

**Mission:**

The mission of the Auburn Parks & Recreation Department is twofold: to provide quality leisure services and facilities to Auburn and to appropriately manage Auburn's cemeteries.

The City of Auburn Parks

Auburn's most recognized, and largest park, is beautiful Kiesel Park. The 157-acre dog friendly park is known for its horticultural beauty, colorful nature trails, and the historical Nunn Winston House. The park hosts parties, picnics, family reunions and spectacular weddings year round. The Nunn Winston House and entertainment pavilion make Kiesel Park a desirable place for a large or small gathering. The well-known park is also home to Auburn CityFest, Auburn's largest FREE outdoor festival, held on the last Saturday in April. The annual event attracts more than 35,000 people to beautiful Kiesel Park each year.

Although Kiesel is the largest park in Auburn, it's not the only park in our community. The City of Auburn has more than 10 city parks including: Hickory Dickory Park, Sam Harris Park, Martin Luther King Park, Felton Little Park, Bowden, Graham McTeer, Moore's Mill, Duck Samford and Town Creek Park. If you are interested in planning an outing, all parks are open from sunup to sundown for your enjoyment. Whether you're in the mood for a peaceful place for relaxation or a bustling playground full of activity, Auburn's parks are here for your leisure. So come play in our parks! For large gatherings, most parks are available for reservation on a first-come basis. Price and guideline information is available at the Dean Road Recreation Center.

The City of Auburn Facilities

The Auburn Parks & Recreation Department maintains the Dean Road and Frank Brown Recreation Centers and Boykin Community Center. The Frank Brown Recreation Center features a game room, gymnasium, kitchen and racquetball courts. The Dean Road Recreation Center houses the administrative staff and the Ceramics Shop. It also features a gymnasium, meeting rooms and a kitchen. Both recreation centers offer rooms for reunions, private parties, meetings and other events at very reasonable rates. Boykin Community Center houses a gymnasium and the Boys and Girls Club, and the center offers a variety of programs. Boykin Community Center is currently in the process of going through a renovation project.

The department's newest indoor facility is the Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center. The arts center has been rapidly expanding programs since its doors opened in April 1999. The Jan Dempsey Community Arts Center houses several seasonal art exhibits, the annual Adventures in Art program in conjunction with Auburn City Schools, and quarterly art and dance programs. The arts center works closely with the Auburn Arts Association and other local artists to make sure the community is receiving top-notch art education and leisure activities. The center is available to the public daily and can be rented for a minimal price. For more information, please call (334) 501-2930.

Auburn Parks & Recreation operates the Auburn City Pools, which offer swimming lessons, lap & recreational swim, and other popular summer activities. During the summer months, the Drake and Samford Pools are a great place to enjoy the sounds of summer and relax. Certified lifeguards are on duty at all times. So in the summer months, grab the family and come enjoy the sun at Auburn City Pools.

The City of Auburn Social Programs

The Program Division is responsible for planning quarterly social programs and special events. Quarterly programs are designed to interest citizens of all ages. The programs range from arts and crafts, dance and aerobics to after-school and summer day camps for kids. The Ceramics Shop offers several arts & crafts classes including pottery and stoneware. Citizens can also take part in one of our many special events throughout the year. The different events include: Daddy-Daughter Date Night, Bike Bash, The Fishing Rodeo, the Easter Egg Hunt, Auburn CityFest, Downtown Trick or Treat, and the Christmas Parade.

The Program Division sponsors the Young At Heart Club for senior citizens. This group enjoys dinners, speakers, dances, and trips. Monthly activities are also planned for our Therapeutic citizens. The P.M. Past Time Organization participates in bowling, dances, golf and many other fun-filled activities.

To learn more about Auburn Parks & Recreation programs, please visit www.auburnalabama.org/parks.

The City of Auburn Athletic Programs

The Athletic Division is responsible for organizing seasonal athletic programs. Several leagues including baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, flag-football, and cheerleading are offered for different age groups. These leagues, under the direction of trained personnel, make ample use of our lighted fields and recreation center gymnasiums.

The Samford Avenue Tennis Center offers lessons, league play and tournaments year-round. The courts are in excellent shape and were resurfaced in 2003. Information about classes and tournaments can be found in the quarterly brochure.

The Auburn Softball Complex is recognized as one of the premier softball complexes in the nation. The complex hosts Auburn's league and tournament play. In the center of the five regulation fields sits the control tower which houses concession stands, restrooms, meeting rooms, and a third floor press box. Nearby picnic area and playground equipment help turn softball games into an enjoyable outing for the entire family.

Duck Samford Baseball Complex is recognized as one of the most prestigious baseball complexes in the nation. The complex was host to the 2002 Dixie Youth Majors State Tournament and will host the 2005 Dixie Youth World Series. The complex also hosts several local and regional tournaments throughout the year. Duck Samford has 10-lighted playing fields with a picnic pavilion, children's facilities, 3 concession stands, restrooms, and hiking trails that connect the fields. Duck Samford has a two state of the art press boxes located in the center of 4-lighted playing fields and 3 –lighted playing fields, as well as batting cages, and bull pens. The two children's playground facilities make the complex a desirable place for boys and girls of all ages. Phase II of Duck Samford Baseball Complex was completed in July 2005. No doubt, Duck Samford Baseball Complex is where the entire Auburn community gathers to enjoy a fun day at the ballpark!

The Auburn Soccer complex is the newest addition to the Auburn Community. The complex serves as the new home for the Auburn Soccer Association. Phase I of the project includes six full-sized fields with lighting, one unlit practice field and a paved parking lot. There is also a state-of-the-art concessions building which provides office space, meeting space and restroom facilities. A lake compliments the facility. All of the Auburn Soccer Association Teams play their games at the complex.

The Auburn Parks & Recreation administrative offices are located at 307 S. Dean Road in Dean Road Recreation Center. For more information about the City of Auburn's parks, facilities and athletic programs, please contact (334) 501-2930.

The City of Auburn provides equal opportunity for participation in programs without regard to race, sex, national origin, citizenship, or disability.