



Town of Mammoth Lakes
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Town News

Town e-News: Week of August 25, 2014

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Sept. 3

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 3, 2014 in Suite Z at 6:00 p.m. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

September Commission/Committee Meetings

Sept. 9 Recreation Commission Mtg., Suite Z, 2:00 p.m.

Sept. 10 Planning and Economic Development Commission Mtg., Suite Z, 2:00 p.m.

Cycling Etiquette and The New Three Feet For Safety Act

The Town will be actively communicating proper cycling etiquette and the rules of the road to both motorists and cyclists when the new "Three Feet for Safety Act" goes into effect September 16, 2014.

Known as the "Three Feet for Safety Act," new state vehicle code section (21760) requires that a driver of a motor vehicle shall not overtake or pass a bicycle proceeding in the same direction on a highway at a distance of less than three feet between any part of the motor vehicle and any part of the bicycle or its operator.

Police Chief Dan Watson is urging all drivers in Mammoth Lakes to comply with the new law. "This law includes public streets and even if three feet is not possible, the motor vehicle must slow to a reasonable and prudent speed and only pass when no danger is present to the bicyclist. Failing to do so can incur a fine, regardless of a collision or not."

Chief Watson also urges all bicyclists to comply with the rules of the road, including stopping for stop signs and pedestrians, riding as far to the right as practicable, and riding in single file. Bicyclists are also encouraged to use the Town's extensive system of bike paths when possible. The Town will not be pursuing a local ordinance to implement the new law as the definition applied is very broad and includes all public streets. It should also be noted that currently the Town of Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code does not prohibit bikes on sidewalks.

Additional information about the "Three Feet for Safety Act," including violations; can be viewed online at: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d11/vc21760.htm>.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) that details the factors behind traffic fatalities on our roads, in California (2011), the statewide percentage of bicyclist fatalities was 4.1% of all fatalities, which is nearly twice the national average of 2.1%.

FARS also identified that between 2009 and 2011, collisions between bicycles and motor vehicles are more likely to occur on local roadways than the State Highway System, and 85% of fatalities involving bicycles and 89% of severe injuries involving bicycles occurred on a local road compared to 57% of fatalities overall and 64% of severe injuries overall.

Supporting the passage of AB 1371 (Bradford) was the California Association of Bicycling Organizations (CABO). From the CABO President's point of view, "I support this bill because of my expectation, well hope, that incidences of antagonistic or clueless "buzz-backs"/scary close passing and hit from behind crashes will subside as people learn about the Three Feet for Safety Act."

Local cycling advocate and Eastside Velo (ESV) President John Armstrong hopes that someday a sign will be erected upon entering Mono County that says "We Respect People on Bikes."

ESV has over 200 active members who ride regularly throughout the Eastern Sierra. As an organization, they actively promote proper cycling etiquette and even have a short video on their website that promotes safe and responsible riding practices. Their Top 3 "Rules to Ride by..." are as follows:

1. Be courteous and share the road. Being courteous gains respect and helps make the roads safer for all cyclists.
2. Signal your intentions if you can safely do so. If you are turning, point in the direction you plan on going. If you are slowing, put your hand out behind you.
3. Be friendly. If someone is courteous to you and does the right thing, wave and smile. Everyone likes to be acknowledged for doing the right thing.

Please visit the ESV website (www.eastsidevelo.org) to review the complete list of "Rules to Ride by."

Armstrong hopes that common sense will prevail regarding the new "Three Feet for Safety Act," but understands that the best strategy for cyclist's safety is educating our motoring public.

"Many times on my bike I have been in a situation where a motorist does not slow down. The motorist powers onwards and forces a squeeze play with another vehicle and me, and guess who comes off the worst? Oftentimes I end up in the dirt or on the sidewalk."

To facilitate effective education, Armstrong recommends cyclists and motorists pick up a copy of the new "Quick Guide to Smart Cycling" distributed by the League of American Bicyclists that will be available locally this fall. This full-color, 24-page Quick Guide covers just about everything you need to know to ride a bike safely and confidently, providing an easy-to-understand resource that appeals to all demographics: prospective bicyclists, novice riders, and even seasoned pros.

To read the Smart Cycling Quick Guide online, visit this link: <http://bikeleague.org/quickguide>.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Reserve Officer Mike Braun will be actively communicating proper cycling etiquette and the rules of the road to both motorists and cyclists within Mammoth Lakes this fall.

"Cyclists have the same rights and duties as drivers. They need to obey traffic signals and stop signs, and most importantly, need to ride with traffic, and use the rightmost lane headed in the direction they are going," stated Braun.

Officer Braun also encourages cyclists to be predictable by making their intentions clear to everyone on the road. "Signal turns and check behind you well before making a turn or changing lanes."

Above all, stay safe, stay visible and ride on the right!



For additional information regarding the new "Three Feet for Safety Act" and proper cycling etiquette, please call the Mammoth Lakes Police Department at (760) 934-2011 or contact Officer Braun at mbraun@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Town Channel 51 Has Moved!

The Town's dedicated channel, TV 51 has moved to Channel 18. The move was necessitated by Suddenlink and their local programming needs. TV Channel 18 will still continue to provide access to all the Town's meetings with live and taped coverage of Town Council, and advisory body meetings such as the Planning and Economic Development Commission and Recreation Commission. For meeting dates and times, please visit: www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Weekly Report

Calls For Service/Officer Observations

- 150, Including 0 Business/Building Check

Crime/Incident Reports

- 23 Reports, Including 3 Arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

- 39 Stops; 6 Citations; 3 Parking Citations; 0 Skate Park Citations; 1 Collision

Animal Control Incidents

- 6 Incidents; 0 Reports

Wildlife

- 7 Calls; 3 Reports

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

- Friday, August 22, 2014 = 75%
- Saturday, August 23, 2014 = 73%

(57% same weekend in 2013, up in 2014)

*This weekend is Mammoth Rocks, August 22-24

- Sunday, August 24, 2014 = 53%
- Monday, August 25, 2014 = 48%
- Tuesday, August 26, 2014 = 54%
- Wednesday, August 27, 2014 = 47%
- Thursday, August 28, 2014 = 49%

(31% same midweek in 2013, up in 2014)

Hotels/Motels/B&B:

- Friday-Saturday = 90%
- Sunday-Thursday = 61%

Condos:

- Friday-Saturday = 58%
- Sunday-Thursday = 39%

Outlook for the following weekend:

- Friday, August 29, 2014 = 60%
- Saturday, August 30, 2014 = 58%

Please remember that the projected occupancy is calculated in order to assist the business community with staffing levels and product ordering. The actual occupancy percentages are reported from the lodging industry to the Town of Mammoth Lakes Finance Department.

Community News

Mammoth Rocks – A Taste of the Sierra

Celebrating its 6th year, Mammoth Rocks - A Taste of the Sierra kicks off this weekend August 22-23, at the Village at Mammoth. Starting at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, there'll be live entertainment from seven local and regional bands. The event continues at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday with live performances from the greatest classic rock cover bands of the 70's, 80's and 90's. And don't forget to try some of the best food from the Eastern Sierra. A Taste of the Sierra is featuring eleven restaurants and eateries serving their best dishes for you to enjoy. For the full weekend schedule, visit: www.mammothrocks.com.

16th Annual Street & Bowl Skate Contest – Aug. 23

This Saturday, Wave Rave is hosting the 16th Annual Street & Bowl Skate Contest at the Volcom Brothers Skatepark. Skaters of all ages can compete in the street and bowl disciplines. It's free to enter and spectators are welcome to check out the action all day long. Registration is at 8am with the first event starting at 9am. For more information, visit: <https://www.facebook.com/events/7044295593247>.

Coldwater Trails Day – Aug. 23

Down in the deserts, it's been a long hot summer, but up here on the Mammoth Lakes Trail System, we can always find cool, clear, water! And where better to find it than on the Coldwater Trails! Please join Mammoth Medical Missions and the Mammoth Track Club – featuring their Big Schwag Giveaway! - for trail work on the Coldwater Trails of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System, along with Friends of the Inyo and MLTPA. We'll meet at the Coldwater-George trailhead up above Coldwater campground at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday morning. All ages are welcome, and a free lunch and raffle prizes will be had by all – everybody goes home a winner! Summer of Stewardship: Trails Days 2014 are made possible by the Inyo National Forest, the Town of Mammoth Lakes and



Mammoth's own Measure R. Special thanks to Old New York Deli, Mammoth Brewing, Bleu Handcrafted Foods, Footloose Sports and Mammoth Sunrise Rotary.

Volunteers will be working on a variety of trail projects on the great trails in this area, including the Duck Pass Trail, the Heart Lake Trail and the Coldwater-George Trail. All volunteers will get an introduction to trail maintenance skills from Friends of the Inyo staff, and those interested in being regular members of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System stewardship team should be sure to show up to get trained up for future projects.

We'll be meeting for lunch at 12:30 up at the Coldwater-George Trailhead – thanks to Bleu Handcrafted Foods and Sunrise Rotary - and chilled Root Beer thanks to Mammoth Brewing. And thanks to KMMT Radio for providing priceless airtime and above ground studio chops to let everybody in on the fun!

All ages and abilities are welcome, and we love to see families and clubs! Please arrive dressed for trail work (long pants, sun protection, sturdy close-toed shoes). For more information; call (760) 873-6500 or (760) 934 3154; or e-mail ursula@friendsoftheinyo.

"Tied Up in Knotts" – Aug. 29 & 30

The Edison Theatre opens up the 2014/2015 season with Karen Knotts' one-woman-show honoring her late father, beloved Don Knotts. Using affection and humor, her show is a heartfelt behind-the-scenes look at the man who played Barney Fife and the story of her own life and career growing up in his shadow.

Convict Lake Stewardship Project For Aug. 30

On Saturday August 30, 2014, Friends of the Inyo invites the public to join them for a family friendly volunteer day at Convict Lake. Volunteers will help repair and improve conditions on the popular loop trail and clean up around the lake. Following the project, volunteers will enjoy a delicious lunch provided by Convict Lake Resort and have a chance to win great prizes.

As one of the most popular recreation destinations on the Inyo National Forest, Convict Lake hosts tens of thousands of visitors each year who come to fish, hike, play in the clear, cool water, and enjoy the spectacular view. One is just likely to see a bald eagle or the playful cloud shadows on Mount Laurel as to see an angler pulling in the big one. Partly due to its popularity, the trail around Convict Lake needs major maintenance to provide safe access and an enjoyable experience for its visitors. The upcoming volunteer day at Convict Lake culminates a summer long effort to repair and improve this popular trail. Thanks to a generous grant from the National Forest Foundation, Friends of the Inyo stewardship crews and volunteers, in partnership with the Inyo National Forest, have been working to repair and rebuild sections of the loop trail around Convict Lake for the past five weeks.

According to Friends of the Inyo's Executive Director Laura Beardsley, "Our crews have been hard at work rebuilding and improving the trail around Convict Lake this summer. We're excited to wrap up the season with another great project and thrilled to have the support of the National Forest Foundation, the Inyo National Forest, Convict Lake Resort, and volunteers to make it happen."

Volunteers should wear closed toe shoes and work appropriate clothing. To participate, meet Friends of the Inyo at 8:30 am Saturday, August 30th at the day use trailhead on the south side of Convict Lake for a light breakfast and two to three hours of fun, rewarding work. For additional information please call Ursula Esser at (760) 873-6500 or visit www.friendsoftheinyo.org.



Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo Returns Sept. 6

The 2014 Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo returns to the Eastern Sierra on September 6, 2014. Last year, this event brought over 1000 cyclists to Mammoth Lakes, Mono County and the Eastern Sierra - most of them drove through Bishop and Inyo County on the way to Mammoth. In 2014, we hope to see that many cyclists again or more. The Fall Century and Gran Fondo will once again begin from The Village but at a new starting time of 7:00 a.m. The shorter 42 Mile "Piccolo" and 70 Mile "Medio" courses also start (9:00 a.m.) and end at The Village in Mammoth Lakes rather than Whitmore Ball Fields.

New this year is a Prologue Hill Climb Time Trial, on Friday, September 5, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. starting at the "Chain-up" area at US HWY 395 and SR 203 and finishing at the Mammoth Mountain Inn near the Gondola Building.

The Mammoth Century and Gran Fondo is a fundraiser for the Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation (MMCF) under the direction of Executive Director Lindsay Barksdale. MMCF contracts Mammoth Mountain Ski Area to produce the event. Bill Cockroft serves as the lead for MMSA and takes on the role of Event Director where he has an assembled team of professionals including ride director John Armstrong with the help of local cycling club, Eastside Velo, and many others to help produce the event.

Former pro cyclist and Assistant Editor of Road Bike Action Magazine, Neil Shirley, rode the 2013 event and wrote an online and print article about it where he stated that the Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo is "on Par with Levi's Gran Fondo in Santa Rosa, CA." Levi's Gran Fondo is widely considered the "benchmark" Gran Fondo event in the US and each year sells out 7500 rider registrations. See Neil Shirley's article here:

<http://www.roadbikeaction.com/Features/content/313/7350/Being-There-Mammoth-High-Sierra-Fall-Gran-Fondo.html>

The event has averaged 40% year over year growth the last two years, and in 2013, 1050 participants came to Mammoth Lakes bringing with them the economic benefit of shopping, lodging, eating and playing in Mammoth Lakes. The goal this year is 1,400 riders!

Riders will welcome additional rest stops on the route with improved menus including vegetarian and gluten-free options and staffed by local volunteer groups and businesses including Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra, Mammoth Lakes Swim Team, Mono County Search and Rescue, Bishop High School Broncos Football Team, MHS Baseball Team, Crowley Lake Store and the Mammoth Track Club.

1984 Olympic Gold Medalist, Steve Hegg, will be joining the Gran Fondo Ride, along with 1984 Olympic Silver Medalist, Nelson Vails. VIP packages are available with both riders.

Riders are encouraged to stay for the After Ride Party and Gourmet Buffet in The Village on Saturday afternoon. Don't miss great food, music and a vendor expo in the courtyard of The Village for the after-ride party and gourmet buffet feast! All rider participants are provided with free pictures of themselves on the ride immediately after the ride at the After-Ride Party and Gourmet Buffet Feast

Significant sponsorship support (personnel, equipment, supplies, marketing, financial and substantially discounted services and supplies) for the Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo is provided by the following local businesses: Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Town of Mammoth Lakes (Measure U), Footloose Sports, Sierra Nevada Brewing, Bonk Breaker, VisitMammothLakes.com, SkyTime Helicopter Service, Alaska Airlines, Road Bike Action Magazine, Fendon's Furniture.



A big thanks also goes out to the following agencies for working with the Mammoth Fall Century & Gran Fondo to put on a safe and well organized event: California Highway Patrol, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mono County Sheriff, Caltrans, Mono County Road Department, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Please visit www.FallCentury.org to learn more, Register for the Ride and invite your Friends!

We need your help! To sign-up to help, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e49afae2aa02-2014>.

Inyo National Forest Announces Continuation of Special Fuelwood Sale for Whitney Portal

The Mount Whitney Ranger District of the Inyo National Forest is planning to continue a special personal use fuelwood sale in the Whitney Portal area this season. A limited number of participants for this fuelwood event will be selected by lottery since there is a very limited amount of wood, approximately 10 cords, available.

Whitney Portal is normally closed to fuelwood gathering for personal use. One specific area within the drainage will be opened for fuelwood because of bug kill trees. A lottery will be used to determine who will be allowed to gather wood. Lottery entries will be accepted during the period August 25, 2014 through August 29, 2014.

Individuals may submit one lottery entry per person. Entries can be submitted in person or by phone at the Interagency Visitor Center in Lone Pine at (760) 876-6222. Lottery entrants must provide their name, address, and contact information. The first selections will occur on September 2, 2014.

Individuals will be randomly selected from the current pool of entries when wood becomes available. Selectees will be notified via the personal contact information they provide and will be given a map of the specific locations where fuelwood can be gathered. Wood gathering will start September 4, 2014 and will end October 31, 2014, or sooner, if the wood runs out.

Selected entrants will only be allowed to collect fuelwood on set days and must possess a valid personal use fuelwood permit along with identification. Participants may gather a maximum of two cords of wood; though the maximum amount is not guaranteed. Participants may gather down wood only. No falling of snags or trees will be permitted.

For questions or additional information, you may contact the project leader, Rick Napoles, by phone at (760) 876-6205.

Recreation Department Highlights

Showboat Youtheatre Performances at the Mammoth Lakes Arts Center

The workshops, sponsored and invited by Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department will be held at the Community Center and Mammoth Lakes Arts Center. The children from 5 to 10 years of age will be working on "Free to Be a Family" from 9 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and the more advanced thespians from 10 and up will be working on the adapted, well known musical "Mama Mia." The workshop/rehearsals will be held on August 11-23, with local recitals for both shows the weekend of August 22 & 23. Cost is \$100 for kids 10 and under, \$110 for ages 11 and up. For further information and to register for this exciting and creative summer camp, either register online at www.mammothrecreation.com or call John Connolly at Mammoth Lakes Recreation at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234.



Performances are as follows:

- "Free to Be" Showtime: Friday, August 22, 7:00 p.m.
- "Mamma Mia" Showtime: Saturday, August 23, 7:00 p.m.

All performances are at the Mammoth Lakes Arts Center. 549 Old Mammoth Road (Sherwin Plaza). A \$5 suggested donation will be accepted at the door. DON'T FORGET FLOWERS FOR YOUR FAVORITE PERFORMER! RESERVED SEATING GOES ON SALE TUESDAY - \$7 each seat (First four rows are limited to 4 tickets per performer).

Adult Coed Dodgeball This Fall at The Reczone

The Recreation Department is bringing back Dodgeball! Games will be held every Monday and Wednesday at the Mammoth RecZone beginning at 5:30 p.m. This will a great time under the lights at the RecZone (adjacent to the library) with music, fun and more! Games commence September 3 and wrap up on September 29, 2014. Fee is only \$84 per team. Teams must have at least 4 men and 2 women on the court at all times.

Free Admission At The Mammoth Reczone Labor Day Weekend!

The Mammoth RecZone is the coolest place to hang out this summer – to make it even cooler, join us between August 29 – August 31, 2014 for FREE! Skate rentals are only \$2.00 – you can't beat that for value!

Located near Vons and adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Library (with shade, lights, and concessions) the RecZone offers a plethora of games and activities for all ages including: volleyball, badminton, basketball, horseshoes, bean bag toss, blongoball, washer toss, skate ramps and more. Browse the internet or catch up on the latest news or scores with FREE Wi-Fi or reserve your next birthday party or family gathering on wheels! Call the RecZone phone at (760) 934-2505 during operating times for additional information or visit www.mammothreczone.com.

HOURS: FRIDAY: 5 – 10PM / SATURDAY: 3 – 10PM / SUNDAY: 3 – 7PM

Have Your Next Party on Wheels!

The Mammoth Rec Zone can be reserved for the exclusive use of your birthday party or special event. Games include: Bean Bag Toss, Horseshoe Pit, skate ramps, basketball, badminton, broomball and more! Fees are only \$50/hr. or rent the entire rink for the day for only \$200. Reservation only, subject to availability. All-inclusive birthday party packages are available and start from as low as \$7.50 per child. Call us to customize your party on wheels!

Tennis Lessons Every Tuesday & Thursday Afternoon

Kyle Osland - former Head Coach at the Nick Bollettieri IMG Tennis Academy and Varsity Husky Tennis Coach is offering group sessions every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon for Tiny Tots, juniors and adults with 3 tennis camps scheduled this summer. Drop-in lessons are scheduled through September 11, 2014. Kyle is also available for private lessons. For additional information or to schedule a private with the pro, please email Kyle or call (619) 200-2150.

Drop-in Tennis Sessions:

Tiny Tots Tennis

Who: Ages 4-6
Time: 1:30 - 2:30 p.m.
When: Tue & Thur
Dates: July 8-Sept. 11
Cost:\$10 per session

Junior Tennis Pros

Who: Ages 7-12
Time: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.
When: Tue & Thur
Dates: July 8-Sept. 11
Cost:\$10 per session

Adult Drill Clinic

Who: Int./Adv.
Time: 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.
When: Tue & Thur
Dates: July 8-Sept. 11
Cost: \$10 per session



FIVE PUNCH CARD: Buy a 5 lesson punch card for only \$50 and get the 6th lesson FREE!

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program

Join Melissa (and Kari), our level 5 gymnastics coach here at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center for the following classes:

- * 3 yr. olds Saturday: 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.
- * 4-5 yr. olds Saturday: 9:15 - 10:00 a.m. & Tuesday: 5:00 - 5:45 p.m.
- * 5-8 yr. olds Saturday: 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.
- * 8-12+ yr. olds Tuesday: 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. (invitation only)
Friday: 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Five session punch card for \$60, drop-ins welcome at \$15 session. Want to try it out? Try your first session for free! Please call (760) 934-8989 x222 for more information or visit 'Mammoth Gymnastics' on Facebook.

Whitmore Pool Closes For Lap Swim Sept. 5

Lap swimming is offered Monday to Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. and every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. through September 5, 2014. Call the pool phone at (760) 935-4222 or visit www.mammothrecreation.com for all the details.

Pickleball Is Now In Mammoth Lakes!

Join in and learn the fastest growing sport in America - easy to learn, fun to play and FREE! Pick-up games are scheduled every Tuesday from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Community Center Tennis Courts. For additional information please contact Bob or Tess Meggs at (530) 277-0199.

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 www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov, 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!

Upcoming & On-Going Events...

- NOW OPEN Whitmore Pool – last day Sept. 5
- NOW OPEN Mammoth RecZone: Friday – Sunday (last day Sept. 21)
- ON-GOING Adult Men’s and Coed Softball at Shady Rest Park
- ON-GOING Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts (last day Sept. 11)
- ON-GOING Adult Soccer League at Whitmore
- Aug 22 Showboat Youtheatre Performance: “Free to be a family,” MLAC , 7:00 p.m.
- Aug 23 Showboat Youtheatre Performance: “Mama Mia,” MLAC, 7:00 p.m.
- Aug 23 Whitmore Pool closes for Recreation Swimming – open for lap swim through Sept. 5
- Aug 26 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Aug 28 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 2 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 3 Adult Coed Dodgeball begins at the Mammoth RecZone (every Monday & Wednesday, 5:30 p.m.)
- Sept 4 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 9 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 11 Drop-in Tennis Lessons at Community Center Tennis Courts
- Sept 21 Mammoth RecZone Closing Day
- Oct. 24 Halloween Skate Party at the Mammoth RecZone
- Nov. 28 Mammoth Ice Rink scheduled Opening Day
- Dec. 5 Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

Public Service Announcements

Desert Springs Trout Farm to Stock Trout in Mammoth Lakes this Year

As fishing opener nears, the latest angling news in the Eastern Sierra is that the Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mammoth Lakes Tourism are working with Desert Springs Trout Farm for fish stocking in the Mammoth Lakes Basin for 2014.

“Conway Ranch’s water issues are very unfortunate, but luckily we have found a solution for this year with Desert Springs,” explained Mammoth Lakes Tourism Executive Director, John Urdi.

Desert Springs will provide at least 11,000 pounds of fish compared to the 7,600 pounds (nearly a 45 percent increase year over year) the Lakes Basin received last year, which means anglers will have an even greater opportunity to land a big one this summer.

“The fish that will be stocked in the Lakes Basin would be the same types of trout that Eastern Sierra anglers have caught in the past, from browns to rainbows, etc.,” said David McFarland, partner of Desert Springs Trout Farm. The trout will also be the trophy-sized, 3-5 pounders to which Eastern Sierra anglers are accustomed.

“Not only will we continue to have frequent fish stocking, but in the Mammoth Lakes Basin we will have even more fish,” Urdi continued. The extra fish are coming from a combination of Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mammoth Lakes Tourism funding.

The extra fish mean the lakes will continue to be stocked well into October ensuring great fishing opportunities through the end of the season on Nov. 15. Anglers visiting in the fall at the end of the season will have just as good of a shot to catch a huge fish as someone visiting earlier.

As always, anglers 16 years of age and older must have a fishing license. You can purchase an annual, one-day or two-day fishing license (valid for two consecutive calendar days). Information concerning license requirements, places to purchase and fees maybe obtained from the [Department of Fish & Wildlife](#) or by calling 760-934-2664. Fishing licenses may be purchased in several locations around the town of Mammoth Lakes.

Sierra Conservation Project and Town of Mammoth Lakes Partner to Expand Condominium and Business Recycling Program

The Sierra Conservation Project, Inc. (SCP) and Town of Mammoth Lakes are pleased to announce the expansion of the current condominium, commercial and recreational area recycling programs in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

"This long-standing and successful partnership between the Sierra Conservation Project and the Town enabled us to submit and receive a substantial \$108,000 CalRecycle grant to expand on-going recycling programs within the community that benefits our residents, visitors and wildlife," stated Peter Bernasconi, Acting Public Works Director for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

The Sierra Conservation Project is working in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Department of Recourses Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to provide an additional 30 bear proof containers to the remaining Condominium complexes in town that currently don't have a recycling program in place. In addition, CalRecycle grant funds will enable SCP to upgrade all commercial bear proof containers at restaurants, bars and other business locations in town, including the enhancement and placement of recycling infrastructure in the Lakes Basin and at key park locations in Mammoth Lakes, such as the Whitmore Recreation Area and Shady Rest Park.

Recyclable materials make up a large percentage of the waste produced in our residential complexes and businesses," stated Brian Robinette, owner of SCP. "These community-based programs aim to divert recyclable materials from our local landfill, while also educate our residents and visitors on the need for convenient recycling programs. We are confident that by providing start-up infrastructure for these complexes and businesses it will help make program implementation affordable and reduce the environmental impacts of each resident and guest," said Robinette.

To register for the Condominium Recycling Program, please visit www.recyclesierra.com or www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

For additional information on the **Condominium and Business Recycling Program**, please contact Sierra Conservation Project at (760) 914 0115 or e-mail Brian@recyclesierra.com.

Would You Leave A Loaded Gun on the Floor?

If you have children in your home, hopefully you would not! However, a new threat to the health of our children is emerging. These are e-liquids, sold legally in stores and online in small bottles that may be carelessly and casually left around the house, used for the regular re-filling of e-cigarettes.

The danger is from the nicotine content in these vials of "juice". Children can happen upon a vial and ingest it. These fluids come in flavors and bright colors that are attractive for kids – cotton candy, cherry, chocolate, and bubble gum among others. In addition, nicotine is absorbed through the skin, presenting a risk from a broken vial.

Electronic cigarettes, called e-cigarettes, are drug delivery devices originally designed to look like regular tobacco cigarettes. Now they are larger reusable gadgets that can be refilled with liquid, generally a mixture of nicotine, flavorings, and solvents. It is estimated that roughly four million Americans use these battery powered devices. They have been hailed by proponents as a way for addicted smokers to get their nicotine fix without sucking in the thousands of carcinogens found in traditional cigarettes.

However, the evidence of their effectiveness in assisting persons in weaning off their nicotine addiction is less than stellar. In addition, evidence is rapidly mounting that they are serving as a "gateway" for young teens into the world of nicotine addiction. A recent study found nearly 1.8 million youth had tried e-cigarettes, and the number of middle and high school e-smokers doubled in one year. No wonder the industry targets the young who will be potential customers for decades to come! Their goal – to have the number of e-smokers quadruple in the next few years.

So how bad is the risk of exposure? Nicotine is a naturally occurring powerful neurotoxin, and in its potent liquid form, can be ingested or absorbed through the skin. Tiny amounts can cause vomiting, seizures, and even death. A teaspoon of even the highly diluted liquid can kill a small child.

A dose of 50 to 60 milligrams (mg) is potentially fatal for an adult; a 30 pound child could die from 1.36 mg. A vial of e-juice as commonly sold in retail stores is 17 milliliters, and with a 2.4% concentration would have 408 mg of nicotine. This year it is estimated that 1 to 2 million LITERS of liquid will be sold, much of it on the Internet. A liter of 10% concentration costs about \$110, a gallon \$195, and one company even offers a 55 gallon drum!

Nationwide, reports of accidental poisonings linked to e-liquids in 2013 jumped 300% from 2012, and is on pace to double again this year. Most cases are under the age of 4. A shop owner says that "We tell them that this stuff is poisonous. We do everything we can to protect the consumers, but at the end of the day, you leave a loaded gun on the floor, and your child gets hold of it, it's not gonna be the gunmaker's responsibility." A CEO of e-cigarette franchises says "It's the wild, wild west right now." There is no FDA regulation so far. So at the moment, if you are a user, your child has to go no farther than your own home to find a lethal dose of poison. Be aware of the risks, and keep vials out of reach. You are responsible for the safety of your children.

Governor Brown Declares Drought State of Emergency

With California facing water shortfalls in the driest year in recorded state history, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions.

"We can't make it rain, but we can be much better prepared for the terrible consequences that California's drought now threatens, including dramatically less water for our farms and communities and increased fires in both urban and rural areas," said Governor Brown. "I've declared this emergency and I'm calling all Californians to conserve water in every way possible."

In the State of Emergency declaration, Governor Brown directed state officials to assist farmers and communities that are economically impacted by dry conditions and to ensure the state can respond if Californians face drinking water shortages. The Governor also directed state agencies to use less water and hire more firefighters and initiated a greatly expanded water conservation public awareness campaign (details at saveourh2o.org).

In addition, the proclamation gives state water officials more flexibility to manage supply throughout California under drought conditions.

State water officials say that California's river and [reservoirs](#) are below their record lows. Manual and electronic readings record the snowpack's statewide water content at about 20 percent of normal average for this time of year.

The Governor's drought State of Emergency follows a series of actions the administration has taken to ensure that California is prepared for record dry conditions. In May 2013, Governor Brown issued an [Executive Order](#) to direct state water officials to expedite the review and processing of voluntary transfers of water and water rights. In December, the Governor formed a [Drought Task Force](#) to review expected water allocations, California's preparedness for water scarcity and whether conditions merit a drought declaration. Earlier this week, the Governor toured the Central Valley and spoke with growers and others impacted by California's record dry conditions.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Implementing Reserve & Volunteer Program

In an effort to off-set some of the impact resulting from the loss of 7 sworn officers, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department has been moving forward on developing Reserve and Volunteer Programs, and evaluating various forms of technology to help make the MLPD more efficient and effective. The following are some of the programs the MLPD is moving forward on:

RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM

On February 6, the Town Council approved the establishment of pay scales for Reserve Officers. The pay will be:

- Level 1 Reserve - \$25/hour
- Level 2 Reserve - \$23/hour
- Level 3 Reserve - \$20/hour

Providing pay for Reserve Officers will make the MLPD competitive with other local agencies that have reserve programs and serve as a recruitment and retention tool.

Anyone interested in learning more about the MLPD Reserve Program should contact Sergeant Marc Moscovitz at (760) 934-2011.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Many police departments benefit from active volunteer programs where trained volunteers assist police personnel by staffing front counters, completing reports, and providing community patrols. Retired Sergeant Karen Smart has agreed to manage the MLPD's volunteer program. At some time in the future, information will be released about the types of volunteer work available and the selection criteria. Anyone interested in volunteering with the MLPD should be on the look-out for a news release announcing the start of the program.

TECHNOLOGY

The MLPD is moving forward with technological advances on several fronts. They include:

- An on-line reporting system where certain crimes can be reported on-line.
- An on-line crime and traffic report purchase program where victims of crimes and parties in traffic collisions can purchase copies of reports on-line.

- Access to surveillance cameras at the North Village.
- Surveillance cameras at the Volcom Brothers Skatepark.

The MLPD is also exploring other technology that will make the Police Department more effective in addressing crime, the fear of crime, and quality of life issues.

Free, Real-Time Property Information Now Available!

The Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County are proud to present ParcelViewer, the Town and County's official web-based property information system. This free, public, on-line service can be relied upon to provide convenient, accurate and up-to-date information, based on the official Assessor's data-base. Use ParcelViewer to view and print customized parcel information and maps, including:

- Zoning Information
- Property Addresses
- Complex Names/ Condo Unit Numbers
- Parcel Lines*
- Valuation Data
- Acreage
- Aerial imagery of surrounding properties and more!

Visit Parcel Viewer today at <http://gis.mono.ca.gov/parcelviewer/>

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

Some of the most frequently asked questions about legal rentals and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) are:

1. What is a transient rental?

A transient rental is any unit that is occupied for the purpose of sleeping, lodging, or similar reasons for a period of 30 consecutive days or less in exchange for a fee or similar consideration.

2. Can I rent my unit as a transient rental?

Only some zones within the Town of Mammoth Lakes permit transient rentals. The following zones permit transient rentals:

- RMF-2 (Residential Multi-family 2)
- CL (Commercial Lodging)
- CG Commercial General)
- R (Resort, including master plan areas)
- SP (Specific Plan, including North Village and Clearwater)

This list is intended as a guide only. Although the above zones permit transient use generally, other regulations, such as those found in master plans, CC&Rs, or project conditions of approval may prohibit transient rental within a particular development. Generally, transient rental of single family homes is prohibited. A zoning map can be found on the Town's website.

3. What is transient occupancy tax (TOT)?

Transient occupancy tax, or TOT, is a 13% tax that is charged "for the privilege of occupancy of any transient occupancy facility." The tax is required to be paid to the

operator of the transient occupancy facility at the time the rent is paid. It is the operator's responsibility to remit the TOT to the Town.

4. Do I need to pay TOT?

If you are renting your unit as a transient rental, even if it is only for one weekend a year, you need to pay TOT. This includes single family homes and other units that are not permitted to rent nightly, but may be doing so illegally. TOT shall be remitted for each night the unit is rented.

5. Do I need a business tax certificate?

Yes, if you are renting your unit on a transient basis.

6. Do I need a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Yes. You are required to purchase a transient occupancy certificate for each rental unit to post in your transient rental property. This is included as part of Schedule E or F in the business tax certificate application.

7. What is the difference between a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Business tax is an annual tax and is required for all business activity. The transient occupancy tax certificate is a one-time purchase that is non-transferable. This certificate is required to be posted in your transient rental unit.

8. Do I need a business tax certificate if all of my rentals are handled through a reservation company?

If all of your rentals are handled through a reservation company, most reservation companies will purchase the transient occupancy tax certificate and collect and remit the TOT to the Town. You may wish to check with your reservation company to confirm that this is being taken care of. If you rent your unit by owner in addition to renting with a property management company, you are also required to obtain a separate business tax certificate and transient occupancy tax certificate.

9. How do I apply for a business tax certificate?

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit, \$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273.

10. Do I have a business tax certificate?

To find out if you have a valid business tax certificate on file, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273 or your property management company.

11. What is illegal rental activity?

Illegal rental activity is any rental activity that is not consistent with the Town's Zoning Ordinance, or any rental activity that is not compliant with the Transient Occupancy Tax Ordinance. This can include transient rental of units located in zones that prohibit transient rentals. It can also include transient rentals in a zone where it is permitted, but when the TOT is not remitted to the Town.

12. How can I report illegal rental activity?

If you suspect illegal rental activity, you may submit an anonymous tip via the Town's TOT hotline at (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's name if you have it. You may also email tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

13. Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline

If you have questions about TOT enforcement, or if you would like to report suspicious activity or rental advertisements please contact our anonymous hotline. The Town will follow-up on any reports submitted. The Hot Line Number is (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or email your information to: TOT@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Register for CodeRED

Residents of Mono County can register their cell phones to receive emergency CodeRED (reverse 911) alerts from Mono County. This is a county public service available to all Mono County residents so please tell your friends and neighbors in Mono County that they can register for this service. CodeRED announcements are for personal notification and will not replace CERT CAHAN notification. Here is how to sign register/sign up using the INTERNET:

- Go to monosheriff.org
- Scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
- Click on it and follow directions.

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.