



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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Town News

Town e-News – Week of January 14, 2013

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Jan. 23

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will be held on Wednesday, January 23, 2013 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Mobility Commission Transit Workshop – Jan. 15

Members of the public and business community are encouraged to attend the Mobility Commission Transit Workshop on Tuesday, January 15, 2013, in Suite Z beginning at 4:00 p.m. This workshop will provide the opportunity for the public to respond to the reduction in transit services as a result of the Town's recently adopted restructuring plan.

The Town's transit budget was reduced by 10% this year, which resulted in direct impacts to local transit services. In 2012, Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA) implemented several cost-saving measures to achieve the 10% reduction: Lakes Basin trolleys started one hour later, Dial-a-Ride service hours were reduced, and late-night winter trolley service was cut from 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. However, once ski season began, the lack of late-night trolley service (from Canyon Lodge to The Village to Snowcreek) was brought to Town Council's attention, and as a result, "one-time" money was secured to fund the late-night service for the rest of the peak winter season. The true cost of the 4 hours for two trolleys is almost \$40,000. Mammoth Mountain Ski Area partnered with the Town by contributing the necessary additional funding.

The Mobility Commission, ESTA staff, and Town staff are asking for public input at the meeting, or in any written form, noting the importance of current transit services to you, our guests, employees, and businesses. Town Council clearly stated its support of late-night winter trolley service by its recent action. Many changes and improvements have come about as a result of past suggestions from local transit riders, especially related to the continually increasing ridership of the Purple and Gray lines.

Participants are requested to bring questions about our local transit service to the workshop, where representatives from the Town and ESTA will be available to respond to all comments and questions. A goal of the workshop is to solicit comments and suggestions to help find ways to meet the transit needs of the community in these challenging economic times.

Written e-mail comments should be directed to Ray Jarvis, Public Works Director (rjarvis@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us) or to John Helm, ESTA Executive Director (jhelm@esta.com), or addressed to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Promotes New Sergeant

On January 10, 2013 Mammoth Lakes Police Chief Dan Watson promoted Officer Rick Moberly to the rank of Sergeant to fill the vacancy created by the retirement of Sergeant Paul Robles in December. Sergeant Moberly has been assigned as a patrol watch commander.

Sergeant Moberly is a seven year veteran of the MLPD. Prior to joining the MLPD, he spent one year with the San Diego Police Department and before becoming a police officer, he worked for Cal-Trans for 10 years as an engineer, including time as a supervisor. Sergeant Moberly was raised in Ventura and Bishop. He is married with two children.

Mammoth Lakes Police Recruitment for Police Officers

As a result of several actual and anticipated police officer vacancies, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) is initiating a recruitment drive for police officers. Existing P.O.S.T. certified officers (lateral) are encouraged to apply. Applications will also be accepted from entry level police officer candidates.

This is an opportunity for a challenging career in law enforcement in one of the most beautiful environments in the United States.

Anyone interested in being part of the future of the MLPD can obtain more information by contacting the Police Department Recruiter, Sergeant Marc Moscovitz, at (760) 934-2011 ext. 68.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, January 11, 2013 - Saturday, January 12, 2013 = 54%

(38% same weekend in 2012, up 16% in 2013)

Sunday, January 13, 2013 - Thursday, January 17, 2013 = 32%

(23% same midweek in 2012, up 9% in 2013)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 63% (Friday-Monday) 34% (Tuesday-Thursday)

Condos: 46% (Friday-Monday) 30% (Tuesday-Thursday)

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Community News

Time to Hunker Down – Influenza Has Arrived!

It's been a little over a month since our last Mono-Gram discussed the probability of an early and bad flu season. Well, it is now happening.

Across the country, influenza activity continues its sharp rise, with reports of influenza-like-illness nearing what have been peak levels during moderately severe seasons. So far, there is no peak in sight, and this is predicted to be the worst flu season in decades. States in the west and southwest, including California, have lagged the rest of the nation in flu activity. This only means that we get a sneak peek at what we will be facing in the weeks to come.

In the reporting period ending Jan 4, 2013, 42 states reported geographically widespread flu activity, 7 had regional activity, and one reported sporadic activity. During the previous week, 31 states reported widespread flu activity. The H3N2 strain -- typically associated with more-severe seasons -- continued to dominate, constituting 98 percent of influenza A viruses that were subtyped, with the other 2 percent being pandemic 2009 H1N1. The circulating strains continue to be well matched to the strains in the flu vaccine, and no resistance to antiviral drugs has been detected. The CDC reports that there have been 18 pediatric flu deaths so far this season. A number of otherwise healthy teenagers and young adults have died within 48 hours of becoming ill.

Southern California health departments have reported marked increases in visits to emergency departments and doctor's offices for respiratory illness during the month of December, much of which has been respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) instead of influenza. It appears that levels of influenza in Southern California were still low during the recent 2 week holiday period, sparing us a large influx of sick visitors. But that is changing.

Both visitors and locals returning from recent travel have brought the virus into our area in recent days. This is evidenced by a half dozen positive flu tests since the first of the year at Mammoth Hospital, and anecdotal reports from healthcare providers of increased respiratory illness, and of increased requests for Tamiflu at our local pharmacies. Therefore, we know the virus is here, and the most efficient spreader of the virus -- kindergarten -- is now back in session as of yesterday!

What should be our response locally?

- While the influenza vaccine is not perfect, and needs to be given every year, it is the best protection people have against acquiring the infection. Since the "flu season" has just begun locally, there is still time to be vaccinated. Contact your healthcare provider, pharmacy, or health department.
- Wash your hands often, and keep them away from your mouth, nose, and eyes.
- If you get sick, cover your cough, stay home, drink plenty of fluids, and get plenty of rest. Contact your healthcare provider if you have concerns.
- Remember, you do not catch a cold or the flu from being out in the cold -- you must be around someone who gives it to you. So, eat well, drink

plenty of fluids, dress warmly, and get plenty of exercise while you enjoy the beautiful outdoors!

Mammoth Moves – Jan. 16

Please join Stuart Brown, Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Manager, and the Nutrition & Physical Activity Taskforce for our winter series of Mammoth Moves! We will have FREE use of the ice skating rink and rentals, so bring your skates, or borrow some there!

Where: The Mammoth Lakes Ice Rink

When: Arrive at 12:10 p.m. Skate from 12:15-12:45 p.m.

Contact: Sandra Pearce at 760-924-1818 or spearce@mono.ca.gov. Also check out upcoming Mammoth Moves sessions at www.monohealth.com under Resources, or go to Mono County Health Department's Facebook page for the latest Mammoth Moves updates or schedule changes.

Website: www.monohealth.com/public-health/page/mammoth-moves

Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Mono-County-Health-Department/187046401307802

Robert Picardo And Linda Purl Are Coming To The Edison Theatre – Jan. 18/19

The Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre in cooperation with the Mammoth Lakes Foundation welcomes two Hollywood stars who bring added shine to its "Evening with the Stars" event taking place January 18 and 19, 2013 at the Edison Theatre.

"The play is Bernard Slade's 'Same Time, Next Year' that had a successful Broadway run and was also made into a successful film. As an added attraction Dubrovner has two levels of ticket prices. The staged reading alone is \$35 per person; add in wine and hors d'oeuvres and the ticket price is still a modest \$55 per person with the proceeds benefiting the theatre's programming and ultimately cultural enrichment in Mammoth.

Robert Picardo is a highly recognizable star from his work in television on "Star Trek Voyager" as the Emergency Medical Hologram, also known as The Doctor; as Mister Cutlip in "The Wonder Years," and as Dr. Dick Richards on ABC's "China Beach," as well as films including "Gremlins." While attending Yale, he landed a role in Leonard Bernstein's "Mass," a musical theater piece originally commissioned for the 1972 opening of the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. In 1974, armed with Yale B.A. in Drama, he enrolled at the Circle in the Square Professional Theater Workshop (a fellow alumnus is Kevin Bacon). His theatrical work prospered (in 1976) when he appeared in the David Mamet play "Sexual Perversity in Chicago," and with Diane Keaton in "The Primary English Class."

In 1977, Picardo made his Broadway debut in the leading role in the comedy hit "Gemini" with Danny Aiello then went on to co-star with Jack Lemmon in Bernard Slade's "Tribute" in 1978 on Broadway and in a west coast run which brought him to Los Angeles, where he decided to try out film and TV.

Linda Purl is just as highly recognizable from numerous television appearances, most recently in recurring roles on "True Blood," "Homeland," and "The Office." She has starred in over 40 made-for-television movies, and is known for her series roles as Charlene Matlock on "Matlock" and Ashley Pfister, Fonzie's fiancée, on "Happy Days." Broadway credits include "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer." Purl is the founder of the California International Theatre Festival and has appeared in

numerous regional theatre productions including at the Rubicon Theatre in leading roles in "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Love Letters" (*with Stacy Keach*), and "The Tempest." As a film actress, she has appeared in Disney's "Mighty Joe Young," among others.

Purl currently tours with her solo concert *Come Rain or Come Shine*, and her recordings include the solo albums "Alone Together" and "Out of this World: Live with special guest Desi Arnaz Jr." Born in Connecticut, Purl grew up in Japan, becoming the only foreigner to have trained at the Toho Geino Academy. Her studies continued at LAMDA, Neighborhood Playhouse and Lee Strasberg Institute.

Evening with the Stars takes place at the Edison Theatre across from Cerro Coso College at 100 College Parkway. Tickets may be purchased online at the theatre's website, EdisonTheatre.org, or by calling (760) 934-6592.

MCOE Winter Adult Education Classes

BizNet – Social Media for Small Businesses

Day: Mondays, January 14 – March 18

Time: 5:30–7:30 pm

Location: Cerro Coso College, Mammoth Lakes

Info: BizNet gives small business owners the basics of Social Media. Join us as we learn why Social Media matters in small business marketing, and get started with hands-on guidance, tips, tricks and peer support.

Cost: \$50 Fee.

Early Childhood Parenting Made Fun®

Day: Wednesdays, January 23 – March 13

Time: 3:00-5:00 pm

Location: Mono County Office of Education

Info: This class is for parents or childcare providers with children ages 0-5 yrs old.

Cost: \$8 for the workbook.

Becoming a Love and Logic Parent®

Day: Wednesdays, January 23 – March 13

Time: 6:00-8:00 pm

Location: Mono County Office of Education

Info: Love and Logic® provides simple and practical techniques to help parents with kids of all ages.

Cost: \$8 for the workbook.

For more information, contact Laura Timpano at ltimpano@monocoe.org or (760) 934-0031.

Recreation Highlights

Recreation Commission To Begin Recreation Facilities Planning Process

The Recreation Commission is developing a long-term (5+ years) capital investment program for recreation and the arts. This plan will guide future decisions as it relates to not only top-tier projects, and the Town's Capital Investment Program (CIP), but future recreation asset management strategies, and programming needs for both residents and visitors of Mammoth Lakes.

A three phase process has been established that will solely focus on recreation and at a later time, the Recreation Commission will replicate the process for the cultural arts and entertainment component. The first workshop is scheduled to commence on January 22, 2013, and culminate with a presentation to Town Council in the fall/winter of 2013. All Commission meetings and workshops will take place in the Town Council Chambers (Suite Z), located in the Minaret Village Mall at 2:00 p.m.

A dedicated page on the Town's website has been developed that will be used to advertise the process and provide information to the public. It will also include relevant information, reference documents and updated key findings. Please visit: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=512>.

The Recreation Commission is seeking comments and input from the community regarding the current planning documents or other projects or programs that you would like to see in Mammoth Lakes. Please forward your comments to Stuart Brown at sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us or attend in person at the scheduled workshops identified in Phase 1.

Phase 1 – Review of Existing Plans (3-4 months)

Phase 1 will take into consideration the vision and strategies of RecStrats, including recommendations identified in the Parks and Recreation Master Plan (PRMP), Trail System Master Plan (TSMP), and other adopted or relevant planning documents. Two-hour Workshops will be scheduled every month to dedicate time to review the documents, identify key findings, with adequate time to receive input from the public.

Schedule:

- January 8 – Review and confirm phased planning process (Staff will supply a standardized template for the Commission to utilize when reviewing planning documents).
- January 22 – Workshop: RecStrats II Implementation Strategy review
- February 5 – Update on process – additional review in necessary
- February 19 – Workshop: PRMP & TSMP Review
- March 5 – Update on process - additional review in necessary
- March 19 – Workshop: TOML General Plan, DRCEDS & South Gateway Master Plan
- April 9 – Review of Phase 1 process - additional review in necessary
- April 23 – DRAFT 5 YR CIP Review & Additional Plans
- May 7 – Commencement of Phase 2; develop agenda and tasks for May 21 workshop
- May 21 – Workshop: Elements of Phase 2
- June 4 – Review of Phase 2 process; develop agenda and tasks for June 18 workshop
- June 12 – Joint workshop with Planning Commission to discuss findings and next steps.
- June 18 – Workshop: Elements of Phase 3
- July 9 - Review of Phase 3 & next steps.

Phase 2 – Consolidation of Plans (2 -3 months)

Phase 2 is the consolidation of all the planning documents into one succinct document that identifies the key findings and recommendations from each plan. It will also identify the following:

- Planning gaps, and discuss tactics to acquire necessary information. Includes any future plans (Special Event study).
- A determination as to whether specific master plans need to be completed for each recreation facility.
- Role of public and how they will engage in the process.
- Required resources, funding and process for progression to Phase 3.
- Role of Commission, level of availability and participation by Town Staff in Phase 3, and a determination as to whether the final document can be produced by Town Staff or a consultant.
- Development of timeline for completion & Town Council presentation.

Phase 3 – Final Document (TBD pending level of detailed scope of work)

This document identifies the deliverables and the key objectives of a long-term Capital Investment Program for recreation. The plan should articulate and demonstrate the following:

- Demand for facilities (needs assessment/use data)
- Current Inventory of facilities
- Current asset management plan and budget (O&M)
- Recreation Level of Service (LOS) standards
- Future capital facility demand
- Future capital facility projects – integration with Draft 5 yr. CIP
- Future capital facility costs including O&M.
- Identification of potential partners, revenue sources and financing plans for construction, operations and maintenance of the proposed facilities. Includes: project feasibility and proposed project milestones.
- Next steps

Please contact Stuart Brown, Recreation Manager and Public Information Officer at email: sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us or (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 for additional information regarding this recreation planning process.

Mammoth Ice Rink Now Open

Get Your Skates on Mammoth Lakes, the Mammoth Ice Rink is now OPEN. The Mammoth Ice Rink is an outdoor facility located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the new Mammoth Lakes Library offering public skating sessions, hockey clinics, pick-up hockey, Friday night lessons and is available for rental. We ask for your patience and consideration during efforts to re-open the facility after a winter storm.

Admission

Adults skate for \$10.00 with skate rentals, youth (5-15) for \$8.00 with skate rentals, and kids 4 and under skate free with a paid adult. This winter get your 6th Skate FREE with the Five Skate Pass (5SP), Seniors and college students skate mid-week for half-price, and local students skate for only \$2.00 per session (including skate rentals).

Friday Night Lessons Begin Tonight!

Ice skating group lessons are scheduled every Friday night at the Mammoth Ice Rink. Lessons are scheduled for 45 minutes for a cost of only \$10 per student with a maximum of 8 students per session. Friday night lesson times are 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. for Elementary age children, 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. for Middle/High School age skaters, and 8:00 – 8:45 p.m. for adults. Purchase five lessons in advance and get the 6th Lesson FREE! Ice skates are not included in the fee, but are available for rental. Private lessons are available for \$25/hour.

Ice Hockey

Pick-up Ice Hockey is programmed at the Mammoth Ice Rink for the entire season (includes holiday periods). Please refer to the schedule for details. Fees are \$10 for adults or \$5 for youth per session, or \$150/\$100 for an Adult or Youth Season Pass.

The Mammoth Ice Rink is owned and operated by the Town of Mammoth Lakes through a partnership with Mammoth Unified School District and Mono County Office of Education. The facility is drug-free, smoke-free and pet-free. We accept cash, credit cards, and personal checks with a valid driver's license. For the complete winter schedule, rates and special promotions visit www.mammothicerink.com, or call the Mammoth Ice Rink at (760) 934-2505 during winter operating hours.

We'll see you on the ice!

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program

NEW SCHEDULE: Through March 2013, Saturday Gymnastics will begin at 11:30 a.m. We apologize for any inconvenience. Beginning October 19, 2012, the Wednesday session will now take place on Friday. No class on October 26 – join us at the Halloween Party at the Mammoth Roller Rink!

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

- 3 yr. olds – Saturday: 11:30 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
- 4-5 yr. olds – Saturday: 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.
- 5-8 yr. olds – Saturday: 1:00- 2:00 p.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – **Friday:** 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & **Saturday: 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Invitation only.

Five session Punch Cards are available for \$60 for the first family member and \$55 for each additional family member. Private lessons are available upon request, please inquire with the instructor. Drop-ins cost \$15 per session are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Zumba Fitness

Party yourself into shape with Zumba® Fitness offered by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Cost: 10 punch-\$77.50; 5 punch-\$42.50; Drop-In rate \$10 per class and your first class is only \$5!

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- CLOSED Reds Meadow, Tioga, Sonora and the Lakes Basin
- Nov. 8 Mammoth Mountain Opening Day!
- Nov. 17 Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center Opening Day
- Dec. 14 Mammoth Ice Rink Opening Day!
- Dec. 20 Snowmobile Adventures Opening Day
- Dec. 21 Woolly's Tube Park and Snow Play Opening Weekend

Public Service Announcements

Winter Parking Ordinance – Nov.1 – April 30

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department would like to remind residents, visitors, and business owners that parking is prohibited on Town streets between November 1 through April 30. Obstructing snow removal equipment is also prohibited.

The Police Department only enforces these sections when it is snowing, or after a storm while snow removal equipment is in operation. Motorists should be aware of weather forecasts and make sure their vehicles are off the street when snow removal equipment is operating or may be operating. Any accumulation of snow means the plows will be out and the snow removal is not complete until the snow blowers have removed berms created by the plows.

Vehicles should always be parked behind the snow stakes. Operating snow removal equipment is complicated and when there are heavy accumulations of snow, vehicles parked partially on the street side of the stakes cannot always be observed. A passenger vehicle struck by snow removal equipment can receive substantial damage and if the vehicle is parked on the street side of the stakes, the accident is the fault of the driver of the illegally parked vehicle.

Please help the Town of Mammoth Lakes in its snow removal operations by parking legally during Winter months.

Reds Meadow Area Open for Winter Use

Logging operations in the Reds Meadow Valley have been completed for removing down trees from the wind event of last November 30, 2012. Consequently, the area closures in the Reds Meadow Valley will no longer be in effect. While the Reds Meadow Road is closed to wheeled motor vehicles for the season due to snow, access to Reds Meadow Valley will now be open to winter public use, including snowshoer, skier, snowmobile and pedestrian traffic.

Before travel into the Reds Meadow Valley, visitors should be aware of winter conditions and hazards in the area. The Reds Meadow Road is not maintained during winter, and may be subject to avalanche hazard. No services are available in Reds Meadow Valley during the winter. In case of need for emergency communication, public pay phones are located at the Reds Meadow Resort, Devils Postpile National Monument Ranger Station, and across from the Pumice Flat Group Campground.

For more information, please call the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center at (760) 924-5500 or visit the Welcome Center at 2510 Hwy 203 next to the Mammoth Ranger Station.

Help Keep Mammoth's Air Clean This Winter

When the Town of Mammoth Lakes experiences periods of clear, cold, and calm weather with minimal breeze, the air quality deteriorates. Wood smoke from fireplaces and stoves cannot dissipate, and sometimes builds up to unhealthy levels that could have serious health consequences. To keep our air as clean as possible, please do your part by following these simple steps:

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

The Town of Mammoth Lakes continually monitors air quality, and will announce "no wood burning" days when air quality is forecast to approach unhealthy levels. To find out if wood burning restrictions have been announced, please call (760) 934-1010, listen to local radio announcements, or sign up for air quality notifications via the Town's Notify Me feature at <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/list.aspx>.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Town And Partners Begin Construction On The Mammoth Gateway Community Project!

The Town and its partners have begun construction on the Mammoth Gateway Community Project, which is a citizen-initiated, public-private partnership, to construct a gateway entry on Main Street. The Project, which was spearheaded by local citizen Mrs. Elizabeth Tenney, involves a number of partners that have contributed many hours and resources, including Snowcreek (Chadmar), Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA), Mammoth Community Foundation (MCF), Mono County, Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD), the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the United States Forest Service (USFS), and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, as well as a number of local citizens.

The Project, which was designed by local artist Larry Walker, (architectural services were provided by architect Bruce Woodward), is intended to reflect the unique environment, culture, and heritage of Mammoth Lakes, and serve as a welcome to visitors and residents. Construction is expected to be completed in mid-November.

For additional information below on the gateway project, please visit the dedicated webpage: http://mammothgateway.org/Construction_Updates.html.

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/>

California Mandates Recycling for Business and Multi-Family Residential Locations

A new State of California Bill (AB 341) directed by CalRecycle mandating commercial recycling in California goes into effect July 1, 2012. The Town of Mammoth Lakes will be providing education and outreach to help the community comply with the new regulations.

The goal of AB 341 is to increase the statewide recycling rates to 75% by 2020. Starting July 1 2012, businesses and public entities that generate four cubic yards or more of waste per week, including multi-family units of five or more will be required to recycle. The purpose of this new law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling efforts while expanding opportunities for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California.

Please use the following link for additional information provided by CalRecycle that addresses the "Frequently Asked Questions:"
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/Recycling/FAQ.htm>.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), Sierra Conservation Project (SCP) and Mammoth Disposal (MD) are taking active steps to assist businesses and multi-family residences to comply with the new regulations.

Brian Robinette, owner of Sierra Conservation Project commented, "This is a big step in the right direction for recycling and diverting recyclables from our local landfills. The new regulation will give the extra incentive needed to make recycling programs a reality at all Mammoth Lakes business and residential locations."

The TOML, SCP and MD have been working together for several years to develop and grow recycling programs here in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector states, "Now is a great time for local businesses to take advantage of the numerous recycling opportunities we have available in Town. Condominium complexes can also take advantage of the TOML and SCP's recycling programs which are currently providing start-up infrastructure to the complex at no cost - while supplies last."

The TOML and SCP have applied for additional grant money to continue to offset the start-up cost for multi-family and businesses here in town. Bear proof recycling containers are provided to participating condo complexes, and are serviced by SCP.

Pat Fenton, General Manager of Mammoth Disposal added, "Recycling is at the core of the company's goal of sustainability, and it's the core of our commitment to business owners and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to meet this mandate."

The following recycling programs are currently available within the Town of Mammoth Lakes:

- Commercial cardboard recycling
- Restaurant and bar programs
- Lodging and hospitality programs

- Business recycling
- Office recycling
- Residential recycling
- Aluminum, plastic, and glass
- E-Waste
- Used oil and batteries

Some of the benefits of recycling identified by CalRecycle are creating jobs in California, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, keeping valuable materials out of landfills, and creating a healthy environment for the community and future generations by recovering natural resources.

For more information regarding recycling programs and opportunities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, contact Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 or jgoetz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Town & MLFD Identify Potential Safety Issue

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Community Development Department (Town) and Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (Fire District) have identified an issue with inserted wood burning fireplace installations in town. If you have either a pellet/gas insert installation or a masonry flue/chase, these types of appliances or installations are not an issue. The issue is that wood burning inserts placed into zero clearance fireplace boxes (fireplace) with factory built metal flue pipes and wooden chases may not have adequate clearance to combustible materials (wood, plywood, and/or sheetrock behind the rock, brick, metal and/or wooden material that doesn't allow you to see on the interior surface of the fireplace façade). This issue can exist in all types of residential occupancies, from single family to multi-family projects. As a result of the clearances that may not have been met, combustible materials are igniting and several fires have resulted around town. Thus far there have been no injuries, but both the Town and Fire District feel that we cannot wait until something tragic occurs before we take necessary action. At this point both agencies are hoping to educate the town population to the concern.

The original fireplace contained fires that never obtained very high burning temperatures, due to the amount of heat that went up the flue. Once the insert was installed, the appliance burned much more efficiently causing the combustibles surrounding the original installation to be exposed to significantly greater heat levels. Another factor is the amount of use the insert is experiencing. The issue is occurring throughout town; no certain complex, no certain installer, no certain type of product, nor any other common characteristic that allows the agencies to narrow down the likely installations of concern. One complex in town had 23 of 60 units show some sign of heat damage to combustibles.

Permitted installations during the last 18 to 24 months that followed the manufacturer's installation instructions have been installed correctly. The Town and Fire District do not mean to alarm anyone, but strongly believe that this situation is serious enough to inform the public on the use and installation of these types of wood burning installations. If you need any further assistance or have any questions, please contact the Fire District at (760) 934-2300 or Town at (760) 934-8989, ex 244. For more information: <http://mammothlakesfd.intuitwebsites.com>

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 x245.

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 x245 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 x275 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:

1. Go to monosheriff.org
2. scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
3. click on it and follow directions.

Leash Law Reminder

Mammoth residents and visitors are reminded that the Town has a leash law, and it is a violation of the ordinance to allow your dog to run loose off of your property. While budget cuts eliminated the Animal Control Officer position, the laws pertaining to controlling your pets did not change, and you can still be cited by Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers if your dog is at large. The PD is currently receiving a large number of complaints from several neighborhoods, and will be targeting patrol time in those areas when possible to apprehend loose dogs and to cite their owners. In addition to the citation fine, you could also be charged boarding fees by Mono County Animal Control if we choose to impound your dog at the Whitmore Shelter.

At-large dogs are a traffic hazard, and even the most well behaved dog can bite if provoked. If your loose animal causes a traffic collision or injures/bites someone, you would likely be liable for damages, which could add up to thousands of dollars. Please respect your neighbors, AND your pet and obey the leash law.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has launched a community outreach effort to inform community residents that on July 1, 2011 many homes will be required to install carbon monoxide detectors.

The Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide. In an effort to prevent these accidental deaths and injuries, the California legislature enacted SB 183 (Lowenthal) which mandates owners of dwelling intended for human occupancy to install carbon monoxide devices in existing dwelling units having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage.

CO devices must be installed in all specified single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011. All other specified dwelling units must have CO devices installed by January 1, 2013.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) has developed a list of certified CO devices that meet the requirement specified within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010.

For a complete list of currently approved devices please visit the SFM's website at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenselisting_bml_searchcotest.php. Under the search categories provided select Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors for a complete list of devices.

Further details contained within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010:

- Owners shall install CO devices in a manner consistent with building standards applicable to new construction for the relevant type of occupancy if it is technically feasible. See the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4, and the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.
- CO devices shall produce a distinct audible alarm.
- CO devices may be combined with a smoke detector, if the combination device meets all specified SFM listing and approval requirements.
- Violation of Health & Safety Code Section 17926 is an infraction punishable by a maximum fine of two-hundred dollars for each offense.
- A local enforcement agency shall provide the property owner a 30-day notice to correct.
- Local jurisdictions are authorized to adopt ordinances requiring CO devices if the ordinance is consistent with the requirement of this bill.

For a full list of this legislation's stipulations please review the Department of Housing and Community Development's Information Bulletin 2011-01 at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/infobulls/IB2011-01.pdf>.

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.