

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### North American Snow Conference

April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024  
Kansas City, MS

### Equipment Roadeo 2024

May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024  
Montgomery, AL

### 2024 Summer Meeting

July 10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Orange Beach, AL

### PWX -Public Works Expo

September 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Atlanta, GA

### Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament

September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Calera, AL

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**FIRST RESPONDER**

## A NOTE FROM JEFF...

Hello Public Works Professionals! You do so much for our communities by increasing our quality of life. You are first responders, and often put your personal safety on the line to keep roads and utilities clear and online after catastrophic events. You leave the comfort of your homes to serve those that often don't notice, and you do so in a very professional manner. Your leadership team plans various projects to enrich the areas you serve. For these and many other reasons, you deserve to be recognized.

The Alabama Chapter of APWA is here for you. We recognize you. We appreciate you. Our team volunteers to ensure that your efforts and services no longer go unrecognized. We applaud your services and look forward each year to provide information, education and networking opportunities to you.

In the spirit of recognition, I am excited to share with you some accomplishments recently achieved by your peers and some exciting opportunities to participate in upcoming events. First, I want to recognize the diligence and hard work of the City of Mobile in their completion of the APWA Accreditation. They are the first city in Alabama to complete the accreditation process and one of the few to have all fire, police, EMT, public works and parks and recreation departments accredited. This process took over 4 years to complete and it is an outstanding achievement by the city staff involved in the successful completion of the process.

Next, we have a few dates that I would like to be sure you know about. First, National Public Works Week this year is May 19<sup>th</sup> – May 25<sup>th</sup>. I urge you to follow our social media pages and check our website for announcements and information which you are welcome to share to recognize the industry. On Thursday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> the annual AL APWA Equipment Roadeo in Montgomery takes place where we will feature competitions on various pieces of equipment with prizes for the winners. Follow our website for registration opportunities. Other scheduled events are our Summer Conference in which we partner with ASCE and various vendors to present education opportunities to public works professionals and engineers. This event is scheduled for July 10 – 12<sup>th</sup> at Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach. Lastly, the national PWX conference this year will be in Atlanta, GA on September 8 – 11<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you all again for everything you do to support our communities. What you do is recognized and appreciated. I look forward to meeting you at our upcoming events!

Respectfully,

Jeff Wilcox,  
Alabama Chapter President

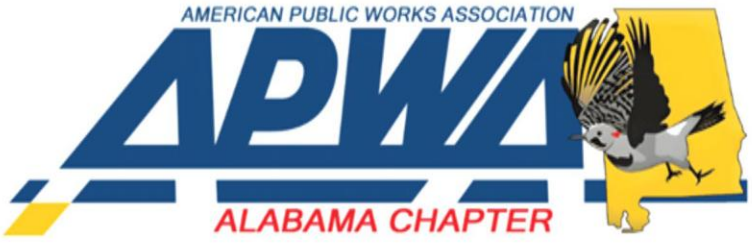




# 2024 SUMMER MEETING

# SAVE THE DATE

JULY 10-12, 2024





The American Public Works Association Alabama Chapter

proudly presents the



## Bunny Sansom Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament

September 19, 2024

\$100 Individual Player

\$500 Team + Hole Sponsor

Team Mulligans available

Both registration options include  
lunch

7:00am - Registration Begins

8:00am - Shotgun Start

Lunch served after your round

Four person scramble format



To Register:

Visit [alabama.apwa.net](http://alabama.apwa.net) or contact

Jeff Zissette: (205) 245-5031 [jzissette@clantonal.gov](mailto:jzissette@clantonal.gov)

TIMBERLINE

Timberline Golf Club

300 Timberline Trail

Calera, AL 35040

YOU COULD WIN

\$15,000 CASH

50" 4K ULTRA HD SMART TV

SET OF CALLAWAY X SERIES  
IRONS

\$500 VISA GIFT CARD

## Scholarship Fundraiser Golf Tournament

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 APWA Alabama Chapter will be holding their annual golf tournament at Timberline Golf Club!

- \$100 Individual Player
- \$500 Team + Hole Sponsor

You could win big prizes, including:

- \$15,000 CASH
- 50" 4K Ultra HD Smart TV
- Set of Callaway X Series Irons
- \$500 Visa gift card

To register, please contact Jeff Zissette at [jzissette@clantonal.gov](mailto:jzissette@clantonal.gov) or call (205) 245-5031. Hope to see you there!

## APWA Equipment Roadeo 2024

The 2024 Equipment Roadeo will take place on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at Garrett Coliseum in Montgomery, AL.

Challenges will include

- Backhoe
- Skid Steer
- Mini Excavator
- Bucket Truck

It is free to compete and lunch is provided!

To register, please visit [Alabama Equipment Roadeo 2024](http://AlabamaEquipmentRoadeo2024.org). You can also contact Wesley Cox at [wcox@montgomeryal.gov](mailto:wcox@montgomeryal.gov)

American Public Works Association Alabama Chapter -present- City of Montgomery Public Works

# EQUIPMENT ROADEO 2024

GARRETT COLISEUM MONTGOMERY, AL

MAY 23, 2024  
8:00a-2:00p

**CHALLENGES**

- ✓ Backhoe
- ✓ Mini Excavator
- ✓ Bucket Truck
- ✓ Skid Steer

*FREE to compete!  
Lunch provided!*

**\*NEW IN 2024\***

- ✓ Backhoe & Mini Ex winners entered to compete in the National Equipment Roadeo at PWX Atlanta!
- ✓ Demo space for vendors

**EVENT CONTACT**

Wesley Cox  
☎ (334) 354-6146  
✉ [wcox@montgomeryal.gov](mailto:wcox@montgomeryal.gov)  
🌐 [alabama.apwa.org](http://alabama.apwa.org)

Visit [ALABAMA.APWA.ORG](http://ALABAMA.APWA.ORG) to Register



## North American Snow Conference

April 28<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024  
 Kansas City, MO

The 2024 Snow Conference has it all, from expert led snow and ice education sessions to an exhibit floor full of vendors excited to show you the latest winter maintenance solutions for your community. Make plans now to join your peers and take advantage of everything the Snow Conference has to offer!

For registration and additional information please visit [North American Snow Conference \(apwa.net\)](http://North American Snow Conference (apwa.net))

## PWX Atlanta

Sept 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
 Atlanta, GA

PWX provides a first-class multi-modal learning experience designed for professionals at all levels and across the entire spectrum of public works. Come prepared to see, hear, touch, and discuss in a variety of traditional and interactive sessions, seminars, workshops, and networking opportunities.

Attendees can also spend time on North America's largest exhibit floor for public works equipment and services—we've carved out generous portions of non-compete time, so you don't miss any sessions. Kick tires, talk about technology, or get the scoop on new products.

For more info, visit [PWX Conference](http://www.apwa.org/pwx)

**SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!**

**PWX**  
 PUBLIC WORKS EXPO  
**ATLANTA**

**GEORGIA WORLD CONGRESS CENTER**  
 SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024  
 #PWX2024

**MAKE PLANS TO BE IN ATLANTA FOR APWA'S ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

For more information visit:  
[www.apwa.org/pwx](http://www.apwa.org/pwx)



# Delegate Update

Please see the following updates from the APWA Alabama Chapter.

Since 1960, APWA has sponsored National Public Works Week. Across North America, more than 32,000 members in the US and Canada use this week to energize and educate the public on the importance of public works in their daily lives including planning, building, managing and operating at the heart of their local communities to improve everyday quality of life.

Every year National Public Works Week gets bigger and better. The number of participating municipalities continues to grow, which means the number of citizens who are exposed to the value of public works grows. At APWA one of our main goals is to educate the public about the value and necessities of public works projects throughout North America and internationally. Public works professionals like you are our best ambassadors!

APWA encourages public works agencies and professionals to take the opportunity to make their stories known in their communities. The National Public Works Week How-To Guide and Downloads area on [APWA.org](http://APWA.org) are available to agencies to assist in the development and implementation of their own individual celebrations. The occasion is marked each year with scores of resolutions and proclamations from mayors and governors.

Every year APWA creates a themed poster to help bring focus to an aspect of the Public Works community, and APWA is proud to announce the theme "Advancing Quality of Life for All" for the 2024 National Public Works Week poster. Public works contributes to advancing and enhancing our quality of life, no matter where we live in the world. Public works professionals provide essential services that lead to healthier, happier, more vibrant communities.

The "Advancing Quality of Life for All" theme shines a spotlight on the way public works professionals advance our quality of life, whether as a first responder to an electricity outage, regular waste pickup, or a myriad of other ways they silently serve their communities.

Public works professionals advance the quality of life by providing an infrastructure of services in transportation, water, wastewater and stormwater treatment, public buildings and spaces, parks and grounds, emergency management and first response, solid waste, and right-of-way management. They are what make our communities dynamic places to live and work. Join us in celebrating the quiet work these professionals do that makes life better for all of us.

This year National Public Works Week is May 19-25, 2024.

Thank you for all that you do.

Respectfully,

Larry Ingram, PE

APWA Alabama Chapter Delegate



**Larry Ingram**  
APWA Alabama Chapter Delegate



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**NATIONAL PUBLIC  
WORKS WEEK**  
MAY 19-25, 2024





## SPOTLIGHT – TOWN CREEK INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND AUBURN, AL

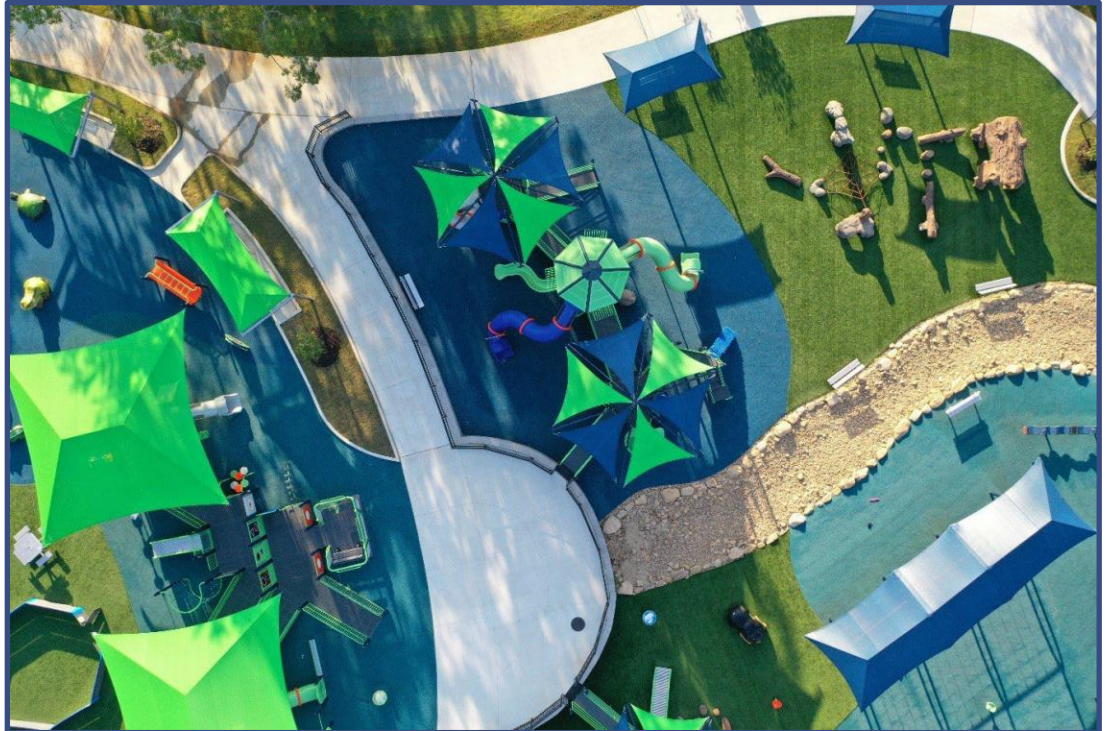


### History

The City of Auburn's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Master Plan, adopted by City Council in May 2018, provides a 20-year plan to improve the quality of the City of Auburn's parks, recreation, arts and cultural programming, library, greenspace/greenways, trails, facilities, landscape and natural features. The plan is being implemented in phases, with the Town Creek Inclusive Playground project being one of the projects completed.

### Details

The Town Creek Inclusive Playground is a 60,000-plus-square-foot playground nestled between Wrights Mill Road and Camellia Drive at 430 Camellia Drive in Auburn, AL. The playground features parallel play components, fitness



equipment, playground equipment, sensory components and more to provide an engaging and barrier-free experience for persons of all abilities and ages to enjoy. The playground is surfaced with poured rubber and ADA-compliant accessible turf, enabling those who use assistive devices to navigate all areas of the playground. The playground consists of five large playground pods, with more than thirty (30) play structures throughout. Features include a Gaga Ball Pit, a zip line, and a rock-climbing wall. Two pavilions and a restroom building complete the park, and the pavilions are available for reservations. Multiple shade structures throughout the playground offer protection from the sun, with benches scattered throughout.

### 1. Use of good construction management techniques and completion of the project on schedule.

The project involved 2 separate contractors working together, a site work contractor and a playground surfacing/equipment contractor. The project was completed in a timely fashion, which was extraordinary, given national supply chain shortages.

### 2. Safety performance and demonstrated awareness of the need for a good overall safety program for workers and the public during and after construction, where applicable.

The project involved construction of an accessible playground where the entire playground surface is synthetic turf or poured-in-place rubber. All interior and exterior sidewalks on the project meet ADA compliance. Two pavilions were constructed with the project, each containing accessible picnic tables. The restroom building has 2 family restrooms, in addition to the men's and women's restroom facilities. One of the family restrooms has a motorized changing table to assist with children and adults with special needs.





**3. Community relations as evidenced by efforts to minimize public inconvenience due to construction, safety precautions to protect public lives and property, provision of observation areas, guided tours, or other means of improving relations between agency and the public.**

The location of the playground made the site completely visible from 2 roads and a nearby elementary school, where passers-

by could view the construction progress. Safety fencing and signage were used to keep pedestrians and vehicles from entering the site during construction, as well as press releases to the public and nearby school.

**4. Demonstrated awareness for the need to protect the environment. This includes any special considerations given to particular environmental concerns raised during the course of the project, as well as climate change and/or resiliency components for long-term community benefit.**

The project site was originally an overgrown kudzu field, but now has over 120 trees that were planted to surround the playground.

The playground surface is permeable with a stone underdrain system underneath. The project has a small swale lined with river rock running through it, where an eroded natural swale sat originally. The project was designed with protecting an adjacent wetland in mind and is an extension of an existing passive park.





**5. Unusual accomplishments under adverse conditions including, but not limited to age or condition of the facility, adverse weather, soil or other site conditions over which there is no control.**

The project was completed on time, which was extraordinary, given the specialty playground pieces being installed and the national supply chain issues. An accessible playground is defined as one that has 50% of the equipment and surfacing available for people with special needs. The Town Creek Inclusive Playground has 90% of the equipment and 100% of the surfacing meeting these criteria.

**6. Additional conditions deemed of importance to the public works agency, such as exceptional efforts to maintain quality control and, if value engineering is used, construction innovations as evidenced by time and/or money saving techniques developed and/or successfully utilized.**

The playground was designed to keep the natural tiers and contours of the site as much as possible.



**7. Use of alternative materials, practices or funding that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability, climate change resiliency, and/or use of sustainable infrastructure rating system or the equivalent.**

Most playground are constructed with sand, mulch, or grass used as the surface material, which can present challenges to patrons with special needs. The Town Creek Playground consists completely of concrete sidewalks, poured-in-place rubber surfacing, or synthetic turf surfacing. These materials were designed to be pervious with a stone underdrain system underneath.





**Think  
it's not  
that  
deep?**

**Think again. 40% of active diggers don't contact 811 before digging because they think their project is too shallow to require it.**

The truth is, utilities can be buried just inches below the surface. The only way to know for sure is to contact 811 before ANY digging project. Contact 811 before you dig.

[811beforeyoudig.com](http://811beforeyoudig.com)



## **APRIL – National Safe Digging Month**

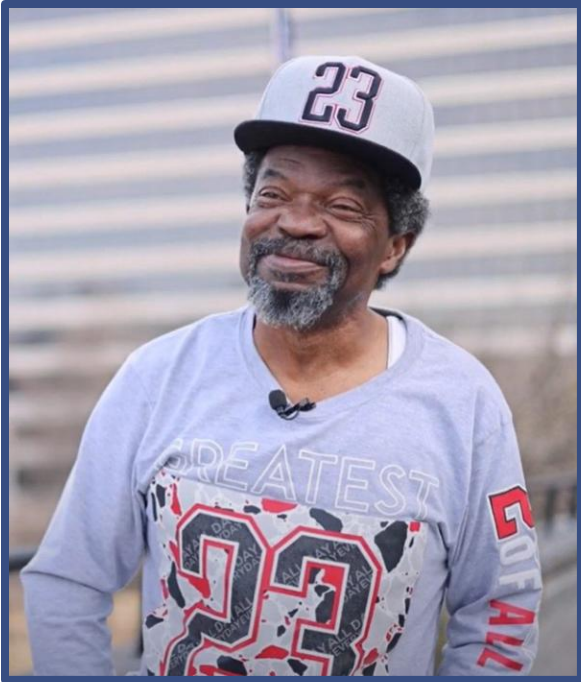
April is recognized by Congress and most Governors across the U.S. as National Safe Digging Month (NSDM). Because it's the time of year when temperatures increase in many parts of the country and spring digging projects begin, April is an important time to remember how important it is to contact 811 at least a few days before putting a shovel in the ground.

**Know what's below, 811 before you dig!**



## SPOTLIGHT – MR. TYRONE WARD BIRMINGHAM, AL

## In the Spotlight Employee Edition



Tyrone Ward has been working for the City of Birmingham Public Works Department for 55 years. He started in 1968 when segregation was still prevalent. Mr. Ward was 19 years old when he started his position as a public works laborer. His coworkers felt that he was too young to be successful at his job, but he surely proved his naysayers wrong!



Mr. Ward's current position includes keeping the city clean by cleaning up litter in the various parks and city streets. He is proud of the work and accomplishments he has achieved because he is a part of beautifying the wonderful city of Birmingham.



Mr. Ward was recently honored for his service and dedication by the City of Birmingham with a special celebration and breakfast. With a 55 year milestone, we can all learn something from Tyrone Ward. Mr. Ward believes that everyone should find a job that they enjoy, and in turn, look back on their accomplishments with pride.

## Want to recognize a Public Works project or employee?

Contact anyone on the Executive Committee with information regarding a project, employee or anything positive related to Public Works in Alabama and it could be featured in an upcoming newsletter. We want to shine a positive light on Public Works!

## CONTACT US

### Executive Committee

#### President

Jeff Wilcox

[Jeff.Wilcox@SpireEnergy.com](mailto:Jeff.Wilcox@SpireEnergy.com)

#### Past President

Joseph Norris

[joseph@safesidewalks.com](mailto:joseph@safesidewalks.com)

#### President Elect

Ronnie Huskey

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#### Vice President

(Vacant)

#### Secretary

Brian Mabry

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#### Jeff Zissette

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#### Alec Parliament

[aparliament@jhwright.com](mailto:aparliament@jhwright.com)

### Executive Committee Members Needed!

Our chapter currently has **three (3)** openings on its Executive Committee. Members who are interested, please contact Chapter President, Jeff Wilcox at [Jeff.Wilcox@SpireEnergy.com](mailto:Jeff.Wilcox@SpireEnergy.com) or any current member of the Executive Committee.

*We welcome your feedback! Please send ideas or suggestions to any member of the Executive Committee.*

#### APWA Mission Statement:

*To be an active, unified Public Works organization, providing leadership, education, training, direction and support on Public Works issues to its members, elected officials, and the public, every day, as well as during times of natural disaster.*

Every year in the Spring, the Alabama Chapter of the American Public Works Association, in keeping with its objectives, will award up to three \$2000 scholarships. Scholarships are presented to deserving students striving to complete educational requirements for a career path in public works.

For more information, please visit <https://alabama.apwa.org/scholarships>