

CornFest 2016



Notes from the Mayor

The City Commission adopted a new blight ordinance recently. The full ordinance can be found on our website, or is available at City Hall. Here is a quick summary. Blight is defined as: Decay consisting of the deterioration of structures or buildings, uses or activities upon any land or premises due to aging, neglect, or lack of financial support for maintenance. Allowing deterioration or conditions that harm the economic structure of the surrounding area.

It also includes junk. Junk: Trash, rubbish or refuse of any kind, except domestic refuse stored in such manner as not to create a nuisance for a period not to exceed 30 days. Junk also includes parts of

Contact the City

Police/Fire: 911
Police Office: 989-662-6768
City Hall Office: 989-662-6761
Please mail or email your comments to:
Patricia Rayl, City Administrator
113 E. Elm St.
Auburn, MI 48611
Or email: prayl@auburnmi.org
Visit us at www.auburnmi.org or "like" us on
Facebook with @Auburn.Michigan
**Summer Hours: 8am to 5pm Mon-Fri
(June-August)**

machinery or motor vehicles, construction machinery or parts thereof, unused appliances stored in the open, metal or any other material or other cast off material of any kind whether or not same could be put to any reasonable use.

The penalties are: The first (1st) violation shall be a warning. The second (2nd) violation will result in a \$100.00 fine. The third (3rd) violation will result in a \$400.00 fine. The fourth (4th) violation will result in a \$500.00 fine.

The City will require that upon removal or elimination of blight, a person's property must remain blight free for a period of one (1) year. Any new violation within one (1) year shall begin with the next highest penalty.

I wish you all the best this summer!
Mayor Kilbourn

Grass Clippings

Now that the grass mowing season is upon us, please remember to keep all grass clippings off the streets. Grass clippings eventually reach the street's drain system, and will prevent the catch basins from working properly.



Trees and Shrubs Encroaching onto Public Areas

For the safety of those who use the City's streets and sidewalks, trees, shrubs and bushes on your property that hang over or are adjacent to sidewalks and streets must be trimmed.

Tree branches overhanging the sidewalk need to be trimmed to a height of at least eight (8) feet above the sidewalk or street. Trees, shrubs and other vegetation should be kept trimmed at least 12 inches back from the edge of the sidewalk.

Utility Billing Dates to Remember

Sept 1, 2016 Bills delivered to the Post Office

September 21 Due Date to avoid penalty

Note: Payment must be received by this date.

Postmarks will no longer be accepted as of Dec. 31, 2016

September 22 Penalties added

September 27 Past Due Notices delivered to the Post Office

October 14 Due Date to avoid disconnection

October 17 Disconnection Tags are delivered and water turned off for nonpayment.

Go paperless! Submit a request to UtilityBilling@auburnmi.org

Brush Chipping

The City of Auburn's Department of Public Works (DPW) will be chipping brush once a week during the brush season which runs from April through October. The brush chipping will typically take place on Tuesdays but there may be an exception to this schedule due to other DPW projects that may need to be handled.

The DPW will also allocate time to chipping brush in the event of tree damage and broken limbs due to high winds and/or snow and ice buildup.

Material Guidelines

1. Brush must be set out by 7:30 am on the day of pickup
2. Brush should be in piles no more than four (4) feet wide by four (4) feet high
3. Brush should be piled in the outlawn in a neat and orderly way with the cut ends facing the direction of traffic
4. Maximum branch diameter will be six (6) inches
5. Minimum branch length will be three (3) feet
6. Stumps will not be accepted
7. Any brush generated by a hired tree service will not be chipped

If brush was not picked up, it was due to the fact that the property owner did not adhere to the material guidelines listed above. Smaller material such as twigs and sticks (1/2 inch in diameter or less and four (4) feet long or less) shall be neatly bundled together and tied. The garbage disposal company will remove it for you on Wednesdays.

Chipping is for limbs, and any small debris lying on the ground after pick up is the responsibility of the homeowner.

Brush chipping is a service offered by the city to help residents keep their property free of unwanted debris. This in turn helps the city to appear more appealing to everyone. Please adhere to the guidelines and don't abuse this service.



5 Simple Energy-Saving Upgrades

Chances are, there is plenty of energy waste at your facility. Finding the sources of that waste and improving efficiency can be difficult, however. Start by picking the low-hanging fruit – waste that's easy to spot and changes that are simple to make.



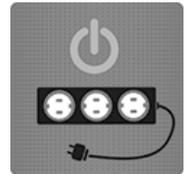
1. Energy-efficient lighting. If you're still using older T12 fluorescent or high-intensity discharge (HID) lamps in your facility, now is a great time to make the switch to high-performance light-emitting diodes (LEDs). LEDs are not only highly efficient; they have a rated life of 50,000 hours or more and they're durable – resistant to vibration and breakage. You'll save big on energy and maintenance costs over the life of the bulb.



2. Occupancy sensors. Are you wasting energy by lighting spaces – such as conference rooms and restrooms – that are frequently empty? Occupancy or vacancy sensors offer a simple, cost-effective solution. They automatically turn off lights when no one is there and switch them back on when they're needed. LEDs start instantly, making them a perfect fit for use with occupancy sensors.



3. Programmable thermostats. Adjusting building temperatures based on your operating schedule is one of the most effective ways to reduce your energy costs. Programmable thermostats make it easy by automating the process – optimizing savings and convenience. Newer “smart” thermostats take it a step further, programming themselves based on weather changes, building occupancy patterns and so on.



4. Plug loads. Energy consumption for computers and electronic equipment is on the rise, and many of these devices continue to use power even when you're not using them. Implement power management settings on all computers and office equipment. Supplement power management settings with advanced power strips that use timers, or occupancy or load sensors to power off connected devices.



5. Stop leaks. You pay a lot to keep your facility comfortable; don't let energy dollars slip away through leaks in doors and windows. Weather stripping and caulking windows and doors in your facility is simple and inexpensive, and can significantly reduce heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) costs year-round.

Helpful Tips

Vacation Home Check—When you leave home for summer vacation, be sure to sign up for Auburn's Home Watch Program. A deputy will check your home regularly while you are away. They will check the outside of your home to make sure there have been no unlawful entries, and that no other obvious problems might have developed. To sign up for this free service, contact City Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday to Friday, call 662-6761 or visit auburnmi.org

Signs—Garage/Yard Sale signs should **not** be placed in the City's public right-of-way. Keep them out of the lawns between the sidewalk and road, and off of telephone & light poles. Placed there, they are subject to removal by the City.

Utility Billing—Did you know you can pay your quarterly water/sewer bill in advance? You can set up your bank to pay a third of the bill once a month, and that would leave a small balance or credit on your actual quarterly bill. Call 662-6761 if you have questions. Also, if your postcard bill keeps getting lost in the mail, you can go paperless by submitting an email request to UtilityBilling@auburnmi.org. That will save you any late penalties because the mail service let you down.



Michigan State Police (MSP) posts across the state serve as locations where residents can safely and anonymously dispose of expired, unwanted, or unused prescription drugs. Medications can be surrendered Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., excluding holidays.

The service is free and anonymous. Note: liquids, inhalers, patches, or syringes will not be accepted.

Providing a safe and confidential way to dispose of unwanted medications helps to prevent the misuse of prescription drugs and reduces environmental hazards.