



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**  
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## **Town e-News: November 1, 2019**

### **Town Announcements**

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#### **Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Community Center and Sidewalk Project**

Celebrate the completion of the Community Center Rehabilitation Project and the Lower Main Street Sidewalk project on Wednesday, November 6, 2019.

The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will commence at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center (1000 Forest Trail) at 5:00 p.m. and at the Lower Main Street Sidewalk (opposite the Fun Shop) at approximately 5:30 p.m.

The community is cordially invited and encouraged to participate in the ceremony.

#### **Southern California Edison Public Safety Power Shutoff Program (PSPS)**

Due to weather conditions that may create the potential for elevated fire risk, Public Safety Power Shutoffs (PSPS) are under consideration in parts of the SCE service territory. During such events, the utility will proactively turn off power in high fire risk areas.

The Town in coordination with Mono County created a dedicated Public Safety Power Shutoff webpage for updated information on potential power outages with real-time, interactive community maps. Please visit <https://monocounty.ca.gov/prepared/psps>.

This page also includes some basic resources for you to better understand the program and ensure that you are prepared in the event of a planned, or unplanned outage. Additional information about the PSPS can be found on the [Southern California Edison PSPS Outage Center](#) or by calling Southern California Edison at (800) 611-1911.

In addition, regular updates are posted on the Mono County Sheriff Facebook page, the Town of Mammoth Lakes facebook page and on the Town's website under 'Latest News and Announcements.'

#### **Get notified about PSPS events and other SCE outages near you!**

Sign up or update your contact information with SCE by visiting <https://www.sce.com/mysce/login> to receive emails, texts or phone calls about PSPS events and other outages in your area.

## Emergency Preparedness

### Public Safety Power Shutoff Portal

#### CURRENT OUTAGE INFORMATION

This page is designed to provide near-real-time information around Public Safety Power Shutoff events throughout Mono County. Information will also be posted regularly on the [Mono County Sheriff Facebook](#) page events evolve.

The buttons below provide quick links to ways to stay informed and get better engaged.

Get SCE Notifications

Code Red Registration

AFN Registration



#### **October 16, 2019 Town Council Highlights**

- The October 16, 2019 meeting was cancelled due to a lack of quorum.

#### **November 6, 2019 Town Council Highlights**

- Meeting highlights will be included in the December 6 edition of Town e-News

## Town Meetings & Events

### **Town Council**

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for **Wednesday, November 6, 2019** beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z with a tentative 2019/20 budget presentation. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

### **Commission/Committee Meetings**

Nov. 5	Recreation Commission Meeting, Ste. Z, 9:00AM
Nov. 5	Joint Meeting of the Recreation Commission and Mammoth Lakes Recreation, Ste. Z, 4:00PM
Nov. 13	Planning and Economic Development Commission Meeting, Ste. Z, 1:00PM

### **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.

## **Department Updates**

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### **PUBLIC WORKS NEWS...**

#### **Main Street Sidewalk Construction Project**

This summer, the Town continues to invest in our “feet first” efforts, encompassing pedestrian connectivity and safety with multiple sidewalk construction projects. Work along SR 203/Main Street is progressing well. In mid-August, the portion from Mountain Blvd. to Sierra Blvd. opened to the public, offering a beautiful new retaining wall and sidewalk; it will be completed in its entirety, including the bus stop, pending some minor touch-ups.

Main Street Sidewalk construction is nearing completion. Curb and gutter have been placed and new utility lines have been laid. The placement of the new sidewalks are on schedule to be completed this month. The final bus shelter is nearing completion and we expect all of the new transit shelters to be operation for this winter season. We are getting great feedback from the public on the section of sidewalks completed earlier this summer between Sierra Blvd and Mountain Blvd and we expect the public and businesses will be even more excited about the completion of final phase!

For additional information about the Main Street Sidewalk Construction project, please contact Haislip Hayes at (760) 965-3652 or via email at [hhayes@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:hhayes@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

### **PARKS AND RECREATION NEWS...**

[Hot Shots Basketball](#) starts on Tuesday, November 5, registration is still open. Focusing on an introduction to basketball, basic skills and building confidence in young players between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Hot Shots Basketball will take place on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Mammoth Middle School gym beginning November 5 and concluding on January 30, \$43 per child. November will focus on basic skills and practice and December we will break into teams and do practice games where we get to apply the skills we learned in November. December and January times will change to either 5:25 or 6:20 depending on game schedule. Parent coaches needed. [Register today!](#)

[Gymnastics](#) is back in Mammoth Lakes and also starts Tuesday, November 5! Join coach Kinsey Aherne for introduction to gymnastics classes Tuesday or Thursday evenings at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center. This structured, beginning level class focuses on basic gymnastics skills such as forward rolls, backward rolls, cartwheels, handstands and bridges, as well as other gross and fine motor skills. Students will begin to see an improvement in their coordination, agility, balance, strength and flexibility. In addition to gymnastics skills, students learn to follow instructions, take turns and cooperate with others. Pre K classes from 4:00-4:45 pm. Kindergarten – 1<sup>st</sup> grade from 5:00 -6:15 p.m. and 2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> grade from 6:30-8:00 p.m. [Register for Tuesday or Thursday classes or both!](#) \$78 for 6-week session beginning November 5, no classes on the week of Thanksgiving.

Registration is now open for the [LA Kings Mammoth Lakes Hockey Camp](#) on December 12 through December 15. Open to Mite, Squirt, Peewee, Midget and High School Hockey Players this camp will divide players by skill and age levels then work with LA Kings Alumni and Hockey Development staff to develop skill and confidence in your game. Register today!

[Toddler Time](#) is back at the Mammoth Lakes Community! Each session works on developing your young child's listening, social and behavior skills so they can transition better into pre-school or elementary school settings. Call or email Carole Mills to register at (209) 480-2699 or [carolebmills@gmail.com](mailto:carolebmills@gmail.com).

[Peadpod](#) takes place at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center every Thursday through November 21 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. This free program is designed for kids age 0-5 to socialize and develop through play! Check it out with your little one(s) this Thursday!

### **MAMMOTH LAKES POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS...**

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department is reminding citizens and visitors that from November 1 through April 30, no parking is allowed along city streets unless otherwise noted. Paid overnight parking is available throughout the winter at the following locations: Mammoth Mountain RV Park, at the Berner Street parking lot near the Village at Mammoth, and the Mammoth Yosemite Airport. Vehicles found parked in violation of these ordinances are subject to receiving a parking citation and/or in some cases, vehicles may be impounded at the owner's expense.

The cold winter temperatures have arrived, and the snow won't be far behind! Here are some suggestions from the National Safety Council to make sure that you are prepared. Winterize your vehicle by:

- Checking the ignition, brakes, wiring, hoses and fan belts
- Changing and adjusting the spark plugs
- Checking the air, fuel and emission filters, and the PCV valve
- Inspecting the distributor
- Checking the battery
- Checking the tires for air, sidewall wear and tread depth
- Checking antifreeze levels and the freeze line
- Your car should have a tune-up (check the owner's manual for the recommended interval) to ensure better gas mileage, quicker starts and faster response on pick-up and passing power.

An emergency on the road can arise at any time and you must be prepared. In addition to making sure you have the tune-up, a full tank of gas, and fresh anti-freeze, you should carry the following items in your trunk:

- Properly inflated spare tire, wheel wrench and tripod-type jack
- Shovel
- Ice scraper and snow brush
- Jumper cables
- Tow and tire chains
- Bag of salt or cat litter
- Tool kit
- Working flashlight and extra batteries
- Reflective triangles and brightly colored cloth
- Compass
- First aid kit
- Exterior windshield cleaner
- Wooden stick matches in a waterproof container
- Scissors and string/cord
- Non-perishable, high-energy foods like nuts, dried fruits, and hard candy
- Blankets and/or extra clothing
- Water

MLPD is very proud to offer a local Explorer's Program in partnership with the Mono County Sheriff's Office and the California Highway Patrol. Do you have or know a child who might be interested in Law Enforcement? Explorers meet weekly on Wednesday evenings and actively participate in police training including physical fitness, ride alongs, court procedures and local events. The requirements to join are: 14 years of age or older, graduated the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, maintaining a 2.0 GPA, no felony or misdemeanor convictions and be willing to work hard. For questions about the Explorer Program, please contact Officer Hansen at 760-965-3703 or dhansen@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.



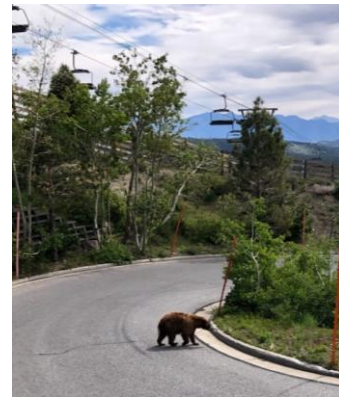
Another wonderful Organization that the Police Department oversees is the Mammoth Lakes CERT (Community Emergency Response Team). The CERT program educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. Using this training, CERT volunteers assist the town following an emergency or disaster. After joining, volunteers will participate in disaster exercises, and respond to disasters in coordination with MLPD, MLFD and Mono County Health Department. CERT is an all-volunteer group who assists first responders in time of disaster or community emergencies and also assists with traffic control for many holiday and special events. "Mammoth Lakes CERT: We are your friends. We are your neighbors. Please join us." CERT trains monthly to maintain their skills and involvement CERT training academies are held yearly. For information about the next academy, email: mammothcertinfo@gmail.com.



Wildlife Management Expert, Steve Searles, asks the public to please slow-down as wildlife is on the move now that colder weather has returned. There have been a number of wild animals hit and killed in Mammoth Lakes and most of these were hit-and-runs. Please take the time to report an animal car strike so that it can be assessed and relocated. Roadkill attracts other scavengers who then also fall victim



to being hit by a car. Call Steve anytime at 760-937-BEAR (2327) or Non-Emergency Dispatch at 760-932-7549, #7.



Mammoth Lakes Police Department is proud to offer residents' car seat inspections, education and replacement seats if needed courtesy of SafeKids Mono County and California Public Health Department Kids' Plates & Vehicle Occupant Safety Programs. On September 19<sup>th</sup>, during Child Passenger Safety Week, a car seat event was held at Mammoth Elementary School in which several families participated. MLPD and the Mono County Office of Education hosted this

popular event. Please contact Community Service Officer Kari Orr to schedule car seat inspection at 760-965-3710 or by email at: [korr@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:korr@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).



## **HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT NEWS...**

### **Work for the Town of Mammoth Lakes**

As we continue to grow and expand our workforce, the Town is pushing recruitment efforts with a number of exciting temporary and year-round employment opportunities! The Town of Mammoth Lakes knows our employees are our most valuable assets, which is why we strive to attract and retain the best talent. If you're committed to public service and you want to be part of the changing face of local government, apply now! Visit our [career portal](#) for more information.

### **Current Open Positions**

#### **Parks Maintenance Worker**

\$36,893 - \$51,912 plus competitive benefits. Full-time, year-round, excellent opportunity for anyone with general maintenance experience.

**Temporary Airport Maintenance Worker**

\$23.76 - \$27.50/hr. Full-time hours for the winter months.

**Temporary Snow Removal Operator**

\$23.76 - \$27.50. Full-time hours for the winter months, CDL required.

For more information and to apply, visit our [career portal](#).

**FINANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS...**

*This month's contribution will include items pertaining to business tax, transient occupancy tax (TOT), Tourism Business Improvement District assessment (TBID) and Cannabis Retail Tax (CRT). If you have questions or would like assistance with a business in Mammoth Lakes, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 965 3660.*

***Taxable Revenue List***

One of the primary functions of the Finance Department is to collect transient occupancy tax (TOT) and the Tourism Business Improvement District or (TBID) assessment. TOT is 13% and TBID is 1% of all taxable revenue associated with transient lodging rentals. TOT and TBID is collected by transient rental operators and remitted to the Town on a monthly basis. 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. Long-term rentals, 31 consecutive days or more, are not subject to TOT or TBID.

A common and frequently asked question from short-term rental operators is, "what are the taxable items associated with a short term rental?" The simplest way to understand what constitutes a taxable revenue is, any charge or fee required to be paid by the transient occupant in order to occupy the space, which is not intended to be refunded. In other words, if the revenue paid by the transient occupant is associated with occupying the space, it is taxable. Regardless of where the payment is allocated after the funds are transferred. In almost all instances, cleaning fees are mandatory cost for renting a property and are subject to the 13% TOT and 1% TBID assessment. Security deposits are intended to be held and refunded after a stay, unless used to account for damages, and is therefore not a taxable item. Alternatively, if instead of a security deposit a non-optional insurance payment is required to occupy the space, the insurance fee is taxable. Host fees charged to the operator by online rental platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO are a taxable item because the fee is paid by the transient occupant out of the rent. Additional examples are listed in the TOT Taxable Revenue List below.

If you have questions about taxable revenue or how to calculate the gross receipts for a monthly remittal, please contact the Finance Department at 760 965 3660. A print friendly version of the Taxable Revenue List can be found [here](#) on the Transient Occupancy Tax Information page on the Town of Mammoth Lakes website.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes
Updated March 2019



## TOT Taxable Items List

Typical Tax Base Included Items <small>(Basic area charges as fees required for the right to occupy space)</small>	Typical Excluded Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Nightly rent</li> <li>o Additional occupancy fees</li> <li>o CIVIC fees</li> <li>o Cleaning fees for linen laundering, pet, and footwear cleaning</li> <li>o Car/rental service charge fees</li> <li>o Linen/towel service</li> <li>o Pet occupancy fees</li> <li>o Required included consumables, fire, and alcohol fees</li> <li>o Online paid platform reservations and booking fees including book/service fees, guest service fees charged by online reservations sites ( fees billed and charged to operator based on year)</li> <li>o Rentet/ reservation fee fees</li> <li>o Security fees</li> <li>o Early late arrival and departure fees</li> <li>o Other occupied fees</li> <li>o Energy overcharges</li> <li>o "No show" rent charges/forfeited deposits and rents</li> <li>o Owner's guest usage if any of the above has been charged</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Basic fee optional charges for food and beverages, dining, coffee</li> <li>o Discounted rates if those rates are occupancy charges to guests</li> <li>o Repair costs if optional/required</li> <li>o Cleaning costs if additional/optional</li> <li>o Fees for screens, video games, etc</li> <li>o Not deposit fees kept</li> <li>o Non coin-operated safes</li> <li>o Package's coin occupancy pads if separately stated</li> <li>o Reservations and booking fees including book service fees, guest service fees charged by online reservations sites ( fees billed to occupant not finalized the operator)</li> <li>o Optional increases</li> <li>o Owner's guest usage if those rates are occupancy charges to guests</li> <li>o Parking fees if optional</li> <li>o Refunded advance rent or deposit transaction fees</li> <li>o Rental service</li> </ul>

This list is not exhaustive and is subject to change. Its purpose is to clarify taxable items to helping operators and owners.

## Public Service Announcements

### Leash Your Dog – It's The Law

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department would like to remind citizens that the Town of Mammoth Lakes has several ordinances to keep their animals and the public safe. The Mammoth Lakes Police Department has responded to an increasing number of dog-related incidents and may issue citations for dog owners in violation of the following ordinances:

**MLMC: 6.12.010 License (Required)** – *If you live within the Town of Mammoth Lakes limits the owner of any dog over the age of six months shall procure a town dog license and pay thereafter an annual license fee for each dog.*

**MLMC: 6.12.210 Dog at large** - *It is unlawful for any person owning, harboring, or having the care, custody or possession of any dog within the town limits of Mammoth Lakes to allow such dog to run at large. All such dogs shall be kept securely fastened*



*by a chain, rope or leash unless securely confined within private property legally controlled by the person in possession of the dog. Further, any dog off the premises of its owner, or the person charged with the care, custody or possession of the dog, shall be presumed to be at large unless it is securely fastened to a rope, chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length and is under the immediate physical control of a competent person.*

Pet ownership comes with the responsibility of humane care and management of their animal, along with a legal obligation as well. A dog owner is liable for a victim's injuries if their dog bites and injures the victim. These ordinances also apply at Town parks and facilities. Additional ordinances regulating the responsibilities of pet owners can be found in the Town of Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code ([https://library.municode.com/ca/mammoth\\_lakes\\_/codes/code\\_of\\_ordinances](https://library.municode.com/ca/mammoth_lakes_/codes/code_of_ordinances)).

### **When To Make A Bear Call**

#### **DO NOT CALL:**

- Bear walking through your property or neighborhood
- Bear in a tree

#### **OPTIONAL NON-EMERGENCY - call Wildlife Expert Steve Searles at (760) 934-2327:**

- Bear on porch or deck
- Bear in unoccupied vehicle
- Bear making regular visits to property or under deck or house

#### **EMERGENCY - CALL 911:**

- Bear inside any building or home
- Bear seen trying to open window or door of occupied dwelling
- Bear in confined space with human beings
- Bear apparently confronting human beings

### **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 adopted Exterior Lighting Ordinance 17.36.030 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).