2024 Water Quality Report now available

Delivering safe, high-quality water to your home is the city’s top priority. Learn about Aurora’s water in the annual EPA-mandated Water Quality Report at AuroraGov.org/CCR.

Help build a better future for our furry friends

Animal lovers, mark your calendars for a tail-wagging good time at the Wine and Wags Fundraiser, supporting the construction of a new animal shelter in Aurora. This exciting event will feature wine tasting, delectable appetizers, live entertainment, a silent auction, pet supply vendors and much more.

The Wine and Wags Fundraiser will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Aug. 27, at the Lake House at Cherry Creek Reservoir, 4800 S. Dayton St., in Greenwood Village.

Hosted by the city in partnership with Spirit of Aurora—a resident-founded nonprofit—this pet-friendly fundraiser will also include a donation drive for much-needed items to support the shelter animals.

The Aurora Animal Shelter was constructed over 40 years ago. Currently, shelter staff accepts lost and surrendered animals depending on kennel space each day. A new facility is essential for more kennel space to help manage the influx of pets, especially dogs, as the city only continues to grow.

Can’t attend the event? Don’t worry! Your contributions are still greatly appreciated to help reach the event fundraising goal of $50,000. Every donation, no matter the size, makes a difference.

For ticket and sponsorship information, as well as details on donating items for the silent auction, visit AuroraGov.org/WineAndWags.

Questions? Email rwhipple@auroragov.org or call 303.739.7258.
Sign up for the **Donor Dash 5K**

As part of its commitment to being a Donate Life Community to create a culture where organ and tissue donation is embraced, the city of Aurora is participating in Donor Alliance’s 25th annual Donor Dash on Sunday, July 21, at Washington Park in Denver.

The 5K run/walk honors, celebrates and recognizes those impacted by donation and transplantation. Sign up today at [donoralliance.org/donor-dash](http://donoralliance.org/donor-dash) and look for Team Aurora under the “view teams” section. Aurora residents get 15% off registration with promo code DLCAURORA24.

Questions? Reach out to DonorDash@donoralliance.org. To learn more about the importance of registering as an organ, eye and tissue donor, please visit DonorAlliance.org.

Join us for **fireworks and fun**

Celebrate America’s Independence Day at the Aurora Municipal Center’s Great Lawn, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway.

Aurora’s 4th of July Spectacular begins at 6 p.m. Thursday, July 4, with live musical performances and fireworks at 9:30 p.m. Pack up your blankets and lawn chairs and head over to the site early to find a spot.

Visit AuroraGov.org/Events to plan for this spectacular evening event.

Experience the **county fair**

Tickets are on sale starting May 28 for the 2024 Arapahoe County Fair, which is happening from July 25 to 28, at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds, 25690 E. Quincy Ave. Enjoy unlimited carnival rides, rodeos, public competitions, fireworks, a petting farm and so much more. Find out more and buy tickets at ArapahoeCountyFair.com.

Celebrate **Bike to Work Day**

Pledge to swap a ride in your car for a ride on two wheels to help improve the region’s air quality.

Bike to Work Day is June 26, and anyone who pledges at BikeToWorkDay.co to ride to work or anywhere that day will be entered into drawings to win prizes, including an e-bike.

The city of Aurora is participating this year in two ways.

Stop by our breakfast station on the High Line Canal from 6:45 to 9 a.m. for a free beverage and breakfast burrito (sponsored by Bicycle Aurora). The station will be set up near the trail underpass on the west side of Chambers Road, just northeast of the Aurora Municipal Center. Anyone who stops by will be encouraged to share thoughts about transportation in Aurora as part of the city’s Connecting Aurora multimodal transportation master plan project.

The city also is hosting a ribbon cutting, in partnership with the High Line Canal Conservancy, for the High Line Canal Trail: Colfax to I-70 project that closes a two-mile gap along the canal.

Stop by our breakfast station anytime from 6:45 to 9 a.m. on the south side of the new pedestrian bridge spanning I-70. A ribbon cutting ceremony will take place at 8:30 a.m., followed by a ceremonial ride across the bridge. More information on the project is available at AuroraGov.org/HLCT.

Whether you are working in the office, working in the field, working remotely or just running errands that day, make June 26 the day when you take two wheels instead of four. Combining the ride with public transit or parking your car closer to work and biking the rest of the way makes participation even easier.

Bike to Work Day is presented by Way to Go—a program of the Denver Regional Council of Governments. For more information, visit BikeToWorkDay.co.

**July 4th: Make it a holiday, not a hazard**

The Aurora Fire Chief has the right to ban the sale, use, possession, or discharge of fireworks as conditions dictate. If a fire ban is not issued on June 15, below are guidelines for fireworks in Aurora:

- Fireworks can be purchased and used in Aurora only from June 15 to July 4.
- Fireworks that *DO NOT* leave the ground or explode are allowed. Examples of legal fireworks are fountains, wheels, sparklers, snakes and ground spinners. Examples of prohibited fireworks are firecrackers, bottle rockets, lady fingers, mortars and roman candles.
- You must be age 16 or older to possess or use fireworks, unless supervised by someone age 21 or older.
- Even legal fireworks can make loud noises that may be startling to those suffering from anxiety or PTSD, and to pets. Be courteous and respectful of those around you, and keep pets indoors in a safe, quiet place.

To view the fireworks ordinance, go to AuroraGov.org/Fire. Please follow @AuroraGov or @AuroraFireDpt on Facebook, Instagram, or X (formerly Twitter) for fire ban alerts or other important information to ensure you have a fun and safe Independence Day.

**Global Fest: Save the Date!**

Saturday, Aug. 17
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Aurora Municipal Center Great Lawn
**Simple steps, better air:**
Let’s all do our part

The metro area's quality does not meet current federal standards, but everyone can find a simple step to help create cleaner air, according to the Regional Air Quality Council.

Emissions from cars, trucks, vans and motorcycles are some of the largest contributors to ground-level ozone in the area. Use MyWaytoGo.org to track your trips, and try one new way to avoid driving alone twice this week. Skipping two car trips each week and replacing them with other ways to get around decreases traffic congestion and improves air quality. Consider combining trips to run errands and requesting deliveries after 5 p.m. when possible.

When you do drive, avoid idling for more than 60 seconds to prevent pollution and save on gas. Driving a low- or zero-emission vehicle like an electric vehicle is a common-sense way to create better air locally. Colorado offers tax incentives to make owning an electric vehicle that much easier, and the network of charging stations around the Front Range continues to grow.

On hot, sunny summer days, fill up your car after 5 p.m. and stop at the click to prevent gasoline vapors from turning into air pollution. Use low-VOC (volatile organic compound) or water-based cleaners, paints and other products around the house. Switch to electric lawn equipment (visit MowDownPollution.org for information on the Regional Air Quality Council's lawn mower exchange program) and mow after 5 p.m. when possible.

To receive ozone alerts from June 1 to Aug. 31, send BetterAirCO to 21000 on your cell phone or go to SimpleStepsBetterAir.org to sign up by email.

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**I-70 Picadilly Interchange update**

Work continues on the I-70 Picadilly interchange to improve north-south connectivity in growing northeast Aurora. The project is entering a phase where weekly lane closures on area roads and I-70 are happening with more frequency.

Commuters and residents in the area should consider subscribing to our weekly newsletter to keep track of changing road and construction impacts. Please be aware that the right shoulders on both eastbound and westbound I-70 between mile markers 287 and 288 will be closed for the foreseeable future. Pay extra caution at Colfax Avenue. Trucks are entering into a temporary work zone, exiting off eastbound I-70, and slowing to 45 m.p.h. near the railroad bridge, east of the Tower Road interchange. Do not follow them into the work zone.

For more information, visit the I-70 Picadilly Interchange website at AuroraGov.org/I70Picadilly.

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**Aurora City Council approves workforce education partnership**

A new partnership among the city of Aurora, Careers in Construction Colorado (CICC), the public school districts in Aurora, and the construction industry will increase opportunities for Aurora's high schoolers to prepare for their future careers.

The Aurora City Council in April adopted a resolution sponsored by Ward VI City Council Member Françoise Bergan to launch a program that will allow companies to make a voluntary contribution of $25 per new residential permit and $200 per new commercial permit to fund the CICC’s Home Builder’s Institute curriculum to enhance career and technical education for Aurora high school students.

The program will allow high school students in Aurora Public Schools, Cherry Creek Schools and Pickens Technical College to participate in hands-on classes that provide job-ready skills when they graduate. The CICC program includes construction, plumbing, electrical and other building trades, and students can earn certificates that will potentially fast-track them into future jobs.

Careers in Construction Colorado, which is a nonprofit managed by the Associated General Contractors of Colorado, the Housing & Building Association of Colorado Springs and other local homebuilding associations in Colorado, operates in 63 high schools across the state. The organization uses the Home Builder’s Institute curriculum, which is certified as a pre-apprenticeship curriculum by the U.S. Department of Labor. The Colorado Department of Education has approved the curriculum for use in Colorado high schools.

“Aurora is an important part in our region’s economy,” Mayor Mike Coffman said. “We continue to attract new employers and businesses to our community and along with that our city is answering the call to provide more housing. That growth in our city and our local economy brings a responsibility to invest back into our community through our schools and students. This program is a great example of how a city can work with its school districts and businesses to meet everyone’s needs. I look forward to more opportunities in the future to support Aurora students and Aurora employers.”

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**7/20 Memorial Foundation hosting Day of Resilience**

The nonprofit 7/20 Memorial Foundation is renaming its signature annual event from “Reflection Garden on Tap” to “Day of Resilience.”

This year’s gathering will feature more than a dozen beer vendors, healing and wellness booths, food trucks, sidewalk chalk artists and musical entertainment.

The event will kick off at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, July 20, at the Aurora Water-wise Garden, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, with DJ Sinna-G, followed by the start of “The Hero’s Journey” 5K Run/Walk at 8 a.m. Activities will be accessible in the garden from 8 a.m. to noon.

To register for the run/walk or purchase a wristband for beer tasting, visit 7-20Memorial.org.
Depending on your sprinkler head type, water for the suggested number of minutes above, wait an hour, then repeat two more times.

**Questions? 303.739.7195**

**July Watering Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pop-Ups</th>
<th>Rotor Heads</th>
<th>Rotary Nozzles</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 minutes</td>
<td>10 minutes</td>
<td>15 minutes</td>
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**Cycle and Soak Technique**

Depending on your sprinkler head type, water for the suggested number of minutes above, wait an hour, then repeat two more times.

**Questions? 303.739.7195**

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**Protect you and your loved ones during floods**

Colorado's monsoon season typically runs from mid-June through August when shifts in wind patterns cause scattered widespread showers and thunderstorms. Heavy rains and increased flood risks are possible with these unpredictable weather patterns. Although not limited to just these months, there are simple things you can do to prepare and protect yourself and your loved ones if flooding occurs.

Know the flood warning signals: A watch means severe weather. A warning indicates severe weather, including flooding, tornadoes, etc. are occurring or imminent.

- Sign up for the city's emergency notification system by searching “CodeRED.”
- Do not drive, walk or allow children to play in or near flood water. Six inches of fast-moving water is powerful enough to knock down an adult, and only 12 inches of rushing flood water can move a car.
- Make an emergency supply kit for your home and prepare a flood evacuation plan.

For more information on how to prepare for floods and other natural disasters, go to [AuroraGov.org/Flood](http://AuroraGov.org/Flood).

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**Outdoor water assessments available starting June 1**

Have a broken sprinkler head? Not sure how to change your irrigation clock? Aurora Water conservation staff are here to help you. From June 1 through Sept. 30, we offer free outdoor water assessments. Considering about half of the water used annually goes toward watering landscapes, inefficiencies can take a toll on your wallet. Our experts will help troubleshoot your irrigation system and give you the necessary information to maximize its efficiency.

We also have a DIY outdoor water assessment guidebook to help you conduct your own outdoor water assessment. To access the guidebook or to schedule an assessment, visit [AuroraGov.org/WaterAssessment](http://AuroraGov.org/WaterAssessment). Questions? Call 303.739.7195 or email conservation@auroragov.org.

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**Easily recycle household chemicals**

Take a load off with Waste Management’s (WM) At Your Door Curbside Collection program. For just $10, not only can you do something positive for the environment, but you can also safely dispose of potentially hazardous or hard to recycle household chemicals such as lawn care products, pesticides, motor oil and more. For a list of accepted items, visit [WMatYourDoor.com/Residential](http://WMatYourDoor.com/Residential). WM offers a limited number of appointments each month. To schedule a pickup, call 800.449.7587.

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**FREE paint recycling available**

Clear your mind and your space through the free PaintCare program. Unused paint, stain and varnish can be returned to many of the locations where it was purchased. For information and a list of locations, visit [PaintCare.org/Colorado](http://PaintCare.org/Colorado). Be sure to contact the PaintCare drop-off site beforehand to confirm hours and availability before dropping off items.