



Town of Mammoth Lakes
P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546
Ph: (760) 934-8989
Fax: (760) 934-8608

Town News

Week of April 11, 2011

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting– April 20

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in the Minaret Village Mall. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Completion of Town's 2010 Annual Financial Report & Audit

The Town's 2010 Annual Financial audit has been completed, and the audit report has been issued and posted online at: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=199>. The Town is pleased to note that the audit, once again, contains no findings, and reflects conservative fiscal stewardship that resulted in a year-end General Fund surplus in June 2010.

Town's Fiscal Planning for 2011-12

Town staff is proceeding with the plan to present to the Town Council on April 20, 2011 mid-year budget results for Fiscal Year 2010-11, with year-end estimates for revenues and expenditures. In late May 2011, staff also plans to present initial budget figures for the next fiscal year, 2011-12. As part of the Fiscal Year 2011-12 presentation, staff will provide to the Town Council a list of currently unfunded but critical issues. Staff will be recommending to the Town Council that no decisions be made on funding the unbudgeted items until June 2011, when the Town Council reviews and decides on the Fiscal Year 2011-12 budget. This is important because: (a) the Town does not currently know how the Mammoth Land Acquisition LLC judgment will impact the Town's annual fiscal condition; and (b) it is expected that in Fiscal Year 2011-12, our property tax revenue will be lower, and the \$1.6 million of ERAF money will likely disappear.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Staff Update

Mammoth Lakes Police Chief Dan Watson has announced the return of Sergeant Eric Hugelmann to the Mammoth Lakes Police Department. Sergeant Hugelmann is currently assigned as a Watch Commander on the Day Shift.

Community Development

Final Downtown Concept for Main Street – Now Available!

The Town Council unanimously accepted the Downtown Concept for Main Street - Downtown Neighborhood District Plan (DNDP) in September 2010. A final version (clean, not redlined) is now available on the Town's website at <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=133>. For additional information, please contact Associate Planner Jen Daugherty at jdaugherty@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, or at 934-8989, ext. 260.

Community News

Mammoth Mountain to Remain Open Until July 4 Thanks to Record-Breaking Snowfall Totals

Thanks to a record-breaking snow year, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area will remain open daily for skiing and snowboarding through July 4, 2011. Mammoth received an incredible 606 inches of snow this season, the most the resort has received in a single season. With 15-25 feet of packed snow, Mammoth has also earned the recognition of having one of the highest recorded base depths of any ski resort in the world according to www.skiinfo.com. The snow totals will ensure phenomenal spring skiing conditions that will last well into early summer.

Mammoth is no stranger to skiing through Independence Day; the resort has remained open for skiing through July Fourth four out of the last seven seasons. Getting to Mammoth is easier than ever with daily flights from Los Angeles, San Jose and San Francisco running through April 24, 2011 and daily service from Los Angeles continuing year-round. For more information, please visit www.mammothmountain.com or call 800.MAMMOTH.

Donate to Big Pine Fire Victims – April 8

Mammoth High School is going to collect household items and personal items along with clothing for the Big Pine Fire Victims. Boxes for donations will be in the High School library and in Vivian Hansen's room-Trailer K. The collection will be held the week of **April 4 - 8, 2011**. Delivery to Big Pine will be on Saturday April 9, 2011. If you're interested in helping with transportation of these items to Big Pine on Saturday, April 9th, please contact Stephanie Stanton at (760) 937-2110.

Mammoth High School Presents.... The Wizard of Oz – April 6/9

Showtimes are **April 6-9, 2011** at the Mammoth High School MPR beginning at 7:00PM. \$5.00 entrance, tickets at the door. Raffle every night, refreshments at intermission.

Chamber Mixer – April 12

The **Mammoth Lakes Arts Center** will be hosting the monthly mixer on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 with Matt Toomey catering the appetizers (bring your appetite!). The Theatre is located across from the Mammoth Lakes Police Station at 549 Old Mammoth Road. The Mammoth Lakes Arts Center is donating a year theatre pass

for two for the monthly drawing. Come take a break and learn more about the arts! The mixer is held between 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Please call Annette at the Chamber of Commerce on (760) 934-6717 for more information.

Adult Education Program

The Mono County Office of Education is in the process of re-establishing their Adult Education program. They are looking for input from the business community regarding the types of classes that would be most beneficial to your employees. Beginning this April, they will be offering two English as a Second Language classes (currently enrollment is filled). If you have ideas for classes that would benefit your workers (e.g. Basic Computer Skills, Technical Writing), please contact Stacey Adler, Mono County Superintendent of Schools, at (760) 934 - 0031 or sadler@monocoe.org. Thank you for your consideration.

Dial M for Murder Continues at Edison Theatre – Ends April 17

A must see for the whodunit fans. Written by Frederick Knott and directed by Shira Dubrovner, Dial M enjoyed a long run on Broadway before it was transformed into the infamous Hitchcock thriller released by Warner Brothers in 1954. Mammoth's Clay Tyson stars as Tony Wendice, a retired professional tennis player with a jealous penchant for killing his wealthy wife, Margot Wendice (Jessica Blum). Tony hires con-artist Captain Lesgate (Scottie Marzonie) to off his wife, but there's no such thing as a perfect murder. Margot's lover Max Halliday (Ted Carleton) and Inspector Hubbard (Grant Bentley) bring nail biting resolve. Dial M is Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre Artistic Director Shira Dubrovner's most recent suspense thriller since she directed the highly reviewed Los Angeles run of Ira Levin's Veronica's Room in 2006. **Showtimes: March 31 - April 17, 2011, Thurs. - Saturday 7:00 p.m. & Sunday matinee at 4:00 p.m.** Tickets: General admission: \$20.00, Seniors and students: \$18.00 Group rates available. Call (760) 934.6592 for details and reservations.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, April 8 - Saturday, April 9 = 50%
Sunday, April 10 - Thursday, April 14 = 26%

Twitter

Follow 'TownofMammoth' daily on Twitter at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Recreation Highlights

Second Wave of RecStrats Workshops Resume Next Week

The next round of RecStrats core strategy topic-specific workshops are scheduled for Wednesday, April 13 and Thursday April 14, 2011. Both workshops will be held at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail and will run from 4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. each day. Participants are encouraged to drop in anytime, before or after work. Light refreshments and fresh cookies will be served.

The core strategy topic of the April 13th workshop will be Winter Recreation and Trails. Areas to be reviewed and discussed will include, but are not limited to, the alpine and backcountry experience, the further development of a Nordic trail system

and biathlon center, consideration of winter snowplay areas, improvement of winter motorized access and experience and indoor recreation facility needs.

The April 14th workshop will focus on the Non-Winter Recreation and Trails core strategy. Activities and areas to be reviewed and discussed at this workshop will include, but are not limited to, road cycling and mountain biking needs, improved summer motorized access and experience, enhanced fish stocking, equestrian activities, access to public lands and indoor recreation facility needs. Recreation enthusiasts interested in these topics should plan to attend both workshops.

Participants at each workshop will be asked to review ideas currently in the RecStrats document and brainstorm on what may be missing from the tasks identified in each core strategy. They will also be asked to identify what elements enhance the three RecStrats guiding principles of stewardship/management, economic development and community quality of life.

In anticipation of attending the workshops, interested participants are encouraged to review the RecStrats: "Vision for recreation in Mammoth Lakes and a Strategic Plan for its implementation" document at www.recstrats.com and be prepared to discuss what facilities, programs and activities and financial resources are needed to help achieve the vision of becoming "The best alpine recreation community in the country."

If you are not able to attend the workshops, you are encouraged to provide your input for the core strategies by participating in the RecStrats survey. The English or Spanish survey is found online at www.recstrats.com and also at key locations around town including the Mammoth Lakes Library, Mammoth Lakes Post Office and Snowcreek Athletic Club. The information collected from the survey will be integrated into the information gathered at the public workshops.

RecStrats is the process recommended by the Town's Recreation Commission and approved by the Town Council to define "a vision for recreation in Mammoth Lakes and a strategic plan for its implementation." The RecStrats implementation plan process is using the community's input to identify projects, programs and services needed to achieve the seven core strategies identified in RecStrats. It will begin to categorize and link the identified needs and opportunities and will provide a framework for defining funding options for prioritized implementation. Strategic Marketing Group (SMG) is facilitating the workshops and developing the strategy for the RecStrats implementation plan.

For more information, please visit www.recstrats.com or call the Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222. Participants are also invited to subscribe to receive regular RecStrats updates at: www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/list.aspx.

MLTPA Presents First-Quarter Report on Mammoth Lakes Trail System

On Tuesday, April 5, 2011, the Mammoth Lakes Trails and Public Access Foundation (MLTPA) presented to the Recreation Commission a first-quarter report on its contract with the Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML) for services in support of the Town's component of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS). The presentation is available for viewing online; please visit www.mltpa.org for more information and to obtain the link to watch it. The contract, funded by MLTPA's Fall 2010 Measure R award, went into effect January 27, 2011, and will likely span two years, over which period of time MLTPA will produce specific deliverables that will further 21 separate projects related to the MLTS.

Each project under the TOML/MLTPA contract plays an important role in the construction of the MLTS. They include signage installed this winter in support of the legal egress route for recreationists exiting the Sherwins Range; messaging and maps for 95 trail-system signs that will be installed along the Lakes Basin Path and the Town Loop this summer; facilitation of ongoing monthly meetings of the Mammoth Trails user-group consortium; inclusion of trail alignments and MLTS facilities proposed by the Sherwins Area Recreation Plan Trails Technical Committee (SHARP TTC) in the TOML Trail System Master Plan CEQA review, with another summer of SHARP TTC detailed trails planning to kick off this month; and the development of a facile, robust website dedicated to the MLTS (MammothTrails.org) that will connect users to the MLTS both on the trail and at home. MLTPA is also contracted to work collaboratively with regional partners on a comprehensive management plan for the MLTS that will bring all MLTS system facilities into a coherent management structure and program. MLTPA's second-quarter report will be presented to the Recreation Commission at their July 12, 2011, meeting.

Donate to Big Pine Fire Victims

Mammoth High School is going to collect household items and personal items along with clothing for the Big Pine Fire Victims. Boxes for donations will be in the High School library and in Vivian Hansen's room-Trailer K. The collection will be held the week of April 4 - 8, 2011. Delivery to Big Pine will be on Saturday April 9, 2011. If you're interested in helping with transportation of these items to Big Pine on Saturday, April 9th, please contact Stephanie Stanton at (760) 937-2110.

Mammoth High School Presents.... The Wizard of Oz – April 6

Showtimes are April 6-9, 2011 at the Mammoth High School MPR beginning at 7:00PM. \$5.00 entrance, tickets at the door. Raffle every night, refreshments at intermission.

Third Annual Mammoth Invitational Takes to the Slopes – April 7

Hundreds of elite skiers, U.S. Ski and Snowboard Team members, Olympic athletes, X Games medalists, parents, kids and celebrities will take to the slopes of Mammoth Mountain this weekend with one thing in mind, raising money to support our kids. The third annual Mammoth Invitational (April 7-10, 2011) is the premier ski fundraising event of the season. The event benefits the Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation, whose mission it is to support young athletes and scholars in the Eastern Sierra by providing facilities, services, equipment and programs which enable them to achieve educational and competitive sport excellence.

The 2011 Mammoth Invitational brings an elite level of athletes to Mammoth Mountain including eight former Olympians like, Stacey Cook, Greg Bretz, Erroll Kerr, and Steve Hegg; X Games athletes John Teller, Kaya Turski and Kristi Leskinen, Kimmy Fasani; US Ski Team members Scott Macartney, Alice McKennis, Steven Nyman, Leanne Smith; and professional skiers and snowboarders Chris Benchetler and Gabe Taylor. This all-star line-up will be joined by competitors of all abilities as they tackle the slopes of Mammoth Mountain this weekend. The three-day event includes multiple disciplines of ski racing of multiple disciplines, a biathlon, on-mountain activities, banquets, a silent and live auction, an awards ceremony and more. Thirty-six teams will participate in the events, with each team consisting of 4 athletes and a celebrity team captain.

The Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation is also working toward establishing and building The Mammoth Center for Excellence, a world-class, on-mountain facility that will provide space for training, seminars and coaching to support winter and summer competitive sports programs for children from all over California, regardless of their financial means. Complete information on Mammoth Invitational and Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation are available at www.MammothMountainCommunityFoundation.org

DSES Hosts Slide-a-Thon – April 9

Slide-a-thon 2011 promises to be an amazing day on the snow at beautiful Mammoth Mountain. Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra invites teams and individuals to raise money and awareness for our program on Saturday, April 9, 2011. Donations will support scholarships, volunteer training and developing new programs. Come and join us as a participant, volunteer or sponsor or come visit our demonstration tent to try out one of our pieces of adaptive equipment. To register please go to www.firstgiving.com/DSES/Event/slideathon or call (760) 934-0791.

Tour de Taste – April 10

Enjoy a breathtaking morning of cross-country skiing before you make your way to a delicious gourmet lunch from the finest restaurants in town. Sound good? Join us at the Tour de Taste on Sunday, April 10, 2011. Participating vendors include: The Lakefront Restaurant, Petra's Bistro, Great Basin Bakery, Restaurant Skadi, and the Mammoth Brewing Company. Contact Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center at (760) 934-2442 for additional information.

Eastside Velo "Social Night" – April 12

To kick-off the cycling season we'll once again have an [Eastside Velo "Social Night"](#) at Restaurant Skadi, Tuesday, April 12, 2011. It's a good opportunity to reconnect with your biking friends and get motivated for the upcoming riding season. If you have not already sent in your annual membership (\$35), you'll be able to pony-up and be a member in good standing for yet another fun-filled season. Chef Ian will be offering a pasta dinner for only \$15 (cash only please!), and a no-host bar will be available. If you can join the fun, please RSVP for this event by going to the [ESV website](#) and using the "Sign up" feature for the event.

Upcoming Rides:

- [Proof of Life / Round Valley Ride](#) – Sunday, April 17 – Let the good times roll!
- [Tour Beneath the Peaks / Bishop Broncos Ride](#) – Sunday, May 1 – a fundraiser for the HS Football team.
- [The Pamper Pedal](#) – Saturday, May 7. Limited to the first 125 ladies that sign-up. Don't delay!

2011 Measure R Spring Award Application Period Closes April 15

The 2011 Measure R Spring Award Process opened on Monday, March 14, 2011 and will close at 12:00 p.m. on Friday, April 15, 2011. The Spring funding award is intended to address: (1) an immediate or "emergency" project/service opportunity, or (2) provide gap funding for project or services that were awarded in the fall cycle but are experiencing a financial shortfall. Preference has been given by the Recreation Commission to previously awarded projects and once in a lifetime or time-limited opportunities. Funding recommendations to Town Council will be made on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 at the regularly scheduled Recreation Commission meeting with potential adoption by Town Council on June 15, 2011. If your organization is a

recipient of Measure R funds, a Measure R Award Recipient [Performance Report](#) has to be completed prior to the submittal of an additional Measure R Funding Application. All the applicable Measure R information including the Timeline, Application Packet/Form and reference documents can be found online at: <http://ca-mammothlakes.civicplus.com/index.aspx?nid=394>. Please contact Recreation Manager Stuart Brown at (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 for additional information or to request an application form.

Sierra Club, Range of Light Group Potluck & Social – April 19

Listen to the "The Sierra Nevada Red Fox" with Sherri Lisius, Wildlife Biologist, Bridgeport Ranger District, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest on Tuesday, April 19, 2011 beginning at 6:30 pm, Crowley Lake Community Center. The Red Fox was long thought to be extinct in the Sierra Nevada, but it is now clear that a remnant population exists. Sherri will discuss the status of this rare creature and the ongoing multi-agency monitoring and research efforts. She will also update us on FS projects in the Bridgeport district. Please bring your own non-disposable table setting and a special dish to share for 6-8 people.

Easter Egg Hunt and Play Day – April 22

Join the Mammoth Lakes Easter Bunny and Recreation Department staff for a fun, festive and free community Easter Egg Hunt on Friday, April 22, 2011, at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center. Activities begin promptly at 3:00 p.m., so don't be late! Bring your own basket to fill with eggs and goodies, as prize eggs will be hidden for each age group.

June Lake Triathlon Training Camps

2-time Ironwoman Alana Levin and 9-time Hawaii Ironman Chris Morgeson are hosting Triathlon Training Camps in preparation for the July 9, 2011 "Toughest Race in the Most Beautiful Place," June Lake Triathlon. Session 1 (base, technique skill & strength building) is scheduled from April 5 - May 14; Session 2 (skill & technique development, power and speed) from May 17 - June 25, 2011. The Camp meets Tuesday nights from 5:30-7:30 p.m. & Saturday mornings from 9:00-11:00 a.m. (will move earlier as temperatures warm up). The fee is \$200 for HSTC members or \$250 for non-members. Contact Alana at (760) 717-0176 for more information or to register.

April Activities for the Sierra Club, Range of Light Group

The Sierra Club - Range of Light Group hosts Winter Outings every Thursday and Sunday. Thursday is a cross country ski outing for 3-5 miles, about 2 1/2 hours. Sunday is 6-8 miles, back about 3:00 p.m. Intermediate or advanced-beginner skill levels and endurance required. Snow shoe-ers must be able to keep up. Often off groomed trails. If you are unsure of your abilities try a Thursday morning trip first. Participants are asked to meet at M.L. Union Bank parking lot at 10:00 a.m. Abominable weather cancels. Contact: John Walter (760) 934-1767 or Jean Dillingham (760) 648-7109.

Trails System Master Plan Update

The consultant work is continuing on the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Trails System Master Plan (TSMP), following the circulation of the Initial Study for the project at the end of 2010. Because the need has arisen to complete some additional technical analysis for biological and cultural resources, delivery of the

Draft EIR is now scheduled in early June, with the Final EIR available in August. At the same time, work will be underway to update the Draft TSMP published in February 2009 to reflect planning and physical changes that have occurred since that date. These revisions, which are expected to be generally technical in nature, will be made available for public review, and will be brought to the Recreation Commission, Mobility Commission, and Planning Commission in advance of the process to formally adopt the TSMP, expected in September/October. Examples of errata and updates to be included in the revised draft are changes to reflect integration of the TSMP with other long-range and strategic planning efforts like RECSTRATS; changed conditions, such as construction of the Lake Mary Road Bike Path; and completion of trails planning efforts for the Sherwins Area. For more information, please contact Senior Planner Ellen Clark at (760) 934-8989 Extension 269 or eclark@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update

Work is continuing to prepare the Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, which was funded by a Measure R award in the fall of 2010. Completion of the Draft MND is now scheduled in June; on approximately the same schedule as the Trails System Master Plan EIR. Following circulation of the Draft MND, staff will bring the final Parks and Recreation Master Plan for review by the Recreation Commission and Planning Commission in August. For more information, please contact Senior Planner Ellen Clark at (760) 934-8989 Extension 269 or eclark@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Employment Opportunity – Whitmore Pool Summer Staff

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department is accepting applications for summer staff at Whitmore Pool. These are seasonal positions, expected to last for the months of June through August with work weeks ranging from 15 to 40 hours a week. Available positions include: Aquatics Site Coordinator: \$18.26 - \$22.20, Assistant Aquatics Site Coordinator: \$14.34 - \$16.60, Senior Lifeguard: \$13.65 - \$16.60, Swim Instructors: \$12.38 - \$15.05 and Lifeguards: \$11.23 - \$13.65. A Town application is required. Applications may be obtained from and must be submitted to the Recreation Department, Town Administrative Offices, Minaret Village Mall; or by mail to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. For an application and a copy of the job description (outlining the duties and required qualifications) by mail, call (760) 934-8989, ext. 237. Applications will be taken until the positions are filled.

Open Gym at the Mammoth High School

The Recreation Department in collaboration with the Mammoth Unified School District (Thanks Rich!) is hosting open basketball at the Mammoth High School Gym every Sunday (excluding April 24) from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. Additional programming is being developed and we welcome any programming suggestions. Cost is \$2.00 per participant. Please contact John at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234 for additional information. Hoop it up!

Get Gymnastics Fever!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Offered by Michelle DeJong, a level 8 competitive gymnast and Level 1-5 gymnastics coach, participants will learn to tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a recipient of Measure R funding with \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age

sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail and are all on schedule for February, 2011.

- 3-5 yr olds – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- 5-8 yr olds – Saturday: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
- 8-12+ yr olds – Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Saturday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Fees are only \$50/month (8 sessions) for residents and \$60/month for non-residents. Five session Punch Cards are available for \$50 and Private lessons are available upon request at \$20 for 30-45 minutes. Drop-in's are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Gymnastic Schedule Changes

The following changes have been made to the Wednesday gymnastics session at the Community Center. Sorry for any inconvenience.

- April 13 to April 12, 2011
- May 11 to May 10, 2011
- June 8 to June 7, 2011

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going: Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- On-going: Open Basketball at the MHS Gym, 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- March 17-April 10: Mammoth Nordic Festival
- March 31-April 17: Dial M for Murder
- April 1: Mammoth Value Pass (MVP) on sale
- April 5-May 14: June Lake Tri Camp – Session 1
- April 6: Tip-A-Cop Fundraiser at Angels
- April 6-9: MHS Presents The Wizard of Oz
- April 7-10: Mammoth Invitational
- April 9: DSES Slide-a-Thon
- April 10: Tour de Taste
- April 13: RECSTRATS workshop #3: "Winter Recreation & Trails" – ML Community Center
- April 14: RECSTRATS workshop #4: "Non-winter Recreation & Trails" – ML Community Center
- April 13-17: Far West Masters Finals
- April 15: Measure R Spring Award Application Period Ends
- April 16: Volcom's Peanut Butter & Rail Jam Championships
- April 16: Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center Closing Day
- April 16: Mighty Mite World Championships
- April 16: MMST Footloose Mogul Bash
- April 17: MMST Jr. Village Championships
- April 17: Active Brodown Showdown
- April 17: [Proof of Life / Round Valley Ride](#)
- April 19: Sierra Club, Range of Light Group Potluck & Social
- April 19-24: USSA Far West Speed Finals
- April 22: Recreation Dept. Easter Egg Hunt & Play Day @ Community Center
- April 24: SpringFest kickoff & Annual Pond Skim
- April 24: Bunny Hop: Mammoth's Largest Easter Egg Hunt
- April 24: Canyon Lodge, Eagle Lodge and Village Gondola Closing Day

- April 24: Mammoth Snowmobile Adventures Closing Day
- April 24: June Mountain Ski Area Closing Day
- April 26-29: DSES Springtacular!
- April 30: Opening Day of Mono County Fishing Season

Public Service Announcements

Bears Becoming Active

Even with the large amount of snow on the ground, it is spring on the calendar and some of the local bears are beginning to move from their dens. According to Wildlife Specialist Steve Searles, two of them have already been inside residential garages. It is now time to start thinking about proper trash storage and being proactive about keeping human food away from wildlife. Please do your part by moving household trash to the transfer station in a timely manner. If you live where there is dumpster service, make sure the dumpster or trash bin lid is securely closed and fastened each time.

Leash Law Reminder

Mammoth residents and visitors are reminded that the Town has a leash law, and it is a violation of the ordinance to allow your dog to run loose off of your property. While budget cuts eliminated the Animal Control Officer position, the laws pertaining to controlling your pets did not change, and you can still be cited by Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers if your dog is at-large. The Police Department is currently receiving a large number of complaints from several neighborhoods, and will be targeting patrol time in those areas when possible to apprehend loose dogs and to cite their owners. In addition to the citation fine, you could also be charged boarding fees by Mono County Animal Control if we choose to impound your dog at the Whitmore Shelter. At-large dogs are a traffic hazard, and even the most well behaved dog can bite if provoked. If your loose animal causes a traffic collision or injures/bites someone, you would likely be liable for damages, which could add up to thousands of dollars. Please respect your neighbors, AND your pet and obey the leash law.

Town Council Provides Assurance to the Community

The Mammoth Lakes Town Council is continuing to take action to manage the impact of the "Hot Creek" decision on the community. Concern had been raised by some members of the community that the decision could negatively impact critical services or that the Town would assess new taxes or fees to cover the cost.

NO NEW TAXES: The Town Council has very limited powers to raise taxes and assessments, and can only do so with approval of the voters. Voters in other communities have generally opposed the concept of raising taxes to pay a judgment, and this option is not being pursued by the Town Council.

CRITICAL SERVICES WILL BE MAINTAINED: Although it is acknowledged that the judgment could have service impacts similar to those experienced during the recession, the Town Council will maintain critical services such as snow removal and police protection. There are provisions in the California State Code and Municipal Bankruptcy Laws that are specifically designed to protect the public in the event of a financial calamity. The experience in other communities that have had these types of problems demonstrates that critical services will be protected.

The Town Council is pursuing all other available options, including:

- Retaining the largest firm in the nation specializing exclusively in appellate litigation to petition the California Supreme Court for review,
- Challenging the denial of the insurance coverage of the damages,
- Seeking legal advice on municipal bankruptcy options, and
- Actively pursuing settlement negotiations.

Notify Me!

Receive updates sent directly to your email or phone from the Town of Mammoth Lakes by subscribing to "Notify Me." Found on the left side of TownofMammothLakes.com, stay current with Public Service Announcements, Emergency Alerts, Town e-News, Recreation This Week, No Burn Announcements, DNDP updates, bid postings, news flash, calendar items, and more! Make smart decisions, subscribe today!

Speed Limit in Snow

When CalTrans or the Town of Mammoth Lakes have imposed chain restrictions on US 395, SR 203, or Town roads, speed limits do change from the regularly posted limit. The California Vehicle Code allows the State and the Town to determine the safe speed for any stretch of roadway that can be affected by snow and ice. The Town has chosen to set a 25 mph limit on all local roadways, including SR 203 (Main Street) in the incorporated part of Mammoth. CalTrans has chosen to maintain a 35 mph limit on SR 203 on the outskirts of town, and on US 395 in Mono and Inyo counties. Drivers need to remember, however, that they have an obligation to travel only at a speed safe for roadway conditions. In very bad weather or on extreme ice, this often means slower than these reduced limits. Sometimes 10 mph or less is truly a safe speed. How your car is handling on the roadway should be the deciding factor in slowing down below the limits shown under chain restrictions.

Air Quality Monitoring

The Town monitors air quality during the winter season in cooperation with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District. The focus of this monitoring effort is particulate matter or PM10, which is generated from wood smoke and dust from road cinders. PM10 can pose a health hazard, especially to children, the elderly, and people with existing heart or lung problems. Poor air quality is usually associated with clear, cold, and calm winter days when wood smoke from fireplaces and stoves cannot dissipate. To keep our air as clean as possible, please do your part by following these simple steps:

- Only burn clean and hot fires
- Check your chimney periodically for emissions (if smoke is clearly visible, then your fire needs more air, the wood is not dry enough, or the wood is not split small enough)
- Call (760) 934-1010 for any wood burning restrictions
- Abide by the "no wood burning" days restrictions

The Town continually monitors air quality, and will announce "no wood burning" days when air quality is forecast to approach unhealthy levels. To find out if wood burning restrictions have been announced, please call (760) 934-1010, listen to local radio announcements, or watch Mammoth Lakes Community Channel 51. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If you have questions, please contact Jen

Daugherty, Associate Planner at (760) 934-8989 ext. 260 or
jdaugherty@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance

In 2003, the Town implemented an outdoor lighting ordinance to eliminate light pollution and preserve views of our starry skies. The outdoor lighting ordinance was adopted to encourage residents to administer a lighting system that not only promotes public safety and night-time ambiance but to maximize energy conservation. To eliminate glare and light trespass into neighboring properties and roadways, the outdoor lighting fixtures on your property should be shielded and re-directed to shine downward or changed out to a lower wattage. More information about responsible lighting can be found at www.crlaction.org.