprinklers, pool fills, or other uses that don’t use the sewer as of December 31, 2019. During the recent water and sewer rate study for the City of Auburn it was determined that an automatic seasonal usage adjustment was not appropriate for our community. We recognize that there are residents who value this discount in order to fill a pool or water their lawn. In order to properly account for usage, we are, like many other municipalities, requiring a second meter be purchased and installed, to benefit from an adjustment to the sewer portion of your bill. Please contact City Hall at (989) 662-6761 to order your second meter or for more information.

City Permits

What is a permit?

It is a written authorization issued by the City of Auburn, sometimes in conjunction with the Midland Township Code Authority, to construct a project. Permits are required for most construction, remodeling and sometimes repair projects, in order to ensure the safety of the work and its compliance with applicable codes and ordinances.

Types of Permits and Where to Get Them.

The City of Auburn issues the following permits at City Hall located at 113 E. Elm St, Auburn, MI 48611:

- Sidewalk
- Fence
- Solicitor's
- Building (initial sign-off)
- Others (as detailed in the City Code of Ordinances)

Call City Hall at 989-662-6761 with any questions.

The Midland Township Code Authority issues the following permits at 220 W. Ellsworth, Midland, MI 48640:

- Building - Al Thompson (needs city signoff first)
- Electrical - Bill Rosenbrock
- Mechanical - Tom Verellen
- Plumbing - Tom Verellen

Call the Township Code Authority at 989-837-6521 or the respective inspector with any questions.

Projects Requiring a Permit.

A good rule of thumb is to get a permit if you are changing the structure or use of a building. For example, you will likely need a building permit to:

- add or remove walls
- convert a garage to a living room
- update piping or electrical
- create or alter the size or shape of windows or doors
- install lawn sprinklers
- install central air
- and more

The only way to be sure is to check.

What if I Skip the Permit?

If your project requires a permit, it is best to get it before you get started. If you are found to have a project in construction or even fully finished you may be forced to obtain a permit with additional fees and penalties attached, shut down the project or even tear down your work for proper inspections to be done. In short, it's not worth the risk.



Auburn DDA

The Auburn Downtown Development Authority (DDA) has been very busy lately. Here's a quick look at how the DDA is improving the City of Auburn:

Commissioned Rowe Engineering to design the park road from Auburn Road east to the ball fields. The estimate for the entire project was over 1 million dollars. As a result, construction will be done in phases as funding allows.

Phase I was launched in late May with funding from the DDA and the DeShano Foundation, which will provide additional parking by the pavilions.

Updated the Farmers Market hours to be open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4 - 7 p.m. running through September.

Together with the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, the DDA has adopted Midland Road, including the Machelski Corner Park, as a cleanup project.

The DDA will be moving the Christmas light show east of the Veterans Memorial, providing a better background to the show and easier access to parking.

Notes from the Mayor

Well, here we are, summer at last! School is out, the new banners are up and flying, gardens and yards are beautiful and the Farmers' market is in full swing. I hope you all check out our farmers' market. The dates have been moved to Tuesdays & Thursdays from 4-7pm to better serve you. The Farm Market Board has been working hard getting more vendors this year and we need you to come down and buy all the great items they have. I sampled some of the baked goods and boy, they were great! There were also some beautiful tomatoes, artwork and Norm's great honey there.

While you are at the farmers market, let us know what you think of the new road entrance and parking area at the park. The credit goes to our DDA for making it all happen. They have worked long and hard planning that road to make the parking safer for you and your family. They have also pledged \$90,000 towards the project. I also want to thank Gary Deshano and the Deshano Family Foundation again for their donation of \$100,000 to make this first part happen. What about the rest of the road? This is just a starting point. We want to finish all the way down, but it will take time and money to make it happen.

Our DPW department has had a few changes and things are going great. They are working hard to make Auburn shine while keeping things in working order for all of you. All of us on the city commission want to thank Judy, Stacy, Bryna and Dave for all of their work making sure everything is being done right.

The Commission has been busy with many issues, from working on the new budget, to figuring out if we can get Midland Road repaved yet this summer and even the hard job of analyzing the water and sewer rate study (see additional information in the Water and Sewer Rate Study article on the front page and Billing Changes for Seasonal Usage on the second page). We have talked about many other infrastructure projects that are needed here in the city as well.

Thank you for letting me serve as you mayor. It is a great honor! Have a wonderful Summer!

Loe Kilbourn

We want to hear from you!

"We all need people who will give us feedback. That's how we improve." - Bill Gates

Send us your feedback, questions, comments, critiques and praises.

mayorkilbourn@auburnmi.org

ask the Mayor

Utility Billing Dates to Remember:

- June 28** - Bills delivered to the Post Office.
 - July 21** - Due date to avoid penalty.
 - July 23** - Penalties due. (May not show in total when paying online, but still due).
 - July 25** - Reminder/Past Due Notices delivered to Post Office.
 - Aug 7** - Due date to avoid disconnection.
 - Aug 8** - Disconnection tags are delivered and water turned off for non-payment.
- Please remember to adjust your mailing date so your payment is received by the due date.**

City of Auburn 2019 Trash Calendar

January 2019							April 2019							July 2019							October 2019						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5		1	2	3	4	5	6		1	2	3	4	5	6			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31			28	29	30					28	29	30	31				27	28	29	30	31		

February 2019							May 2019							August 2019							November 2019							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
					1	2				1	2	3	4						1	2	3						3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28			26	27	28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	

March 2018							June 2018							September 2018							December 2018							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
					1	2						1	2						1	2	3						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	29	30						22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
31							30														29	30	31					

Notes:
 Trash days are **bolded** and recycle days are marked with a **box**. Normal trash pickup is every Wednesday. **Highlighted** days are holidays observed by City Hall.

Trash will be collected one day late due to the following Holidays: Memorial Day - May 27, Labor Day - September 2, Christmas Day – December 25, and New Year’s Day – January 1, 2020.

Please clearly mark all yard waste and Recycle containers (stickers are no longer provided by WM) and keep at least 5 feet from trash containers.

For large item pickup please call Waste Management at **800-796-9696**.

2019 Waste Management yard waste collection starts April 3 and ends November 27. Christmas trees are collected the first two weeks of January.

SUMMER 2019

U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Auburn, MI
PERMIT NO. 6

City of Auburn
113 E. Elm Street
Auburn, MI 48611



ECRWSEDDM

POSTAL CUSTOMER



Meeting agendas & minutes can be found
on the city website.

www.auburnmi.org

CITY DIRECTORY

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Russ Williams

Dan Nease

Gary Warner

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