



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**

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## **Town News**

### **Town e-News – Week of January 13, 2014**

## **News from the Town Manager**

### **Town Council Meeting – Jan. 15**

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2014 in the Minaret Village Mall, Suite Z beginning at 5:00 with a Recreation Commission workshop. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

### **January Commission/Committee Meetings**

- Jan. 13 Mammoth Lakes Trail System Coordinating Committee (MLTSCC) Meeting, Suite Z, 1:30 PM
- Jan. 14 Measure U Application Committee Meeting, Suite Z, 8:30 AM
- Jan. 15 Town Council Meeting, Suite Z, 6:00 PM
- Jan. 27 Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) Steering Committee Meeting, Suite Z, 3:00 PM

For a complete listing of Town meetings, please visit: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/calendar.aspx>

### **Town Administration Offices Closed On Friday**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Administrative Offices located on the second floor of the Minaret Village Mall will be closed to the public every Friday. Appointments with staff are available on Fridays by reservation only, for the submittal of plans, permits, payments, etc. so please plan ahead accordingly. There will be no changes to the daily operations of the Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mammoth Yosemite Airport or the Public Works Department.

This office closure is an initiative to enhance the productivity and efficiency of employees. Town Council established Priorities for Fiscal Year 2013/14 that included the provision to provide sufficient resources and support to Town staff to effectively do their work. Goals of effective management include: commitment to increase IT funding, support additional funding for the replacement of the finance system, fund sufficient staffing in the Town's departments that provide critical services (finance, Public safety), and to encourage an increase in productivity without reducing service levels.

The Town encourages our residents and visitors to purchase their Recreation products or reservations online at [www.mammothrecreation.com](http://www.mammothrecreation.com) or by calling (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 Monday through Thursday.

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) and TBID remitters are also able to pay their taxes conveniently online. Please copy and paste the following links in your internet browser for additional information or to create an account.

TOT: <http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=201>

TBID: <http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=550>

For additional information regarding the Friday office closure beginning January 3, 2014, or to make an appointment with staff, please call (760) 934-8989 and follow the prompts.

### **Town Channel 51 Has Moved!**

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

### **MLPD Reports a 27% Reduction of Crime in Mammoth Lakes**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes had a 27% reduction in Part One crimes and reductions in Injury, Hit and Run, and DUI traffic collisions in 2013 when compared to the previous year. The Part One crime rate is down 35% when compared to two years ago.

The Chart below shows the break down by type of crime and type of traffic collision. All crimes showed a double digit decrease except for auto theft which increased from two stolen cars in 2012 to six in 2013.

Only Injury, Hit and Run, and DUI collisions are shown. Since not all non-injury accidents that don't involve Hit and Run or DUI are reported, those reports are not included because they could skew the accuracy of the data. There were no traffic fatalities in 2013. Because of the reduction in police staffing, traffic citations were down over 30%.

Police Chief Dan Watson said, "The substantial drop in crime and traffic collisions is good news for our residents and visitors, especially since visitation was up in 2013. But, because we are a small town without much crime to begin with, large percentage swings are not unusual. Still, this is a good trend with two consecutive years of double digit crime reductions."

#### MAMMOTH LAKES CRIME AND TRAFFIC STATISTICS

<u>CRIME</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
Murder	0	0	No change
Rape	3	0	-300%
Robbery	9	5	-44%
Assault	92	64	-30%
Burglary	55	33	-40%

Larceny	146	115	-21%
<u>Motor Vehicle Theft</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>+200%</u>
Total	307	223	-27%
<u>TRAFFIC</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>% CHANGE</u>
Injury Collisions	18	12	-33%
Hit and Run Collisions	37	35	-5%
DUI Collisions	13	7	-46%

### **Calls For Service/Officer Observations**

209, including 2 business/building checks

### **Crime/Incident Reports**

16 reports, including 10 arrests

### **Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions**

79 stops; 8 citations; 35 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 0 collisions

### **Animal Control Incidents**

5 incidents; 0 reports

### **Wildlife**

0 calls; 0 reports

### **Projected Average Resort Occupancy**

Friday, January 10, 2014 - Saturday, January 11, 2014 = 37%

(54% same weekend in 2013, down 17% in 2014)

Sunday, January 5, 2014 - Thursday, January 9, 2014 = 21%

(32% same midweek in 2013, down 11% in 2014)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 39% (Friday-Saturday) 21% (Sunday-Thursday)

Condos: 35% (Friday-Saturday) 22% (Sunday-Thursday)

## **Community News**

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### **Sprint U.S. Grand Prix Returns to Mammoth!**

From January 16-19, 2014 America's best snowboarders will compete on Mammoth's famed Unbound terrain park and superpipe to determine who among them will represent the United States at the Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. As the final stop of the Grand Prix series, Mammoth will be the location where the Men's and Women's halfpipe and slopstyle Olympic teams will be formally named and broadcast on NBC.

The event will air on the following days:

- January 17, 2014 at 4 p.m. EST on NBCSN
- January 19, 2014 at 3 p.m. EST on NBC, and
- January 20, 2014 at 1 p.m. EST on NBCSN

Check out these Grand Prix events: Mammoth Mountain will have Z-Trip and Brillz on January 17th at the Underground Lounge. On January, 18, check out The Faint at Canyon Lodge and Danny Brown at the Underground Lounge. For a full competition and broadcast schedule please visit: [www.ussnowboarding.com](http://www.ussnowboarding.com).

### **2014 Eastside Know-How Series Begins Jan. 14**

Inspired by TED Talks! Eastern Sierra locals, famous for their creativity, ingenuity and resourcefulness, will share their "How to..." secrets in six power-packed minutes each over three evenings. Eastside Know-How talks begin at 6:15 p.m. – No-host drinks and appetizers preceding talks. FREE ADMISSION.

Save these Tuesday evenings at Rafters Restaurant:

- January 14, 2014
- February 11, 2014
- February 25, 2014

Donations will be accepted each evening for Disabled Sports of the Eastern Sierra (1/14), Wild Iris (2/11) and Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary (2/25). A portion of the evening's proceeds at Rafters will be donated as well according to Brent Truax, The Sierra Nevada Resort General Manager.

*On Tuesday, January 14,*

In just six minutes per talk you'll learn:

HOW TO...

- Brew a beer that says "Eastern Sierra" – Sean & Joyce Turner, Mammoth Brewing Co.
- Avoid creating a Bridezilla when planning an Eastside wedding - Sandra DiDomizio, Green Fox Events.
- Fight a wildfire in the air and on the ground – Brent Harper, Fire Chief, MLFD & Air Attack firefighter with Wendilyn Grasseschi, former "Hot Shot" firefighter.
- Train at high elevation – Andrew Kastor, head coach, Mammoth Track Club & Deena Kastor, 3-time Olympian.

--20 minute break--

- Win a ski race - Robin Morning, US National Alpine Ski Team, 1968 Olympic Alpine Ski Team, Grenoble, France; author, Tracks of Passion.

- Master three fundamentals of great skiing - Jack Copeland, former Director, Mammoth Mountain Ski School.
- Avoid a stroke or heart attack at altitude - Dennis Schumacher, M.D.
- Capture Sierra light with a camera - John Dittli, Dittli Photography

### **2014 Marks 25th Anniversary Of The Mammoth Lakes Foundation**

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation is pleased to announce the 25 Anniversary of its founding and begins a year of celebration with the introduction of its newly designed logo. Begun in 1989 by Dave McCoy and a group of civic-minded citizens, including Warren Miller, and the first Board of Directors--Tom Dempsey, Jack D. Smith; Dick Goetzman; Joel R. Baker; Robert D. Hart; Dan Haydon, and Evan Russell, the Foundation continues in its successful mission of supporting higher education and cultural enrichment in the Eastern Sierra. Bringing change and opportunity--including a college, to the Mammoth Lakes Community was and remains the goal of the Foundation.

"What many people might not realize, is that it is specifically due to the efforts of the Foundation, its Board and supporters that not only is there a college in Mammoth, but that college continues to grow and prosper," commented MLF CEO/President Evan Russell. "Last year Cerro Coso saw the largest graduation class to date, many of those local students aided by scholarships provided through the Foundation.

In addition, our contributions to cultural enrichment through expansion of arts offerings has been ably supported by the addition of Shira Dubrovner and the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre as a component of the Foundation."

Deanna Campbell, Director - Eastern Sierra College Center, Cerro Coso Community College stated, "Approximately 30% of local high school students in Inyo and Mono counties are enrolling in Cerro Coso after high school graduation, with nearly 100 students supported by local scholarships provided by Mammoth Lakes Foundation and Eastern Sierra Foundation."

No one is more excited about the Foundation's Scholarship results and its plans for the future, than its Founder, Dave McCoy. "In the last few years we've heard so many incredible stories of people from Mammoth and Bishop continuing their education here and going on to be doctors, nurses, therapists, artists, marketing professionals, educators and engineers," McCoy recently stated. "They're advancing on to some of the nation's best four-year institutions and excelling...let's see what happens in another 25 years!"

The Foundation wanted to do something special to commemorate the Foundation's Silver Anniversary, with a design that celebrated the past and looked toward the future. "We wanted to keep the key components that identified the Foundation," said Development Director Greg Bissonette, "but dress it up in celebration of this anniversary. We're very pleased with the final design and look forward to 2014 and beyond continuing the success we've seen in the first 25 years to date."

Activities supporting the 25th Anniversary will include a celebratory component at the July 11-13th Mammoth Food & Wine Experience. Watch for details.

### **Leonard Nimoy's VINCENT Arrives at Edison Theatre from Jan. 17 & 18**

The one-man play, Vincent, written by Leonard Nimoy, appears at the Edison Theatre for two nights only, January 17th and 18th. The story takes place a few days after the death of little known painter Vincent Van Gogh. Rumors fly around

Paris--some say Vincent was a penniless madman, a frequenter of prostitutes, a derelict and soon to be forgotten artist of trifling quality; others denounce him as a wayward priest and a foreigner. There are whispers that he took his own life in a moment of insanity. His brother Theo, Vincent's confidante and lifelong supporter, is enraged. He hopes to set the record straight.

Written by Leonard Nimoy, and inspired by Phillip Stevens' play Van Gogh, the renowned actor, writer, film director, poet, musician and photographer expanded on Stevens' work. He drew on a treasure trove of source material -- over 500 letters written between Van Gogh and his brother Theo in the ten years Vincent struggled to master his art. Nimoy appeared in the play when it made its debut, and has passed the baton to actor Jean-Michel Richaud.

"As performed by French-born actor Jean-Michel Richaud, this insightful and often moving 1981 solo show penned by Leonard Nimoy transcends the usual clichés surrounding the high-maintenance artist with the tortured relationship to his aural appendage," said Philip Brandes of the Los Angeles Times.

Artistic Director of the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre, Shira Dubrovner, discovered the production when she heard about Richaud's 2012 Los Angeles production of it. "This sounded like the ideal kind of production for our theatre because of its subject matter and the approach of a one-man show," she said. "Not only that, Van Gogh is one of my favorite artists. I'm excited to learn about and see over 100 pieces of his art displayed as the story progresses."

Jean-Michel Richaud grew up in Paris and received his MA from Sorbonne University. He also studied at Paris's National Conservatory for Dramatic Arts and Columbia University's graduate theater program. He is a founding member of the award-winning theatre company The Next Arena, which has produced a string of critically acclaimed plays. Richaud has appeared in numerous films and television shows and is recognized as one the top European voice over talents in Los Angeles.

**FACT SHEET:**

WHAT: VINCENT by Leonard Nimoy  
WHEN: January 17th and 18th, 2014--Fri and Sat @ 7pm  
WHERE: Edison Theatre, 100 College Parkway, Across from Cerro Coso College  
HOW MUCH: \$20 Adults/\$18 Students and Seniors/\$12 Children  
BUY TICKETS: [www.EdisonTheatre.org](http://www.EdisonTheatre.org)

**Shady Rest Staging Area Environmental Assessment And Draft Decision Released**

Mammoth District Ranger Jon Regelbrugge has released the Environmental Assessment and draft Decision Notice for the Shady Rest Staging Area project. The project proposes to build an Over Snow Vehicle (OSV) and Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) staging area along the Sawmill Cutoff Road (#03S08) near the Town of Mammoth Lakes. The staging area would include parking facilities for approximately 25 vehicles, loading ramp and restroom facilities. The project documents, including maps and responses to prior comments are available online at [www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=38834](http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=38834) or can be requested at the Inyo National Forest Supervisors Office in Bishop or the Mammoth Welcome Center on Highway 203 in Mammoth Lakes.

A 45 day objection period begins with the publication of a Legal Notice in the Inyo Register (expected 12/21/2013). Objections to the decision will be accepted from those who have submitted related comments during scoping or the formal comment

period. Objections must be sent to Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor, Inyo National Forest (Attn: Shady Rest), 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA, 93514. Objections in electronic format may be submitted to [objections-pacificsouthwest-inyo@fs.fed.us](mailto:objections-pacificsouthwest-inyo@fs.fed.us) with Subject: "Shady Rest OHV/OSV Staging Area". Please see the Legal Notice in the Inyo Register or online for more details on submitting objections. For additional information, please call Marty Hornick, Forest Trail Program Coordinator, at (760) 873-2461.

## **Recreation Department Highlights**

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### **Coed Indoor Soccer Begins Sunday Jan. 26**

The 2014 Adult Coed Indoor Soccer season is about to kick-off at the Mammoth High School Gym on January 12, 2014! After a six year hiatus, Mammoth Recreation is bringing back the fast-paced game of Indoor Soccer every Sunday night at the Mammoth High School Gym!

We are kicking off the season with a FREE drop-in session from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 12, 2014. So come on out, if you have a team organized or not, have a little kick about and get your teams registered or find a team to play on!

We need a minimum of 4 coed teams to offer the program with a maximum of 8 coed teams of 10 players (max.) per team. Games will be played 5 v 5 (includes Keeper) and there must be one female on the playing court at all times.

#### **IMPORTANT DEADLINES:**

THE REGISTRATION FEE OF \$250 PER TEAM AND COMPLETED INDIVIDUAL WAIVERS FOR ALL TEAMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY WEDNESDAY JANUARY 22, 2014, BY 5:00 P.M. LAST DATE TO ADD OR DROP A PLAYER WILL BE SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2014.

Practice: We will have one practice night held on Sunday January 19, 2014 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. Teams will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis on. Practice Signups will be allowed after the \$250 team registration payment is made and all required paperwork is completed.

Schedule: The schedule will be made according to the number of teams that sign up. All games will be played on Sundays, with the first game starting at 6:00 p.m. We will be starting on Sunday, January 26 and play the regular season through Sunday, March 30. The schedule may vary depending on the amount of teams.

A Champion will be determined strictly on REGULAR SEASON PLAY. IF THERE IS A TIE IN STANDINGS, A WINNER WILL BE DETERMINED BY TOTAL AMOUNT OF GOALS SCORED DURING THE SEASON.

Please call Steph at (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 for additional information.

Bring Your Game...

### **Youth Ice Hockey At The Mammoth Ice Rink**

Don't miss out on Mammoth Lakes Lakers Youth Hockey programming at the Mammoth Ice Rink this winter!

Beginner Youth Stick Time: Monday and Wednesday Nights between 5:15 - 6:45 p.m. Learn to Pass, Shoot and Skate like a hockey player. Full pads not needed, but recommended.

Youth/Junior Hockey Pickup: Monday and Wednesday Nights from 5:15 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. Any Questions or Inquiries please Email: [Mammothyouthhockey@gmail.com](mailto:Mammothyouthhockey@gmail.com).

### **Hot Shots Youth Basketball**

Our local youth basketball program for 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade girls and boys has now commenced league play every Tuesday and Thursday nights at the MMS gym starting at 6:00 p.m. Well behaved spectators are welcome to come out and cheer on the teams. Currently in first place are the "Red Preppers", followed by "Mammoth Heat." Third and fourth places are held by the "Blue Crew" and "Mammoth Lakers."

### **Gymnastics/Tumbling Program Is Back!**

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

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

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

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

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### **Winter Preparedness Tips from Mono County Sherriff**

It's that time of year again! Yes, winter is slowly creeping upon us. As we all hope for that massive snow storm to strike and an epic winter season, the question remains, are you prepared for the season?

The Mono County Sheriff's Office would like to remind citizens and visitors alike to always be prepared for winter conditions, whether you are simply out and about in town on foot or driving across the many roadways of Mono County. Always have an emergency bag in your vehicle with extra food, water, warm clothing and shoes, and emergency supplies just in case you are stuck in your vehicle for an unknown amount of time as you try to reach your intended destination due to hazardous weather and road conditions. Remember, if you get stuck in your vehicle, stay in your vehicle until help arrives or you can safely continue on your journey. Remember to take some extra time while traveling, slow down, and obey all chain control requirements. Even those that are seasoned drivers on the Mono County roadways, please slow down and take your time when driving on the snowy conditions. This ensures your safety and those traveling around you.

Be aware of your surroundings while traveling the roadways and various communities of Mono County. Watch for snow removal equipment. This could be a large snowplow clearing the roadway or an individual shoveling a driveway or sidewalk. Both their safety and your own are important and will benefit from your awareness. Also, be aware of the various locations around Mono County that have parking restrictions during the winter months. Vehicles parked in the restricted areas will hinder necessary snow removal and be subject to citations and/or having the vehicle towed. These restrictions are in place and enforced for your safety and to allow proper snow removal for safer driving conditions for all.

Mono County utilizes what is known as the CodeRed Emergency Alert System when a critical incident or emergency situations takes place within the county. This system is a database of resident and citizen information for use only in critical and emergency situations to send critical communications from evacuation notices, to hazardous weather alerts, to missing children alerts. Your contact information remains private and is only used to contact you for community emergency communications. To register for the CodeRed emergency alerts, log on to [www.monosheriff.org](http://www.monosheriff.org) – Resources – CodeRed. There is also a mobile app available for all Android and Apple phones.

For more information on winter preparedness and safety, please visit the Mono County Sheriff's Office Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/pages/Mono-County-Sheriffs-Department/597961140216123](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mono-County-Sheriffs-Department/597961140216123)) and listen to a panel radio interview, compliments of KMMT radio, on winter and emergency preparedness. The panel consists of members from the Mono County Sheriff's Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, CERT, and California Highway Patrol. Let the experts give you the necessary tips you may be looking for to stay prepared this winter, and during other emergencies that could happen in our area!

### **Additional Snow Needed for Shady Rest, Obsidian Dome Nordic Trails and Snowmobiling Trails**

Recent snowstorms have left the ground covered but are not providing the snow base required to use grooming equipment on the public Nordic and snowmobile trails

on the Mammoth and Mono Lake Ranger Districts of the Inyo National Forest. Upon sufficient snowfall, grooming of the Shady Rest and Obsidian Dome Nordic Trails and the Groomed Snowmobile Trail System will begin.

This winter, Friends of the Inyo, a local non-profit organization, has received a Measure R grant from the Town of Mammoth Lakes to provide grooming services for the Shady Rest Nordic Trail system in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.

The Nordini groomer will be back in action and operated by Friends of the Inyo providing the public, free of charge, over five miles of groomed trails for Nordic users compliments of local Measure R funds. Roads within the Old and New Shady Rest Campground and along the paved bike trail will be groomed through the winter as snow conditions allow. The Nordic trails are part of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System and will be groomed five days a week by Friends of the Inyo, with additional grooming by the U.S. Forest Service as needed. Users may access the Shady Rest Nordic Trail system by parking in the front parking area (closest to Highway 203), adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center. A groomed entrance to the trail system begins directly across from the Welcome Center.

Please remember, dogs must be on leash at all times and owners are responsible for removing dog waste from the trail system. Owners of dogs off leash or disposing of dog waste irresponsibly may be issued a citation.

The U.S. Forest Service is waiting for additional snow accumulations to begin grooming the California Department of Parks and Recreation funded snowmobile trail system and the Obsidian Dome Nordic trails. With a shallow, low density snowpack, snowmobilers should use caution and refrain from traveling in areas where snow depths are minimal. Snowmobile users are responsible for knowing all regulations and understanding closure area boundaries.

Maps and information on winter recreation in the Mammoth Lakes area and on the Inyo National Forest can be obtained at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, open daily 8:00AM to 5:00PM, by visiting the Inyo National Forest website, or by calling (760) 924-5500.

### **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.

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](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:

1. Go to [monosheriff.org](http://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](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](http://www.crlaction.org).