



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**  
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## **Town News**

### **Town e-News: Week of June 29, 2015**

#### **News from the Town Manager**

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##### **Town Council Meeting – July 1**

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, July 1, 2015. Town Council is scheduled to conduct a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Waterford Bridge at 4:00 p.m., followed by a workshop with the Recreation Commission at 5:00 p.m. The regular meeting commences at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

##### **Vacancy on the Planning and Economic Development Commission**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes sent out a press release giving notice that a vacancy in an unexpired term exists on the Planning and Economic Development Commission because of a resignation. The term of appointment will expire on July 31, 2016. The Planning and Economic Development Commission meetings are scheduled for 2:00pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Friday, June, 26, 2015 at 5:00 pm. Application forms ("Application for Public Appointment") may be obtained from the Town's website, [www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov); Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; or by phoning 934-8989, extension 267.

##### **Initial Study For Floor Area Ratio (Far) Project Is Available**

The Notice of Preparation and Initial Study for the Floor Area Ratio (FAR) project are available for review and comment from May 29 – June 29, 2015. The Planning and Economic Development Commission will conduct the public scoping meeting on June 10, 2015 in Suite Z beginning at 2:00 p.m. Copy and paste this link into your browser for additional information: <http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=618>.

##### **Town of Mammoth Lakes to Host the 2015 Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular at Crowley Lake**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes in partnership with Crowley Lake Fish Camp is proud to once again host the annual Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular at Crowley Lake. The Independence Day fireworks show promises to be a bright and striking display of color in the Eastern Sierra night sky. This year's "Sky Concert" will propel over 737 shells into the Eastern Sierra sky for a mesmerizing 20 minutes beginning at

approximately 9:15 p.m. (weather permitting). Funding for this year's Fourth of July show was generously donated by individual community members and business owners, second homeowners, L.D.C. and from the Town's general fund.

Since incorporating in 1984, the Town of Mammoth Lakes has been celebrating Independence Day with a spectacular fireworks show. The Town contracts Pyro Spectaculars by Souza to light up the sky above Crowley Lake. Souza is well known for doing some of the largest and most spectacular fireworks displays in the world.

Admission to the Fourth of July Fireworks Show is once again only \$25.00 per car, RV, or truck (excludes camping), and \$5.00 per individual/bike (walking/riding).

Prior to the spectacular fireworks show, kick back on the Crowley Lake Fish Camp lawn and enjoy live music from local favorites "Lava Moon" from 5:00 – 8:30 p.m. The new Crowley Lake Fish Camp restaurant: Pelican Point Grill will be serving BBQ and Holiday specials including cold beverages from Noon - 8:30 p.m.

Camp permitting at Crowley Lake Fish Camp for the Fourth of July begins Thursday, July 2, 2015 and ends Monday July 6, 2015. The entire lake shore at the South Landing of Crowley Lake is open for camping, and the fee is \$125 per vehicle including the fireworks show for the 5-days. The North Landing/North Shore of Crowley Lake will be closed beginning at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 2, 2015, thru 12:00 p.m. Monday, July 6, 2015.

To ensure a safe holiday experience for everyone, please observe the following:

- No personal fireworks are permitted within Mono County, including the Inyo National Forest (INF), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. Be smart; leave the fireworks to the professionals!
- Due to EXTREME FIRE DANGER, the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District, Long Valley Fire Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, California Highway Patrol and Mono County Sheriff will enforce a "zero tolerance" policy with respect to the possession and use of fireworks. Fireworks violations will be strictly enforced.
- Please obey road closure and no parking signs. Parking is NOT permitted along Highway 395 or Crowley Lake Drive at any time. Do not park in fire lanes.
- The Mono County Sheriff's Office will be patrolling on Crowley Lake during the fireworks show. Do not boat within 100 yards of the fireworks detonation site at Hilton Bay and proper night-time navigation lighting is required.
- Help us keep Mono County clean. Please use designated trash facilities.
- Do not drink and drive. Please use a designated driver or plan to camp at Crowley Lake Fish Camp.

Please enjoy our national holiday in a safe and responsible manner. For more information, please contact the Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222, or visit [www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

### **TV 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](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

## **Projected Average Resort Occupancy**

Total Average Reported Projected Occupancies are as follows:

- Friday, June 26, 2015 = 72%
- Saturday, June 27, 2015 = 75%

(66% same weekend in 2014, up in 2015, last weekend of Mammoth Motocross)

- Sunday, June 28, 2015 = 53%
- Monday, June 29, 2015 = 50%
- Tuesday, June 30, 2015 = 45%
- Wednesday, July 1, 2015 = 45%
- Thursday, July 2, 2015 = 63%

(42% same midweek in 2014, up in 2015)

Hotels/Motels/B&B:

- Friday-Saturday = 84%
- Sunday-Thursday = 57%

Condos:

- Friday-Saturday = 49%
- Sunday-Thursday = 37%

Outlook for the following weekend:

- Friday, July 3, 2015 = 83%
- Saturday, July 4, 2015 = 83%

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.

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## Community News

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### **Smoke, Lightning, and Heat**

Below is a summary of key points to keep in mind for the next few days.

Smoke -- with fairly light winds today smoke from the various fires will tend to ooze around in various directions. Degraded air quality is likely in communities throughout the Eastern Sierra. After settling into the valleys at night where concentrated areas of thick smoke are possible, wind projections suggest a slight westward movement though again winds are light so the smoke will tend to move randomly/slowly. Advice -- Communities with outdoor events should have contingencies in case the smoke becomes thick enough to impact health, and monitor statements from Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District at:

<http://www.gbuapcd.org/healthadvisory/>

Thunderstorms -- moisture aloft working into the region will lead to buildups Thursday afternoon followed by decent chances for thunderstorms each day Friday through early next week. Confidence is still medium due to uncertainties in how isolated or widespread storms may be.

Friday/Saturday - fast moving storms over the Sierra and far western Nevada are likely to be dry with potential for new fire starts from lightning, and particularly strong and unpredictable outflow winds. Fire suppression efforts would be impacted by these microbursts.

Sunday/Monday - we're likely to see a transition to wetter storms with an increased risk of flash flooding. Be aware of your flash flood hot spots and have a plan. Important -- Areas around and downstream of fires are at enhanced risk of seeing flash flooding and debris flows if storms develop overhead Sunday/Monday.

Heat -- confidence remains high in a heat wave impacting the region, with the core of the hottest temperatures Thursday-Saturday, possibly lasting into Sunday for western Nevada. 100-107 in the western Nevada Valleys and 85-90 in the Sierra at Tahoe and Mammoth elevations, which are near or exceeding daily record highs. Advice -- keep an eye on those prone to heat illness. Extra heat precautions should be considered for outdoor events and fire suppression activities Thursday through the weekend. Also - have a thunderstorm/lightning plan...

As temperatures rise over the next few days, we are reminding residents and visitors that heat-related illnesses can be deadly and are urging people to take precautions to avoid them. There are simple steps people can take to keep risk at a minimum.

*1. Drink Plenty of Fluids – Even If You Don't Feel Thirsty*

Increase your fluid intake regardless of your activity level. During heavy exercise in hot weather, drink 2-4 glasses (16-32 ounces) of cool fluids each hour.

*2. Stay Cool Indoors*

The most efficient way to beat the heat is to stay in an air conditioned area. If you do not have an air conditioner or evaporative cooling unit, consider a visit to a shopping mall or public library for a few hours.

### 3. Stay Cool Outdoors

Plan activities so that you are outdoors either before noon or in the evening. In the hot sun, a wide-brimmed hat will keep the head cool. While outdoors, rest frequently in a shady area.

### 4. Monitor Those at High Risk

If you are 65 years of age or older, have a friend or relative call to check on you twice a day during a heat wave. If you know anyone in this age group, check on them at least twice a day. When working in the heat, monitor the condition of your coworkers and have someone do the same for you.

### 5. Pace Yourself

If you are unaccustomed to working or exercising in hot weather, start slowly and pick up the pace gradually. If exertion in the heat makes your heart pound and leaves you gasping for breath, stop all activity, get into a cool or shady area, and rest, especially if you become lightheaded, confused, weak, or feel faint.

### 6. Use Common Sense

Do not leave infants, children, or pets in a parked car. Bring your pets indoors with you to protect them. Give your outdoor animals plenty of fresh water, leave the water in a shady area, and consider wetting the animal down. Those at highest risk of heat-related illness are the very young, the elderly, and those who must work outdoors in extremely high temperatures. Sudden rise in body temperature and dehydration can lead to heat stroke or heat exhaustion. If not addressed quickly, brain damage or death can result. "High temperatures like those we expect in the next few days and throughout the summer can have serious health consequences." People can avoid lots of problems if they just use a little common sense such as: never leaving infants, children or pets in a parked car, as temperatures can soar rapidly and cause severe brain injury or even death; drinking plenty of fluids that don't contain caffeine or alcohol (these cause dehydration); staying indoors preferably in an air-conditioned environment such as libraries, stores, or restaurants; and, limiting strenuous activities between noon to 6 p.m., when temperatures tend to be highest.

Heat-related information can also be found from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention at: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.asp>  
Information about pet safety and heat can be found at <http://www.washoecounty.us/outreach/2015/04/2015-04-27-pets.php>

## **Eastern Sierra Transit Expands Mammoth Express Route!**

Eastern Sierra Transit is making your commute between Bishop and Mammoth a little easier. Starting Monday, July 6, 2015, there will two additional runs on the Mammoth Express route to accommodate an 8 to 5 work schedule in Mammoth. The bus will depart Bishop Kmart/Vons Center at 6:50am. There is a 5:20pm and now 7:00pm departure from Mammoth to accommodate those who may need to work a little later or want to stay in Mammoth for dinner.

The new departure times are:

North from Bishop - Kmart/Vons			
6:50am	7:30am	1:00pm	6:10pm

South from Mammoth - McDonalds			
7:50am	2:05pm	5:20pm	7:00pm

The Mammoth Express also stops at Tom’s Place (by request only) and at the Crowley Lake Community Center. All busses have bike racks available on a first come first served basis.

Commuting with Eastern Sierra Transit is very economical. There are several pass options available to reduce the cost of commuting even further. Discounted one-way fares and 10-puch passes are offered to seniors 60+, disabled, and youth 5-16.

<b>MAMMOTH EXPRESS FARES</b>		Adult	Disc	10-Punch	10-P Disc	1 Week	2 Week
Bishop to:	Mammoth	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$63.00	\$54.00	\$52.50	\$98.00
Tom's Place to:	Mammoth	\$4.00	\$3.50	\$36.00	\$31.50	\$30.00	\$56.00
Crowley to:	Mammoth	\$3.00	\$2.50	\$27.00	\$22.50	\$22.50	\$42.00

Contact ESTA at 760.872-1901 ext. 20 for more information or visit the website at [www.estransit.com](http://www.estransit.com)

**Entries Now Open for Fourth of July Parade**

Entries are now open for the annual Fourth of July Parade! Our theme this year is “No Small Adventure!” The parade will start at 11:00 a.m. The route will start at Chateau Road and Old Mammoth and end at A-Frame Fine Wine & Spirits. Entry fees are \$35 for non-Chamber members and no charge for Chamber members or non-profit organizations. Go to [www.MammothLakesChamber.org](http://www.MammothLakesChamber.org) to fill out an entry form or contact the Chamber at [info@mammothlakeschamber.org](mailto:info@mammothlakeschamber.org) or (760) 934-2712.

**2nd ANNUAL KICKcancer FUN RUN – June 27**

WHAT is KICKcancer?

KICKcancer is dedicated to helping families affected by childhood cancer THRIVE. Our goal is to empower through education—teaching the importance of real food, real health, and how to implement it into real life—both during and after treatment. We believe: When you know better, you do better.

When: Saturday June 27 race starts at 9:00am sharp, check in 7:45-8:30

Where: Whitmore Track and Field Complex

What: 5k (Starts and ends on the track. The course goes out onto Whitmore dirt road and back) and 1m (4 laps on the track) fun run.

Why: This year 50% of the funds will go to the Colflesh family and 50% will go to KICKcancer.

Registration: [www.kickcancermovement.com](http://www.kickcancermovement.com)

kickcancer-fun-run (race day registration 7:45am-8:30am)

- Ages 12 and under \$20, race day \$25
- Ages 13 and above \$35, race day \$40

This year there will be a raffle immediately following the race. Each participant will receive one raffle ticket. Additional raffle tickets will be available for purchase at the event.

**17th Annual Country Western Dance & BBQ – June 27**

The Southern Mono Historical Society invites you 17th Annual Country Western Dance & BBQ at the Hayden Cabin/Mammoth Museum is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2015 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. Music by Derik Olson & Friends plus Fiddlin’

Pete Country line dance instruction with Tina Sauser. DANCE ADMISSION FREE – DONATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS WELCOME! NO HOST BAR - BBQ PRICES: Adults \$20.00 / \$6.00 school aged kids (under 5 free with paid adult). Beef tri-tip, chicken, hot dogs with all the fixin's, BBQ beans, corn-on-the-cob, coleslaw & dessert. Join us for our annual fund raiser to help preserve Mammoth Lakes' history! For info call: (760) 934-6918

### **June Lake Trails Day – June 27**

Join Friends of the Inyo and the June Lake Trails Committee for the sixth annual June Lake Trails Day on Saturday, June 27 at 8:30am. We will be working on various trails around the June Lake Loop so there will be a job for everyone who comes out! Meet at the June Lake Community Center, by Gull Lake, at 8:30am, the projects will start at 9am. Make sure you stick around for the free lunch, provided by the Double Eagle, and the raffle! For more information email [casey@friendsoftheinyo.org](mailto:casey@friendsoftheinyo.org) or call (760) 873-6500.

### **Mammoth Lakes Half Marathon Clean-Up – June 28**

Join Friends of the Inyo for a clean-up around Lake Mary and the surrounding area sponsored by the Mammoth Half Marathon. We will meet at Pokonobe Lodge, off of Lake Mary Rd., at 8:30am and start the clean-up at 9am. The project will last until 12:30pm. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please wear work appropriate clothes and closed toe shoes. For more info email [info@friendsoftheinyo.org](mailto:info@friendsoftheinyo.org) or call (760) 873-6500.

### **Sierra Club Outing - June 28**

**Solitude Canyon** - Shuttle hike 7+mi, 700' elevation gain, strenuous. Begin Heart Lake trail head to the top of Sherwin Ridge, up to Red Cone for lunch. Descent approximatley 2000' down canyon off-trail. Well behaved dogs welcome. Meet 8am Mammoth Union Bank parking. Info Mary K [mkp@npgcable.com](mailto:mkp@npgcable.com)

### **Summer of Stewardship at Lake George – July 11**

Join Friends of the Inyo and MLTPA and give back to your public Lands on Saturday, July 11. Come out and do a little trail work for the second Summer of Stewardship day of the season! We will be meeting at the Lake George Trail head to work on the Lake George Trail and the TJ/Barrett Loop Trail. There will be a free bagel breakfast by Old New York Bagel and Deli and there will be a free lunch by Bleu Handcrafted Foods. During lunch there will be a free raffle for all of those came out to volunteer, so make sure you stick around! Meet at the Lake George Parking lot at 8:30am.

### **Volunteers Needed for USA Cycling MTB Nationals – July 14-19**

The 2015 USA Cycling MTB Nationals will be held at Mammoth Mountain from July 14-19. This is a very exciting event bringing thousands of mountain bikers to Mammoth from around the country to compete in Downhill, Dual Slalom, Cross Country, Short Track Cross Country, and Enduro. In order to make this event happen, we are in need of volunteers and hope that you can assist! Please click on the link below to see the various opportunities and to sign-up. Please also forward this to anyone you know who may be interested. Thank you in advance and please do not hesitate to reach out to me with any questions. For more information on the event you can visit: [www.mammothMTBnationals.com](http://www.mammothMTBnationals.com)

Volunteer Opportunities Visit: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050e49afae2aa02-20152>

All Volunteers Will Receive:

Event T-Shirt

- Complimentary Lunch/Meal
- Invitation to the Volunteer & Staff Thank You BBQ & Prize Giveaway on Sunday, July 19th @ 3:00pm at Canyon Lodge

Any Volunteer Who Works 8 Hours or More Will Receive (Choice of One Per 8 Hours):

- One Complimentary Entry into the 2015 Kamikaze Bike Games (Any Event)
- One Complimentary Ticket to the 2015 Mammoth Wine Walk on August 15th
- One Voucher Valid for a 2015/2016 Mammoth Mountain Lift Ticket

## Recreation Department Highlights

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### **Mammoth RecZone Now Open!**

The Mammoth RecZone is the coolest place to hang out this summer! The facility is an outdoor venue (with shade, lights, and concessions) located in the heart of Mammoth Lakes offering fun on skates, blades, boards, nets, hoops and on ramps. General admission is only \$2.00 for youth (\$3.00 adults) and includes access to volleyball, badminton, basketball, horseshoes, bean bag toss, blongoball, washer toss, skate ramps and more. Roller/inline skates are also available for rental. Guests are able to browse the complimentary internet or reserve their next birthday party or family gathering on wheels!

#### ***Have Your Next Party on Wheels!***

The Outdoor 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!

#### ***Contact Details***

Summer Phone: (760) 934-2505  
Year-round Phone: (760) 934-8989 ext. 222.  
Website: [www.MammothRollerRink.com](http://www.MammothRollerRink.com)

### **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](http://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...

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- June 13 Whitmore Pool Opening Day – FREE Swim Day!
- June 20 Mammoth RecZone Opening Day!
- June 22 U.K. Soccer Camp #1
- June 23 Drop-in Tennis Lessons commence at Community Courts

## Public Service Announcements

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### Reduction of Wildland Fire Fuels

**Website:** <http://www.mlfd.ca.gov>

Now that winter seems to have faded, the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District (MLFD) wants to remind residents of your responsibility to keep your property fire safe. Long term residents are aware of the wildland fire incidence that can occur around town and especially after dry winters and with windy, hot, dry summers. From just about anywhere in town one can see the results of previous fire activity and the scars that have been left behind.

Establishing and maintaining defensible space around our property is all of our responsibilities. We are all part of the team that will protect our community should we find ourselves in the situation of a wildfire threatening town. A well-maintained landscape enhances the beauty and value of any property— and just as importantly, the work serves as a fuel break. The goal is to keep your landscape lean, clean and green. The following steps can reduce your home’s vulnerability from the threat of wildfire and reduce your use of irrigation.

**ZONE 1: 30 feet or more adjacent to the home and beyond attachments such as wooden decks.**

- Within the first 10 feet of the home, use nonflammable landscaping materials (rock, pavers), or low level annuals or perennials less than 18 inches in height. There should be nothing flammable within 10 feet of the home.
- Keep this area lightly irrigated and free from dead or dry vegetation, combustible debris, and accumulations of leaf and needle litter. Plants should be carefully spaced, low growing and free of vegetation high in resins, oils, and waxes that burn easily. Mow lawns regularly.
- Prune all trees up 1/3 the height of the tree or so the lowest limbs are 10-15 feet from the ground. If adjacent to a structure, prune up to the eave level. Clearance shall be a minimum of 10 feet from chimneys/stovepipes. Keep roof surfaces clear.
- Thin out living vegetation 30 to 50% within this zone to decrease fire intensity and continuous path of travel.
- Allow space between tops of trees to reduce the risk of crown fire.
- Keep firewood stacks/piles at least 30 feet from the home. If this is not possible, from June 1 to September 30, cover entire woodpile with properly secured, fire resistive, California State Fire Marshal tagged tarp.
- Water plants and trees as needed to ensure they are healthy. Do not use finely shredded mulch and mulch should be wetted periodically.
- Areas around and above propane tanks need to be kept clear of vegetation for 10 feet.

**ZONE 2: Approximately 30 to 100 feet from the home (if your property size permits).**

- Leave approximately 30 feet between clusters of two to three trees, or approximately 20 feet between individual trees. Do not remove more than 1/3 of the crown density.
- Limit vegetation that serves as a link between low level vegetation and tree tops (ladder fuels).
- Prune trees so branches and leaves are at least 10-15 feet above the ground.
- Give yourself added protection with "fuel breaks," such as gravel walkways, and lawns.
- Remove any dead or dying material from yard and break up continuous patches of brush species to slow fire advance and decrease heat productivity.

Property owners who are unable to do this work themselves are encouraged to hire a licensed professional who both understand this information and can apply it to the property. MLFD maintains a list of qualified contractors that can perform this work.

Failure to comply with the regulations and clear your property in a timely fashion is not only expensive, but endangers the lives and homes of your neighbors, the community, and the firefighters who protect them.

If you would like more information on this or any other fire safety related matter, please feel free to contact the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department at (760) 934-2300.

### **Local Woodstove Replacement Program A Great Success - Limited Funds Remain**

A successful Town of Mammoth Lakes woodstove replacement program comes to an end after replacing 150 older wood-burning systems resulting in the annual reduction of thousands of pounds of particulate matter. Mono County still has a small amount of public benefit funds remaining, or enough to provide for several more installations across the County.

There has been a silver lining to Mono County's dry winter months: With funding from local government agencies, new and much more efficient and cleaner heating systems have been installed to replace old fireplaces and woodstoves throughout the area all winter long!

In addition to the economic benefits, air quality has been improved. Each new heating system emits far fewer pounds of wood-smoke emissions than the older log-burning systems. According to U.S. EPA figures, an open fireplace burning logs emits over 46 pounds of 'particulate matter' (PM) per ton of wood burned (average amounts vary with wood type and dryness), while a new fireplace insert burning the same wood emits about 29 pounds of PM emissions per ton burned. A new pellet insert emits only around 6 pounds of PM per ton of pellets burned.

With almost \$275,000 in 'Environmental Public Benefit Funds' provided by the local Air District, the Town of Mammoth Lakes was able to help fund the replacement of around 150 older wood-burning systems throughout Town, resulting in the annual reduction of thousands of pounds of PM as well as the reduction of carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, nitrous oxides, and volatile organic compounds.

And while the Town's Woodstove Replacement Program is closed, Mono County still has a small amount of public benefit funds remaining, or enough to provide for several more installations across the County. All funds are committed on a 'first come, first served' basis, and interested property owners are encouraged to immediately contact a participating woodstove retailer. Shared costs will be required.

To qualify for funding, an existing wood-burning system (woodstove or open fireplace) must be a building's primary heat source, it must be located within Mono County (apart from Mammoth Lakes), and it must fall under one of two types for designated funding:

- 1) For pre-1990 wood burning stoves and open fireplaces (not EPA compliant), \$1,500 may be available toward a new EPA Phase II wood-burning stove or fireplace, or \$2,000 toward a new pellet stove or gas system.
- 2) For woodstoves currently being used that are newer than 1990 (EPA Phase I or II-certified stoves, excluding pellet stoves), \$2,000 may be available toward a new, cleaner-burning pellet stove or gas heating system.

Participating retailers serving Mono County: Alpine Stove & Mercantile (760) 934-4416; Angelo's Stove & Chimney (760) 937-0860, Clean Sweep (760) 934-3453; High Country Lumber (760) 873-5874 - ask for Kim Jones; Manor True Value Hardware (760) 873-3106, and Batchelder Enterprises for new kerosene heating systems (760) 873-3800. For additional information, please contact: Lisa Isaacs, Administrator, Woodstove Replacement Program at (760) 914-0388.

### **Update - Lee Vining Rockfall Safety Project Begins May 4**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is preparing for construction on the Lee Vining Rockfall Safety Project. The project's purpose is to improve safety for the traveling public by minimizing rocks falling from the steep adjacent slopes onto US Hwy 395 in Mono County, north of Lee Vining near Mono Lake, from postmile 52.3 to 53.7. The project also includes a plant establishment program on the six slopes involved to reduce erosion, establish healthy soil, and promote successful revegetation.

Construction is scheduled to begin on May 4, 2015 with the installation of stormwater protection and construction signage. A temporary traffic signal will be installed on May 6th, and traffic will be reduced to one lane with a 24 hour / 7 days a week reversing traffic pattern. This signal system uses video detection to reduce traffic delays to the extent possible.

The traveling public should be prepared for daily lane closures with delays no longer than 20 minutes.

As of May 12th, one hour delays could occur Monday thru Thursday from 6:00 am to 7:00 am. Notices will be posted when exact dates become available for the one hour closures. The contractor awarded the project is Papich Construction Co. Inc. from Pismo Beach, CA. on March 26, 2015. The contract bid amount was \$5,799,999. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2015 or spring of 2016. Six portable changeable message signs will be used for public notices related to the project

## **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](http://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](mailto:mbraun@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

### **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 Resources 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](http://www.recyclesierra.com) or [www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://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](mailto: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](http://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:

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

**Do I need a business tax certificate?**

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

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**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.

### **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](mailto:tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us). Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

### **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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.crlaction.org).