

## CITY OF AURORA

|  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| Area Code .....                              | 630 unless noted       |
| <b>Customer Service .....</b>                | <b>264-INFO (4636)</b> |
| Accounting/Billing .....                     | 844-3613               |
| Airport .....                                | 466-7000               |
| Alderman's Office .....                      | 844-3619               |
| Animal Control .....                         | 897-5695               |
| Aurora Community TV .....                    | 844-1826               |
| Aurora Economic Development Commission ..... | 897-5500               |
| Building & Permits .....                     | 892-8088               |
| City Clerk .....                             | 844-3615               |
| Downtown Development .....                   | 844-3670               |
| Election Commission .....                    | 897-4030               |
| Emergency Management .....                   | 896-4714               |
| Engineering .....                            | 844-3620               |
| Finance .....                                | 844-3613               |
| Fire-Central Station .....                   | 897-7821               |
| Fox Valley Golf .....                        | 879-1030               |
| Historic Preservation .....                  | 844-3648               |
| Human Resources .....                        | 844-3626               |
| Legal .....                                  | 844-4731               |
| Library Services                             |                        |
| Main Branch .....                            | 264-4100               |
| Eola Branch .....                            | 264-3400               |
| West Branch .....                            | 264-2600               |
| Mayor's Office .....                         | 844-3612               |
| Neighborhood Redevelopment .....             | 264-3060               |
| Rt. 25 Parking Permits .....                 | 1-800-676-1611         |
| Rt. 59 Parking Permits .....                 | 1-800-676-1611         |
| Parking Violations .....                     | 844-4740               |
| Parks and Recreation .....                   | 898-7228               |
| Phillips Park Golf .....                     | 499-0670               |
| Planning .....                               | 844-3614               |
| Police Dept. ....                            | 859-1700               |
| Property Standards .....                     | 897-4589               |
| Public Works .....                           | 844-3621               |
| Real Estate Transfer Tax .....               | 906-7414               |
| Recycling & Sanitation .....                 | 801-5240               |
| Revenue & Collections .....                  | 844-3641               |
| Street & Electrical Maintenance .....        | 801-5240               |
| Water Billing .....                          | 844-3611               |
| Water & Sewer .....                          | 844-2800               |
| Water Treatment .....                        | 844-3632               |
| Zoning .....                                 | 844-3624               |

## AURORA CITY COUNCIL

### Mayor's Office

Thomas J. Weisner, Mayor  
 (630) 844-3612  
 44 E. Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60507

### Aldermen's Office (630) 844-3619

60 E. Downer Place, Aurora, IL 60507

### Alderman-at-Large

Robert O'Connor  
 118 S. Commonwealth Ave., Aurora, IL 60506  
 Home Office (630) 897-5849 - Work (630) 897-5903

### Alderman-at-Large

Bob Shelton  
 349 West Park Avenue, Aurora, IL 60506  
 Home Office (630) 906-8161

### 1st Ward

Alderman Abby Schuler  
 761 Trask Road, Aurora, IL 60505  
 Home Office (630) 710-0331

### 2nd Ward

Alderman Juany Garza  
 752 E. Galena Blvd., Aurora, IL 60505  
 Home Office (630) 499-5560

### 3rd Ward

Alderman Stephanie Kifowit  
 409 East Park Avenue, Aurora, IL 60505  
 Home Office (630) 306-2888

### 4th Ward

Alderman Richard A. Lawrence  
 27 S. Calumet Street, Aurora, Illinois 60506  
 Home Office (630) 966-8699

### 5th Ward

Alderman John S. "Whitey" Peters  
 1925 Kenilworth Place, Aurora, IL 60506  
 Home Office (630) 896-9091

### 6th Ward

Alderman Michael B. Saville  
 1030 N. Commonwealth, Aurora, IL 60506  
 Home Office (630) 896-9895

### 7th Ward

Alderman Scheketa Hart-Burns  
 246 N. Sumner, Aurora, IL 60505  
 Home Office (630) 898-2943

### 8th Ward

Alderman Chris Beykirch  
 2710 Carriage Way Drive, Aurora, IL 60504  
 Home Office (630) 898-6707

### 9th Ward

Alderman Leroy Keith  
 2582 Sagamore Circle, Aurora, IL 60504  
 Home Office (630) 375-9375

### 10th Ward

Alderman Lynda Elmore  
 2425 Legacy Drive, Aurora, IL 60504  
 Home Office (630) 898-0403

## UTILITY COMPANIES

### Electric Service

is supplied by ComEd. To schedule turn-ons and turn-offs, call 1-800-334-7661.

### Gas Service

is supplied by NICOR.  
Phone 1-888-642-6748 to schedule turn-ons and turn-offs. If you smell gas in your home, call 911 immediately, and then call NICOR at the above number.

### Local Telephone Service

is supplied by:  
SBC - call 1-800-244-4444  
AT&T - call 1-800-222-0300

### Cable Television

Cable Television is provided by Comcast.  
To establish, upgrade, or discontinue Cable TV service, call 1-866-594-1234

### Call J.U.L.I.E. Before you dig!

At no charge to residents, the Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators (JULIE) Service at 1-800-892-0123 will locate your underground utilities on your property (i.e. - water, sewer, electric, gas, telephone, and cable)

## Water & Sewer Maintenance Division

This City division is responsible for the maintenance of the sanitary sewers, storm sewers, and water lines, including fire hydrants. It also repairs water service leaks from the water main in the street to the meter inside each home or business.

The Water & Sewer Maintenance Division is on call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to make sure the citizens of Aurora can receive water and sewer service at all times.

If you see water bubbling up, or running down the street for no apparent reason, please call 844-2800, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. For after hours and weekend emergencies, please call Protocol Answering Services at 585-2845.

If you are experiencing sewer problems inside a building, you should call us, at 844-2800, to have the sewer lines checked before you call a plumber. Also, during heavy rains, if you experience flooded streets or water backing up into your basement, please call the Water & Sewer Maintenance Division at 844-2800.

Refer all calls related to water taste or discoloration to Water Production at 844-3632.

Refer all calls related to no water or low pressure to Water Meter Repair at 859-7619.

### Yardwaste & Brush

The City of Aurora utilizes a volume-based refuse program which includes the use of stickers. Please refer to the enclosed brochure for detailed information on refuse services. For more information or specific questions, please contact our Sanitation Division at 844-5240.



# AURORA

City of Lights

## Form of Government

Aurora operates under the Mayor/Aldermanic Council form of government, with twelve (12) Aldermen sitting on the City Council. Each of the City's ten (10) wards elects an Alderman with another two (At-Large) elected city-wide to serve on the Council. The City of Aurora has a full-time Mayor. Aldermanic positions are considered part-time, and most hold outside employment. The telephone number to the Alderman's Office is 630-844-3619.

## City Council Meetings Committee of the Whole

*Meets 1st and 3rd Tuesdays, at 5 p.m. in Conference Room 5-B on the Fifth floor of City Hall.*

- Purpose is to send items reviewed by the standing Committees to the City Council agenda to be voted on the following week.

## City Council

*Meets 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 6 p.m. in the 2nd floor Council Chamber.*

- Purpose is to discuss and take final votes on agenda items.
- Open to the public.
- To speak at a Council meeting, first notify the City Clerk's office at 630-844-3615.

## Standing-Committees of the City Council

There are four (4) standing-committees each made up of (3) aldermen and one (1) alternate.

### Buildings, Grounds & Infrastructure (BGI) Committee

The Buildings, Grounds and Infrastructure Committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month, at 4:00 p.m., in City Hall\*. It reviews flooding and drainage problems, violations of flood plain zoning, all matters pertaining to the environment, sanitation, solid waste disposal, water treatment and distribution, and storm and sanitary sewers. BGI also has jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to city-owned buildings and grounds.

### Government Operations (GO) Committee

The Government Operations Committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, at 4:30 p.m., in City Hall\*. It reviews parades, rally requests, requests from charity groups to solicit donations, intergovernmental relations, street lighting, sign requests, traffic concerns, legislative matters, and motor vehicle parking system, and City owned golf courses.

### Finance Committee

The Finance Committee meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall\*. It reviews proposed expenditures, the annual City budget, contracts for goods and services involving the City, taxation, City debt re-payment, bond issues, fees and service charges, management of the City's monies, pensions and insurance, and the City audit.

### Planning & Development (P&D) Committee

The Planning & Development Committee, meets on the 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month at 4 p.m. in City Hall\*. It reviews proposed residential subdivisions and commercial developments, requests for annexation, planning, zoning, housing, urban renewal, business and community development, code development and enforcement, and community block grant administration.

\* in conference room 5-B on the Fifth floor of City Hall

## Outdoor Warning System

The system is tested the first Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m.

**Do NOT call 911 unless you have an emergency.**

**Aurora Fire Department  
Emergency Number 911  
Non-Emergency Number  
630-897-7821**

The Aurora Fire Department, under the direction of Fire Chief Roger Probst, operates nine Fire Stations strategically located throughout the City. In the event of a fire or medical emergency, call 911. Call the Central Fire Station non-emergency number (897-7821) for general questions, information regarding tours and block parties, etc.

Open burning is prohibited within the city limits of Aurora. However, some types of outdoor fireplaces are allowed. Contact the Fire Prevention Bureau at 892-9001 for further information and to obtain a permit at no charge.

Fees for ambulance service are currently \$120 for residents, \$240 for non-residents, with additional fees charged under some circumstances.

**Fire Prevention Bureau  
630-892-9001**

The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for reviewing plans and issuing permits for fire-related activities. The Bureau also inspects sites for Fire Lane Contracts; responds to fire complaints; inspects target occupancies for compliance with adopted fire codes; inspects commercial buildings during construction; and enforces the false Fire Alarm Ordinance.

## Aurora Police Department

**Emergency Number 911**

**Non-Emergency Number 630-859-1700**

The Aurora Police Department, headed by Chief William J. Lawler, protects the second largest city in the state with an authorized force of just under 300 officers, and a support staff of over 100 civilian employees. The department's jurisdiction covers approximately 45 square miles in four different counties.

Known nationally for its Community Oriented Policing initiatives, the Aurora Police Department is dedicated to solving and preventing crime at the neighborhood level. Officers partner with the community in a variety of ways including Citizen and Neighborhood Watch Groups. The Community Policing Unit offers over 50 customized, crime prevention programs on a variety of topics; all of which are free of charge and available for small and large group presentations. Topics include the Aurora Police Department's Citizen Police Academy, Landlord/Tenant training, security surveys for homes and businesses, "Stranger Danger" talks, street gang awareness, senior citizen safety, and many more.

The City of Aurora is broken down into three policing Areas. Area 1 is comprised of the West side of Aurora and its downtown. Area 1 is overseen by Commander Michael Gillofio (801-6693) and Lt. Mick Hamling (801-6551). Area 2 is comprised of the near East side starting at Root St. and going east to the DuPage County line. Area 2 is overseen by Commander Greg Anderson (264-8290) and Lt. Dan Hoffman (264-8293). Area 3 is comprised of all of the City of Aurora lying in DuPage, Kendall and Will Counties. Area 3 is overseen by Commander John DoBran (801-6761) and Lt. Lou Puscas (801-6588). Generally, the Commanders work 8AM - 4PM Mon-Fri and the Lieutenants work 2PM - 10PM Mon-Fri. Two Watch Commanders oversee police operations city wide on the day shift 6AM - 2PM and the night shift 10PM - 6AM. Lt. John Burscheid is the Day Shift Watch Commander (801-6766) and Lt. Mike Tracy is the Night Shift Watch Commander (801-6700).

The police department produces its own television show which showcases a variety of department news, crime prevention tips, and interviews with officers. "*Street Beat*" is shown on Aurora Community Television Cable Channel 10; and on WSPY-TV, Channel 30. Show times are as follows: ACTV, Channel 10 - Mondays at 4PM, Tuesday and Saturdays at 9PM, and WSPY, Channel 30 - Mondays at 7PM. Note: Please consult with your local cable listings for WSPY's exact channel in your area.

For information on crime prevention and community involvement, call the department's non-emergency telephone number (630) 859-1700. For information on "*Street Beat*" call (630) 801-6777.

The mission of the Emergency Management Agency is to coordinate all phases of emergency and disaster planning for the City of Aurora. We will facilitate the full participation and involvement of City of Aurora departments and divisions, other governmental agencies, public and private agencies, private business, and the general public in Aurora's emergency management program.

# Local Ordinance Provisions You Should Know

## Motor Vehicle Parking Service Parking Regulations

630-844-4740

- Street parking-no more than 48 consecutive hours.
- Cannot block sidewalks or park on the grass.
- No parking in the front yard unless paved or zoned.
- After a snowfall of 2 or more inches, cars must be moved off street for plowing.
- 5 or more tickets will result in your vehicle being booted.
- 1 recreational vehicle for each zoning lot in rear or side yard, only.
- No commercial vehicles above a "B" plate classification nor equipment is permitted to be parked/stored in a residential area.
- For tickets or monthly parking passes for city lots, call 630-844-4740.

## Fence Provisions

Land Use and Zoning: 630-844-3624

- No permit is required at this time
- Fence can be put up to your property line, not over it.
- Finished side of fence must face outward
- Interior yards are allowed to have up to 7' to enclose rear yard area. Maximum 4' allowed in side and front yards.
- Corner lots must verify with Land Use & Zoning Division 630-844-3624 for specific height requirements.
- If you reside in a Historic District, please contact the Historic Preservation Division at 630-844-3648 for additional requirements.
- If you reside in a subdivision that has an association, please contact the association directly for any additional requirements.

## Building Permits

630-892-8088

Building Permits are required for:

Additions, remodeling, pools, roofs, decks, sheds, garages, and gazebos. Check, before beginning, at 630-892-8088.

## Garage Sales

Maximum 2 times a year

To report violations, please contact Land Use and Zoning at 630-844-3624.

## Loud Noises

Noise is classified as any sound associated with the repairs of vehicles or engines, music, or the operation of mechanical equipment other than vehicles, which may be heard 75 feet beyond the property line from which said sound originates. NOTE: If noise is in progress, please call the Aurora Police Department at 630-859-1700.

## Open Burning

No burning is allowed anywhere or any time within the city limits of Aurora. NOTE: If burning is in progress, please call the Aurora Fire Department's Fire Prevention Division at 630-892-9001. Some restrictions may apply.

## Animal Control

630-897-5695

Pet owners are reminded of the responsibility that comes with pet ownership.

All dogs and cats must be registered with the City of Aurora and have a County Rabies Tag. Pet owners must cleanup after their animals or be fined. All pets must be leashed on a 6-foot leash, when off property. Pets are not allowed to run loose or owner can be fined. Limited numbers of pets are allowed (domestic animals). Please check with our Animal Control office at 630-897-5695.

Farm animals such as chickens, goats, ducks, sheep, or cattle of any kind are not allowed. Exotic animals such as large snakes, alligators, lions, tigers, bears, or wolves and any hybrids are not allowed.

For your pet's health, have it neutered or spayed by your vet. You and your pet will be happier if you do, and you will also help reduce the number of unwanted kittens and puppies that have to be destroyed.

## Check List

### Driver's License

Secretary of State of IL  
896-1911

### Water Service

City of Aurora Water Billing  
844-3611

### Waste Water

Fox Metro W.R.D.  
892-4378

### Electricity Service

ComEd  
1-800-334-7661

### Address Change

Aurora Post Office  
844-8810

### Pet Licenses

C.O.A. Animal Control and Care Facility  
897-5695

### Telephone Service

SBC - 1-800-244-4444  
AT&T - 1-800-222-0300

### Cable Service

Comcast  
1-866-594-1234

### Natural Gas

Nicor  
1-888-642-6748

### School Registration

District 129 West Aurora .....844-4400  
District 131 East Aurora .....844-5550  
District 204 Indian Prairie  
(Aurora/Naperville) .....375-3000  
District 101 Batavia .....879-4645  
District 308 Oswego .....544-3447

### Recycling Bins

630-264-INFO (4636)  
Newly constructed homes will receive one free bin from BFI when called at 630-892-9294. Purchases can be made at City Hall (44 E. Downer Pl.) or at the Customer Service Call Center (910B N. Farnsworth Ave.) for a fee.

### Garbage Stickers

630-264-INFO (4636)  
The City of Aurora utilizes a volume-based refuse program which requires a sticker on containers to be collected, in most cases. Stickers can be purchased at local grocery stores. There is a fee for each sticker. See enclosed brochure for detailed information on refuse services.

### Water Billing

Water Billing Division  
630-844-3611  
Aurora residents are billed for city water service on a bi-monthly basis. To have water service established or for further information, contact the City's Water Billing Division.

### Driver's License

Secretary of State  
630-896-1911  
Residents moving in from out-of-state have 90 days in which to obtain an Illinois driver's license. The Secretary of State's office is located at 339 East Indian Trail. [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com)

### Library Services

There are over 400,000 books in the library's collection. Books may conveniently be transferred from one location to another. Reading programs and special events are also offered.

#### Branches:

Main - 1 E. Benton St. 630-264-4100  
Eola - 555 S. Eola Rd. 630-264-3400  
West - 233 S. Constitution Dr.  
630-264-2600

### Vehicle License Plates

1-800-252-8980  
Requirements for obtaining Illinois license plates depend upon the state in which the vehicle is currently registered. New residents may obtain information from the Secretary of State's Office.

### Voter Information

Aurora Election Commission  
630-897-4030  
Residents of Kane, Kendall, and Will Counties in the City of Aurora may register to vote at the Aurora Election Commission, 77 S. Stolp, and at the Aurora Public Library, 1 E. Benton Street.

Residents of DuPage County in the City of Aurora may register at the Aurora Election Commission, 77 S. Stolp and at the DuPage County Election Commission, 421 North County Farm Road, Wheaton.  
630-407-5600.

Registration closes 28 days prior to each election and reopens two days after each election.

### Pets Need To Be Registered

City of Aurora's Animal Control and Care Facility  
630-897-5695  
All dogs and cats must be registered with the City of Aurora and have a Kane County Rabies Tag. Call Aurora's Animal Control and Care facility for tag fees for the City and your local veterinarian for County fees.

### City Hall

44 E. Downer Place  
Aurora, IL 60507

# History of Aurora

The beautiful Fox River and the fertile Fox Valley attracted the Native American tribes to what is now called Aurora. One such tribe was the Pottawatomie, headed by Chief Waubonsie, which often encamped about a mile north of today's downtown.

Aurora's first permanent settler was Joseph McCarty, a 24-year-old millwright from Elmira, New York. Joseph arrived in 1834, staked out a claim on the east bank of the river, and soon after, bought an adjoining 400-acre tract for his younger brother, Samuel. The McCarty brothers built a sawmill in 1834-35 and gristmill next to it in 1836-37, so settlers could grind their grain into flour.

The settlement, which had been called McCarty's Mills, needed an official name in 1837, when application was made for a U.S. Post Office. The name Aurora was chosen, after a town in New York, a state many of the early residents, including the McCartys, had called home.

In addition to the river, another major factor in the development of Aurora was its role as the birthplace of the Burlington Railroad. The railroad began as a 12-mile branch line from Aurora. Through mergers, it became the CB&Q (Chicago Burlington and Quincy). Aurora was chosen as the site for the railroad's major car shops, and soon employed over 350. In the 1860's, the shops built the first American diner car. At its height, the shop complex covered over 70 acres and employed 2,500. The former machine shop is now the downtown commuter station, and the roundhouse was renovated in 1996 and opened by former Chicago Bear and football Hall of Famer Walter Payton as Walter Payton's Roundhouse, a restaurant/entertainment complex.

Aurora earned the title of the City of Lights in 1881 when it became one of the first city to have electric street lights. Five years later, the City built and operated its own electric

plant, making it the first municipality in the world to do so. Aurora has other firsts: first free school in the state, first YMCA building to be constructed in Illinois, and in 1995, the first large city in the United States to connect all of its schools to the Worldwide Web.

Through the first two-thirds of the 20th century, Aurora continued to develop as a major city and industrial center in its own right, not as a mere Chicago suburb. Several heavy industrial companies succumbed to consolidation and recession in the 1970's and 1980's, but Aurora has successfully transitioned to a vibrant and diverse economy. Much of the DuPage County portion of Aurora was annexed in 1973 and approximately 1/3 of Aurora's population and 41% of its land mass is now located outside of Kane, in DuPage, Will or Kendall counties. Aurora has led Illinois in housing starts over the past several years and is now the state's second largest city, with nearly 157,000 residents.

Some of the finest shopping in the Fox Valley can be found in Aurora. The 1.5 million square-foot Westfield Shoppingtown Fox Valley center along Route 59 attracts shoppers from miles around. Aurora is home to a 125-store upscale outlet center, Premium Outlets, that opened in mid-2004 at I-88 and Farnsworth Avenue. For recreation the City also operates two 18-hole golf courses, one of which is Phillips Park, where a unique zoo and recently restored Sunken Gardens are located. A Visitor's Center, which opened in November 2003, houses mastodon bones unearthed in the 1930's when WPA workers dug the Phillips Park's Mastodon Lake. Downtown Aurora is the home of the Paramount Theatre, a 1930's Art Deco theatre restored to its original opulence, where many of the country's top entertainers appear year-round. The City's own David L. Pierce Art and History Center, a Regional Fire Museum, SciTech and other themed museums excite and educate residents and visitors, alike.