



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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Town News

Town e-News – Week of September 2, 2013

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – September 4

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, September 4, 2013 in the Minaret Village Mall, Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

August Commission/Committee Meetings

- Sept. 10** Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 2:00PM
- Sept. 11** Planning and Economic Development Commission, Suite Z, 2:00PM
- Sept. 17** Measure U Application Committee Meeting, Suite Z, 8:30AM

Town Road Surfacing And Crack Sealing Fall Schedule

Beginning Tuesday, September 3, 2013 a contractor working for the Town of Mammoth Lakes will be performing surface treatments on the following roads.

- Beaver Trail
- Beaver Court
- Beaver Place
- Chateau Rd
- Old Mammoth Rd – from Main Street to Sherwin Street Road
- Meridian Blvd – from Minaret to Juniper Lodge

Work is scheduled to be conducted as follows:

- September 3-6 – Crack Sealing
- September 9-13 – Surface Treatments
- September 16-20 – Striping

Motorists should expect minor delays and traffic controls between 7:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on the roads and days described.

If you have any questions regarding the contracted work, please contact the Town of Mammoth Lakes Department of Public Works at 760-934-8989.

Pedestrian Master Plan Online Survey - Win \$100 Vons Gift Card!

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is updating its Pedestrian Master Plan and would like your input! The plan will establish policies, programs, and projects to further enhance pedestrian safety and connectivity in Mammoth Lakes.

The survey will be open until August 31, 2013. To take the survey in English, please visit the following link: www.surveymonkey.com/s/Mammoth1

Thank you in advance of your time!

Black Bear Activity Is On The Increase

The black bears in the Mammoth Lakes area have become very active over the past few weeks and the drought conditions mean that there will be high activity for the next three months. Recent sightings have been observed throughout Town, and second year cub has been very active in the Old Mammoth Area. Unfortunately, some residents have been encouraging bad bear behavior such as not properly securing their vehicles or residences. Some have also been reluctant to report problems with the bears to the Police Department or its Wildlife Specialist, Steve Searles.

Mammoth Lakes has a very successful bear management program that includes public education and aversive conditioning for bears. It's especially important for young bears, such as the one causing havoc in Old Mammoth, to be "taught" that certain behavior, such as entering cars or buildings for food, is unacceptable. The Wildlife Specialist spends many hours during the day providing public education and interacting with the bears, but he and the officers of the MLPD need to be informed when a bear is misbehaving.

Another big problem is created by unsecured dumpsters. It is vitally important for businesses, residents, and visitors to always properly secure dumpsters. All food, ice chests, and sweet smelling products like shampoo should never be left outdoors or in a car overnight. Bears are highly intelligent animals and when they see an ice chest they know it may contain food. So if a bear sees an ice chest in the back of a car or truck, they will figure out a way to get into the ice chest, and it's usually an expensive repair.

The best way of preventing bears from becoming dependent on humans for food is to follow these common sense rules:

- Never leave food out for bears or other wild animals
- Securely store food and fragrant items such as shampoo and deodorant in an airtight container. When camping, use a bear-proof box
- Don't leave food, even in a cooler, in a car, tent, or other unsecure location
- Don't leave pet food outdoors or use a bird feeder. Bears love bird seed!
- Put away picnic leftovers and keep barbecue grills clean
- Always deposit trash in a bear proof trash can or dumpster
- Keep your car locked and your garage door closed and locked
- Never leave food on or near a window sill or on a counter near an open window
- Close and lock ground floor windows when no one is home and at night

Bears that have been conditioned to rely on humans for food become unmanageable and unfortunately, sometimes have to be destroyed. Please help to keep our bears

healthy. Enjoy their presence, but do not encourage behavior that is harmful to them. DON'T FEED OUR BEARS!

For more information on co-existing with wildlife or to report a bear problem, contact the Town's Wildlife Specialist Steve Searles at (760) 937-BEAR.

Calls For Service/Officer Observations

166, including 0 business/building checks

Crime/Incident Reports

22 reports, including 6 arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

24 stops; 4 citations; 14 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 1 collision

Animal Control Incidents

3 incidents; 1 report

Wildlife

12 calls; 0 reports

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, August 30, 2013 - Sunday, September 1, 2013 = 65%

(61% same weekend in 2012, up 4% in 2013)

Monday, September 2, 2013 - Thursday, September 5, 2013 = 39%

(31% same midweek in 2012, up 8% in 2013)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 77% (Friday-Sunday) 38% (Monday-Thursday)

Condos: 54% (Friday-Sunday) 40% (Monday-Thursday)

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

Disclaimer: Social media communications regarding Town business may be subject to disclosure. Social media is not the official method of communicating with the Town. Please contact Town staff via telephone, in writing or in person.

Community News

Tioga Road Access To Yosemite Valley Closed

A portion of the Tioga Road, from Crane Flat to White Wolf, will be temporarily closed to all vehicular traffic beginning tomorrow, Wednesday, August 28, 2013, at 12:00 noon. The closure is necessary for firefighters to perform fire suppression activities along the road. This portion of the road is anticipated to be closed at least through Labor Day Weekend. The park will issue an update as conditions allow for the reopening of the road.

"The work that will be performed over the next few days is instrumental in suppressing the Rim Fire within Yosemite. The safety of the firefighters working along the road is our paramount concern," stated park Superintendent Don Neubacher.

Tamarack Flat and Yosemite Creek Campgrounds, both located along the Tioga Road within the closure, will remain closed during the fire suppression efforts. White Wolf Campground and White Wolf Lodge will remain closed. The Tioga Road will remain open east of White Wolf to the Tioga Pass Entrance. The Porcupine Flat Campground, the Tuolumne Meadows Campground, and all visitor services within Tuolumne Meadows will remain open.

Highway 41, from the southern portion of the park, and Highway 140, from the western portion of the park, will remain open. Both of these roads provide access to Yosemite Valley.

A fund to help the park restore trails, facilities, and wildlife habitat has been established by the Yosemite Conservancy. People wishing to contribute to the fund can donate online at yosemiteconservancy.org/fire. People can also donate via mail by sending donations to Yosemite Conservancy 101 Montgomery, Suite 1700 San Francisco, CA 95104.

For up-to-date Yosemite information regarding the Rim Fire, please visit the park's website at: <http://www.nps.gov/yose/planyourvisit/rimfire.htm>.

For up-to-date press releases please visit: <http://www.visitmammoth.com/media/press-releases>

Mammoth Kamikaze Bike Games – Volunteers Needed!

Calling all recreation enthusiasts: please help Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation at the upcoming Kamikaze Bike Games and Fall Century/Gran Fondo September 4-8! Volunteers working at least 6 hours during the event receive a t-shirt, free meal and a voucher for a discounted Mammoth Mountain lift ticket. Sign up here: <http://www.kamikazebikegames.com/volunteers.html> OR email stacy@mammothfoundation.org for more information.

14th Annual Golf Classic - Supporting Higher Education And Cultural Enrichment In Mammoth Lakes – Sept. 8

Your participation helps us keep College in Mammoth vibrant and alive! Play at beautiful Sierra Star Golf Course in the 14th Annual Mammoth Lakes Foundation Golf Classic on Sunday, September 8, 2013, and your support makes the dream of college come alive for scores of our youth through scholarships to Cerro

Coso Community College. We rolled back the player registration fee to \$99 through August 31st. Play and meet some of the people you are helping. Visit: www.MammothLakesFoundation.org for additional information or call (760) 934-3781.

The Perfect Game: Mammoth Rock 'N Bowl Scheduled to Open This Winter

Bowlers, golfers, and foodies alike will all have a ball when Mammoth Rock 'n Bowl opens early winter 2013/2014 at Mammoth Lakes, California. The new state-of-the-art bowling and recreation center will combine a bowling alley, golf simulators and an upscale restaurant and lounge, giving visitors and locals alike another option for winter recreation and an ideal place to relax in between hitting the slopes.

Stepping inside the Mammoth Rock 'n Bowl, visitors will realize it's not their grandparents' bowling alley. The look and feel will be contemporary and upscale, featuring 12 lanes of bowling, a full bar and a restaurant. On the second level, three indoor golf simulators with 12-foot-wide, high-definition screens will allow customers to hit real golf balls with real clubs. Thanks to computerized graphics of world famous courses players will feel as if they've been transported to Pebble Beach or the Old Course at St. Andrews. Golfers can take lessons, have their clubs fitted and participate in leagues as well as longest drive and closest-to-the-pin contests.

"Instead of the bowling alleys of year's past, this will be an upscale state-of-the-art indoor recreation center complete with a lounge-type experience," said Managing Partner Dan O'Connell. We'll have bowling, a lively lounge with live music, an upscale restaurant, golf simulators and more.

The bowling center will feature modern lighting and sound systems, providing traditional lighting during league and open play. On some weekends and holidays, late nighters can enjoy glow/cosmic bowling with laser light effects and dance to tunes spun by a DJ.

Other features include darts, ping-pong tables and a laser maze attraction, where players must negotiate a web of laser beams in a particular amount of time to compete for the top scores, posted on a monitor outside of the room. Spring, summer and fall, horseshoes and bocce ball will be available off the downstairs patio.

The dining experience is planned around a creative, eclectic menu and the spectacular views of the Sherwin Range and Mammoth Mountain that diners will enjoy from the restaurant. The upscale restaurant will feature the cuisine of Mammoth chef Matt Eoff and will be a dramatic departure from the standard fare found in traditional bowling center diners and snack bars.

For more information visit <http://Facebook.com/MammothRocknBowl>

Caltrans to Close San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge Throughout Labor Day Weekend

Caltrans is urging travelers who will be making a trip to the San Francisco Bay Area during Labor Day weekend to plan ahead, choose an alternate route now, and allow plenty of extra travel time because the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge will be closed.

The bridge will be shut down from 8 p.m., August 28, until 5 a.m., September 3, while workers take the bridge's original East Span out of service and open the new bridge to traffic. Anyone interested in more details about the closure should visit

<http://baybridgeinfo.org/>, or call 511 for traffic updates or visit <http://511.org/> to find out which other Bay Area bridges are available as detour routes.

Nearly 300,000 motorists daily cross the iconic bridge that connects San Francisco with Oakland, Berkeley, and other East Bay cities.

Thanks to the public heeding previous warnings, Caltrans successfully closed the bridge without significant traffic backups during Labor Day weekends in 2006, 2007, and 2009. Taking advantage of historically light traffic on the bridge during the holiday weekend helps minimize disruptions to motorists, residents, and businesses.

Mammoth Lakes Changeable Message Sign Project

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has begun a project to install a changeable message sign on eastbound 203 0.2 miles east of Meridian Blvd. The purpose of this sign is to alert travelers departing from the Mammoth Lakes area of the driving conditions on US Hwy 395. Winter snow and ice and associated chain controls, as well as the potential for year round high winds will be conveyed in real-time to allow drivers to make better trip decisions and encourage safer driving. Construction is expected to be complete by August 2013. The contractor for this \$155,552 project is Traffic Development Services, Inc. from Moorepark, CA.

Recreation Department Highlights

Mammoth Roller Rink Closes Saturday!

Bring a friend or family member to the Mammoth Roller Rink before we close on Saturday, August 31 and get 2 for 1 on skate rental (value \$3.00). The facility is located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Library and opposite Mammoth High School. The facility operates from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Thursday thru Saturday evening – under lights. Low admission fees for students (\$2.00 MUSD/MCOE) make it one of the most affordable recreation activities in Mammoth Lakes. For the 2013 summer season, adult and youth admission is only \$4.00 (Thursday/Friday), skate rentals are \$3.00 per session (4-hours), and kids 4 and under get in for free with a paid adult. This summer get your 6th Admission FREE with the Five FUN Pass (5FP). It's only \$30 for adults and \$20 for youth (5-15 yrs.) and every 6th visit is FREE!

Grand Finale Next Week For Town Coed Softball League!

The public is welcome to participate in the final nights of our local adult softball league scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, and Thursday, September 5, at Shady Rest Park from 5:00 p.m. to dark. On tap for Tuesday evening we have match ups between the MENTAL MISTAKES and CLOCKTOWER, PITCHES BE CRAZY and OUTLAWS, plus many others like the WESTIN SLIDERS vs. SOFTBALLZ DEEP.

Standings are too close to tell who will win this year. Top four teams are: PRESSON CONSTRUCTION, SHADOW CREW, BLACK TIE, and I'D HIT THAT!

Grab a burger or dog and cheer on your favorite team and umpire! Special priced fan and spectator appreciation dinners will be available for \$1 on Thursday night. Our famous awards party will follow around 8:00 p.m. at the Clocktower Cellar.

Whitmore Pool Closes For Lap Swim Sept. 6

Lap swimming will continue through Friday, September 6, 2013. Lap swim is offered every midweek morning, and on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Admission fees are \$4.50 for adults, \$2.75 for seniors/military and youth, and only \$1.50 for children (1-6 yr. olds). Call (760) 935-4222 for additional information.

We Want To Hear From You!

The Recreation Department would like to hear what you have to say about our products and programs – the good and bad! If you participated in one of our many youth and adult programs, or enjoyed one of our parks or facilities, please take the time to complete the Customer Satisfaction Survey online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PZ3JCYQ>. Customer Satisfaction Survey's are also available for collection from the Recreation office located in the Minaret Village Mall, above Giovanni's. Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for additional information.

Skip's Farmers Market – Ongoing, Weather Permitting

Skip's Market is now meeting every **Wednesday from 4-7 p.m.** on the Main Street frontage road in front of the Luxury outlet malls. Available for purchase are fresh grown fruits, vegetables, flowers, and other various merchandize from other non-farming vendors and artists. For more info please call Kathleen at (760) 937-0889.

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program Is Back!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Participants will learn to tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a recipient of Measure R funding with over \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail.

- 3 yr. olds – Saturday: 8:45 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- 4-5 yr. olds – Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
- 5-8 yr. olds – Saturday: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Saturday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Invitation only.

Five session Punch Cards are available for \$60. 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!

Recreation Department Launches Online Registration

In an effort to improve customer service and streamline operations, the Recreation Department – compliments of Measure R, has partnered with the Active Network to provide 24/7 web-based activity and facility reservations. To begin, visit us online at www.mammothrecreation.com, click on the *Online Activity/Facility Reservations* tab and your first step is to **"Request Account."** All you need is an email and password. The system will allow you to register online for an activity, reserve a facility or request Measure R equipment...it's fast and easy! Please drop by the office or call us at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 if we can be of assistance to you.

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.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, 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!

Public Service Announcements

Town Amends Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code Regarding Woodstove Inserts

On March 20, 2013, Town Council adopted a resolution amending the Town ordinance establishing standards for new and reconstructed woodstove inserts. Over the last several decades, large numbers of open fireplaces in town have been modified by the installation of woodstove inserts. However, neither the Town nor the fire district nor the woodstove insert manufacturers have had clear and consistent standard governing how the inserts must be installed. The result has been installations that have been demonstrated to be unsafe by a number of fires occurring around woodstove inserts in town.

The fire district and Town staff jointly developed installation standards for woodstove inserts, which are contained in the new ordinance. The ordinance also contains a list of approved woodstove insert manufacturers, but allows contractors and homeowners to request the building official to add other manufacturers.

The amended ordinance would require all new woodstove insert installations to meet the new standards. Recognizing that reconstruction of existing woodstove insert installations can cost several thousand dollars, the ordinance does not require immediate removal and reconstruction of existing inserts. Instead, the ordinance requires nonconforming inserts to be removed or reconstructed upon sale of the residential unit, or by October 31, 2022 if no sale of a particular unit has occurred before then.

Because the woodstove insert installation standards constitute a local amendment to the requirements of the California Mechanical Code, the ordinance includes the specific findings necessary for such local amendments. The findings acknowledge that the unique climatic, geological, and topographical conditions in Mammoth require these amendments. Please contact Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector, Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 for additional information.

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.

Boxer Applauds President Obama for Signing the 'Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act'

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) today praised President Obama for signing her bill, the Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act, into law. This legislation will name a mountain peak in Mono County "Mt. Andrea Lawrence" in honor of the renowned conservationist, three-time Olympian and former member of the Mono County Board of Supervisors who passed away in 2009. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent, and passed the House on a 408 to seven vote.

"I am so pleased that President Obama signed this bill honoring the life and contributions of one of Mono County's most distinguished residents," Senator Boxer said. "Andrea Lawrence dedicated her life to protecting the treasures of the Eastern Sierra. Her passion and achievements were larger than life, which is why I cannot think of a more fitting tribute than to name this majestic peak in her honor."

Andrea Mead Lawrence was a three-time Olympian who remains the only American double Olympic gold medalist in alpine skiing. She was inducted into the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1958 at the age of 25, and in 2002, sports writer and documentary filmmaker Bud Greenspan called her "the greatest Winter Olympian of all time."

Lawrence was also a committed conservationist who worked to protect and restore Mammoth Lakes, Mono Lake, Bodie State Historic Park and other important natural and cultural resources of the Eastern Sierra. She served for 16 years on the Mono County Board of Supervisors as well as on the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District and in 2003 founded the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers to promote environmental protection and economic vitality in the region.

Peak 12,240, previously identified only by its elevation, is located in Mono County near the Tuolumne County border. It is on the border of the Ansel Adams Wilderness, just east of Yosemite National Park. The John Muir trail passes close to the peak.

Senator Boxer and Congressman Buck McKeon (R-Santa Clarita) – who sponsored identical House legislation – first introduced the legislation during the 111th Congress. Supporters of this bill include Andrea Lawrence’s family, the Mono County Board of Supervisors, the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, the Mono County Democratic Central Committee, the Mammoth Town Council, the Mono Lake Committee, the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers, the Sierra Nevada Alliance, the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Town of Mammoth Lakes Council Member Wendy Sugimura and former Mono County Supervisor Tim Alpers.

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.

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/licenseslisting_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.