



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**  
P.O. Box 1609  
Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546  
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Website: [www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov)

## Town News

### Town e-News: Week of May 1, 2017

## News from the Town Manager

### Town Council Meeting – May 3

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 3, 2017 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

### Commission/Committee Meetings

- May 2            Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 9:00AM
- May 10          Planning and Economic Development Commission, Suite Z, 2:00PM

### Public Service Recognition Week

The Mammoth Lakes Town Council would like to give a sincere thank you to all of its employees, Commissioners, and other volunteers for their hard work and dedication toward continuously providing high quality service to our community. Our staff provide countless services to this community and the Recreation and Planning and Economic Development Commission provide invaluable expertise and input, which all serves to make Mammoth Lakes a great place to work and play.

### Final EIR/Response To Comments For Mammoth Creek Park West Project Now Available

The Final EIR/Response to Comments document for the Mammoth Creek Park West New Community Multi-Use Facilities project is available for public review on the Town's website.

The Planning and Economic Development Commission will consider making a recommendation to the Town Council on the EIR on Wednesday, May 10, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. in Suite Z (437 Old Mammoth Road). The Town Council will consider certification of the EIR on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z (437 Old Mammoth Road). Review the public meeting notice.

If you would like a copy of the staff report for either meeting please contact Sandra Moberly at [smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov) and she will send you a copy of the report when it is available (usually the Friday before the meeting). You may submit comments electronically to [smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov), via fax at (760) 934-7493 or via mail at PO BOX 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. Thank you for your interest in this project.

## **Housing Needs Survey – We Want To Hear From You!**

The Town is conducting a survey about housing needs. We want to hear from you if you live or work in Mammoth Lakes or Mono County. The survey will help us better plan for and accommodate the types of housing residents and workers want and need. If you complete the survey by May 26, 2017, you'll be entered into a drawing for a \$100 Visa gift card. Thank you in advance for your participation.

The survey is located at <https://www.research.net/r/LiveWorkMono>. You can take the survey on your smart phone, iPad/tablet or computer.

## **Town Announces Details Of New Commercial Airline Terminal At The Mammoth Yosemite Airport**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is pleased to announce the next step in the process to design and construct a new Commercial Airline Terminal and Aircraft Apron at Mammoth Yosemite Airport.

"We have been working closely with Federal Aviation Administration staff to finalize passenger forecast data and a terminal area development plan," stated Public Works Director Grady Dutton. "The next step is the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) environmental documentation process for the proposed project, including the required California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documentation that the Town will concurrently complete."

The proposed project description includes a three-gate, approximately 40,000 square foot commercial airline terminal and an aircraft apron that will include aircraft parking for three commercial aircraft. These new facilities are to be located immediately east of the existing terminal.

As an initial step, in May, the Town will issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for a qualified Architecture and Engineering (A & E) Consultant Team. The selection process is anticipated to take four to five months from inception through execution of a consultant agreement. The selected team will be charged with preparing a preliminary design in support of the NEPA and CEQA processes. The design will include sufficient detail to identify potential environmental impacts of the project.

In June, the Town expects to issue an RFQ for an environmental consultant. That consultant will work with the A & E Team to identify and mitigate potential environmental impacts during the design process. The environmental consultant will be charged with preparing the NEPA and CEQA documentation.

Once the preliminary design and NEPA/CEQA processes are underway, a preliminary cost estimate and an overall preliminary schedule through construction will be developed. Although there will be a local share, the majority of the environmental, design and construction funds will be provided by FAA entitlement and discretionary Airport Improvement Program Grant funds.

For additional information about the next step in the process to design and construct a new Commercial Airline Terminal and Aircraft Apron at Mammoth Yosemite Airport please contact Public Works Director Grady Dutton at (760) 965-3656.

## **Open Letter To Our Community Members**

The Town Council, Police Department and Town Management have received a number of comments, expression of concern and questions related to federal immigration policy and the role of local government. The Town's position on working

with our residents and visitors has not changed. We will continue to provide Town services and programs to all. We do not check on resident status for programs. The same standards apply today that have applied in the past. The Town has not and does not intend to take any proactive approach to enforce federal laws, and as in the case of detaining immigrants we do not have the legal authority to do so. This federal law is outside of the role of local law enforcement.

We will continue to respond to requests for services, to keep the people of Mammoth Lakes safe and to provide a supportive business climate. To the extent we are called on to assist or take action to take into custody individuals with outstanding warrants or caught in committing a crime in Mammoth Lakes we will continue to serve our community and keep it safe. If those committing crimes are here illegally then they will be held accountable according to law. For normal day-to-day law enforcement operations, such as stopping someone for speeding, running a red light, DUI, or failure to obey traffic signs, etc. our officers will continue to give out warnings, tickets or other appropriate actions. This does not include turning a person over to federal authorities. Our officers do not and will not inquire about legal status of individuals. Local officials are not notified prior to any action being taken by federal authorities (ICE) and therefore we are not in a position to assist them.

The businesses in the Town of Mammoth Lakes employ hundreds of workers of various nationalities and ethnic backgrounds. All of us have come here to make Mammoth Lakes a great place to live, work and play. The fear and anxiety created through rumors and incorrect facts has not served our community well. The concerns expressed over the role or involvement of local officials in any immigration actions are not based on facts. It is our goal that all of us continue to enjoy a safe and productive time in Mammoth Lakes which includes not responding in fear to false rumors. The Town of Mammoth Lakes will continue to be proactive in providing services, programs and keeping all of the people of Mammoth Lakes safe and supporting our local business community.

### **Winter Parking Restrictions In Effect**

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department is reminding citizens that there is no street parking from November 1 through April 30. Vehicles found parked in violation of these ordinances are subject to receiving a parking citation and/or in some cases, vehicles may be impounded at the owner's expense.

### **Notify Me!**

Receive updates sent directly to your email or phone from the Town of Mammoth Lakes by subscribing to "Notify Me." Found on the left side of [www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov), stay current with Public Service Announcements, Emergency Alerts, Town e-News, Recreation This Week, No Burn Announcements, DNDP updates, bid postings, news flash, calendar items, and more! Make smart decisions, subscribe today.

### **TV 51 has moved!**

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

## **Projected Average Resort Occupancy**

Friday, April 28, 2017	71%
Saturday, April 29, 2017	70%
Sunday, April 30, 2017	39%
Monday, May 1, 2017	31%
Tuesday, May 2, 2017	31%
Wednesday, May 3, 2017	29%
Thursday, May 4, 2017	37%
Friday, May 5, 2017	54%
Saturday, May 6, 2017	53%
Sunday, May 7, 2017	34%

If you're a lodging property and would like to sign up to report your numbers, please contact John Urdi at [JUrdi@visitmammoth.com](mailto:JUrdi@visitmammoth.com) or (760) 934-2712 ext. 1259

Please remember that the projected occupancy is calculated in order to assist the business community with staffing levels and product ordering. The actual occupancy percentages are reported from the lodging industry to the Town of Mammoth Lakes Finance Department.

## **Community News**

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### **ESTA Spring Transit Service Changes**

Effective Monday, April 24, 2017, the spring transit services changes in Mammoth Lakes will commence with the following modifications:

- Red Line is discontinued for the season.
- The Town Trolley route will expand its hours to operate from 7:00am until 10:00pm on a 30-minute frequency.
- A Village to Main Lodge shuttle will commence operation providing 30-minute frequency service to Main Lodge. This shuttle will depart The Village stop #90 (bottom of the Westin steps) at :20 and :50 minutes past the hour beginning at 7:20am.

Complete route information and schedule times are available online at: <https://www.estransit.com/>

### **Fishmas Weekend!**

It's that time of year again! Opening day for fishing in Mono County is this Saturday, April 29, so dust off that fishing gear and get ready for a weekend full of fun. For more information on fishing regulations and licenses, please visit the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

### **Personal Use Fuelwood Season**

The Inyo National Forest is announcing personal use fuelwood season is scheduled to begin on Monday, May 1. However, the forest advises that most of the open woodcutting areas between Mammoth Lakes and June Lake are still not accessible due to snow. Fuelwood permits are currently on sale at visitor centers. Maps showing areas open to cutting are available with a purchased fuelwood permit. New this year,

copies of fuelwood maps will be available on Avenza. Fuelwood permits are still \$15.00 per cord with a two cord minimum.

Due to staffing shortages, the forest requests fuelwood permits be purchased between the hours of 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., unless otherwise specified. Fuelwood permits may be obtained at the following locations:

- Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center in Lee Vining; (760) 647-3044
  - Permits on sale, Thursday - Monday only.
- Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center in Mammoth Lakes; (760) 924-5500
  - Permits on sale seven days/week.
- White Mountain Ranger Station in Bishop; (760) 873-2500
  - Permits on sale seven days/week starting May 1, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m., 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.

Please call ahead to your local visitor center to confirm hours of operations.

The Fuelwood Strategy, developed with public participation in 1998, remains valid and will be implemented this year. Large ends of all downed logs (those portions greater than 30 inches in diameter) are required to remain on the forest floor for wildlife habitat and recycling of soil nutrients. The majority of funds collected from permit sales are directly returned to the forest for continued implementation of this program. Comments on this strategy and fuelwood program are always welcome. For further information on the fuelwood program, contact your local ranger Station or visitor center.

## **The State of the Inyo – April 27**

### Mono Lake Ranger District

- Roads open: Lundy Canyon (to the resort), Panum Crater, Hwy 120 E (Benton), June Lake Loop (Hwy 158).
- Roads closed: Tioga Pass (Hwy 120 W) at the winter gate closure, Saddlebag Lake Rd., Sonora Pass (Hwy 108), Monitor Pass (Hwy 89), Bodie (Hwy 270), Parker Lake Rd.
- Campgrounds open: Lundy Canyon (county- limited sites due to snow, first-come, first served), Aerie Crag, Gull Lake, June Lake, Oh Ridge, Silver Lake.
- Campgrounds closed: Aspen Grove, Big Bend, Moraine, Lower Lee Vining, Sawmill Walk-in, Saddlebag Lake, Saddlebag Trailhead Group Camp, Tioga Lake, Reversed Creek (5/12), Upper and Lower Deadman, Big Springs, Obsidian Flat Group, Ellery Lake, Hartley Springs, Glass Creek, Junction.
- The Mono Basin Visitor Center is open Thursday through Monday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm.

### Mammoth Ranger District

- Roads open: Convict Lake, Hot Creek Hatchery, Inyo Craters, Laurel Canyon (snow level 7,500 ft.), Mammoth Creek, Mammoth Scenic Loop.
- Roads closed: Lakes Basin, Old Mammoth Rd. to Lakes Basin, Reds Meadow Valley Road.
- Campgrounds open: Crowley Lake (BLM), Mammoth Mtn. RV Park (private, year round).
- Campgrounds closed: Agnew Meadows (7/30), Agnew Meadows Group (7/30), Agnew Meadows Horse Campground (7/30), Brown's Owens River (private), Coldwater (6/2), Devils Postpile (NPS), Lake George (6/2), Lake Mary (6/2), Minaret Falls (7/15), New Shady Rest (5/5), Old Shady Rest (6/2), Pine City (6/2), Pine Glen Family/Group (6/20), Pumice Flat (7/15),

Pumice Flat Group (7/15), Reds Meadow (7/15), Sherwin Creek (5/15), Twin Lakes (6/1), Upper Soda Springs (7/15), Convict Lake (5/5).

The Mammoth Welcome Center is open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm daily. Devils Postpile Ranger Station is closed for the season.

### **Seasonal Pass Opening Status – April 27**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 9 continues to work on clearing snow, removing rocks, and repairing its eight highways with seasonal closures. As work progresses, pedestrians, bicyclists, skiers, etc. are advised to stay out of these areas. Safety is our number one priority, for the public as well as Caltrans' workers. This is the District 9 Seasonal Pass Status as of Thursday, April 27, 2017:

#### **State Route 89 – Monitor Pass**

All snow has been removed from US Highway 395 to the Alpine County line. There is approximately 5 feet of snowpack at the Mono/Alpine County line. Highway repair is required before reopening. There is no estimated date for reopening the highway at this time.

#### **State Route 108 – Sonora Pass**

Crews have removed snow to above 8500 feet of elevation and are approximately 5 miles from the county line. The snowpack is estimated to be 8 to 15 feet on the highway. There is no estimated date for reopening the highway at this time.

#### **State Route 270 – Bodie Road**

All snow has been removed but the highway remains closed at the request of Bodie State Park personnel.

#### **State Route 120 West – Tioga Pass (from the Junction of US 395 to the Yosemite National Park Gate)**

Crews have removed snow up to Warren Creek. The snowpack is estimated to be between 8 to 15 feet on the highway, with up to 50 foot snowdrifts in some locations. The avalanche danger is high and there is no estimated date for reopening the highway at this time.

#### **State Route 120 East – Mono Mills**

Highway is open with no restrictions at this time. Travelers should be aware of wild horses in the area.

#### **State Route 158 – June Lake Loop**

Highway is open with no restrictions at this time.

#### **State Route 203 - From the Mammoth Mountain Parking Lot to Minaret Vista**

This section of highway is under permit of Mammoth Mountain Ski area for the winter ski season. There is no estimated date for reopening the highway at this time.

#### **State Route 168 West – Above Aspendell**

Highway is open with no restrictions at this time.

**All information is subject to change due to weather conditions.**

For the latest highway information please visit the Caltrans QuickMap site at [quickmap.dot.ca.gov](http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov) or call the [Road Condition Hotline at 1-800-427-ROAD \(7623\)](tel:1-800-427-ROAD).

### **Chix On Stix With Stacey Cook - Apr 29-30**

Join Olympian Stacey Cook for a weekend of skiing, new experiences and lasting friendships. Open to women of all ages. Sorry guys, ladies only. Call 800.MAMMOTH to book.

### **Chamber Music Unbound Presents "MayPlay" – May 6**

On Saturday, May 6, 2017, from 7:30pm at the Cerro Coso College, Chamber Music Unbound presents The Felici Piano Trio in a concert entitled "MayPlay." With masterful trios by Gade, Ravel and Mendelssohn. Tickets (\$22 Adult, \$17 Senior, \$7 Student) are available online ([www.ChamberMusicUnbound.org](http://www.ChamberMusicUnbound.org)), at the Booky Joint, the Inyo Council for the Arts, or at the door 45 minutes before performances.

### **Mammoth Lakes Film Festival – May 24**

The third annual Mammoth Lakes Film Festival is coming up fast! Be sure to circle May 24-28, 2017 on your calendars because you won't want to miss this year's amazing independent film lineup!

MLFF 2017 Ticket and Passes 411:

VIP Pass = \$195

Up to 10 screenings (including Opening Night Screening) and 4 parties  
Advance screening selection and access for one (1) admission to all four party events, plus access to the filmmaker lounge (open from 9am-11am serving coffee and continental breakfast at Edison Hall).

Movie Pass = \$125

Up to 10 screenings  
One admission per pass, includes advance screening selections  
PLEASE NOTE: This pass excludes Opening Night Screening

Opening Night Screening = \$25

Subject to space availability  
Individual Ticket Sales open May 10, 2017

Individual Screenings = \$12-\$14

(excludes Opening Night Screening)  
Subject to space availability  
Individual Ticket Sales open May 10, 2017

Gala Events and Filmmaker Parties = \$25 each

All parties feature an open beer & wine bar  
Opening Night Party: Wed. May 24, 9:30pm at Sierra Event Center  
Filmmakers Happy Hour: Thurs. May 25, 5pm-7pm at Dukes Bar  
Filmmakers Bash: Sat. May 27, 10pm at Rafters  
Closing Night Awards Party: Sun. May 28, 9pm at Sierra Event Center

### **Inyo National Forest Cautions Snowmobilers of Off-Limit Use**

Based upon reports from rangers and visitors alike, the Inyo National Forest is reminding snowmobilers to respect off-limit areas of the forest that are closed to snowmobiles. Forest Service rangers are patrolling closed areas for illegal snowmobile activity; focusing on locations where these incursions are problematic. These areas include designated Wilderness and Research Natural Areas, Mammoth Lakes Basin, Devils Postpile National Monument, McGee Mountain, Obsidian Dome

cross-country ski trails, Shady Rest cross-country ski trails, and the area west of the G-trail from June Lake Junction south to the Glass Creek Hill.

This past weekend, based on public reports, several Violation Notices were issued to individuals who illegally rode snowmobiles into the John Muir Wilderness.

Pick up your free copy of the Eastern Sierra Winter Recreation Map at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center (a waterproof version is available for purchase as well), obtain it online, or download to your mobile device using the Avenza map app ([www.pdf-maps.com](http://www.pdf-maps.com)). These maps inform recreationists of motorized restricted areas.

The nation's federally designated Wilderness areas prohibit motorized use; making them off limits to snowmobiles. The closures are there to protect the Wilderness experience, but snowmobile tracks and public reports indicate that numerous riders venture into these closed areas each season. Riding in a Wilderness or a winter motorized closure is a Federal and State offense carrying fines up to \$5,000 and/or six months in jail, in addition to possible seizure of the snowmobiles used in the commission of the crime.

It is the rider's responsibility to know where these closed or restricted areas are located and their boundaries. Major winter trailheads and launching points have maps showing these restricted areas. If in doubt, check with the local Ranger Station or visitor center.

There are miles of groomed snow trails and play areas that are safe and legal to snowmobilers in the Mammoth and Mono Lake areas. There are approximately 75,000 acres of open expanse east of Hwy. 395 with a variety of terrain from wide-open meadows to forested areas for beginners and experts. Please refer to <http://mammothweb.com/scripts/usfs/trailsreport.cfm> for the latest grooming report.

The Inyo National Forest provides a wide spectrum of winter recreational activities. Visitors and residents can vastly improve these recreational opportunities, reduce conflict, and protect the forest resources by practicing common courtesy and respecting others' experiences.

### **Prescribed Fire Planned Near Sunny Slopes/Tom's Place**

As weather conditions permit, the White Mountain Ranger District of the Inyo National Forest will complete prescribed fire projects at sites located along the Highway 395 corridor near Sunny Slopes and Tom's Place this spring.

These prescribed fire units are east of Sunny Slopes and are in the Jeffrey pine/sage/pinyon pine fuel type. The units are broken up into approximately 150 acre components to allow crews to use roads and other features for containment objectives and to limit smoke impacts near the communities.

Crews anticipate the project could start as early as April 17th and continue over the next two to three weeks as conditions allow. Fire crews will take advantage the significant winter and snow that has created conditions ideal to safely complete this project. The primary purpose of the burning is to reduce hazardous fuels for the nearby developed areas as well as to restore fire-adapted ecosystem conditions.



Smoke will be visible at times from Highway 395 as well as from nearby communities. It may settle into down-valley communities in the evening. Prior to burning, much consideration goes into current and forecasted wind direction to divert much of the smoke from communities and recreation sites. The Inyo National Forest works closely with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District to select days that will provide good smoke dispersal.

## **Parks and Recreation Department Highlights**

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### **Registration For Our Summer Programs Is Now Open**

Registration can be completed at the following URL: <https://apm.activecommunities.com/mammothrecreation/Home>. To view program offerings, click on the "Activities" tab. In order to register, you will need to create an account. To create an account, follow the link on the upper right hand side of the page for "Create an Account." If you have any additional questions, or need assistance with creating your account online, please contact Lindsey Lyon at (760) 965-3699 or [llyon@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:llyon@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

### **Register for Little Sluggers!**

Little Sluggers T-Ball returns on Wednesday, May 3 for ages 1.5 to 5 years. Join us for this popular introductory program every Wednesday evening from 5:15-6:00pm. at the MES field. The program will run from May 3 – June 7. The cost of the program is \$43 if you register by April 23 and \$52 for any registrations after April 23.

### **Community Fitness Classes**

Community Center programming continues weekly! Join us for the Turbo Kick Fitness Class every Wednesday from 6:30-7:30pm, or the Pilates/Yoga program every Tuesday starting at 6:30pm. Additionally, for toddlers we are offering Toddler Time at the Community Center every Tuesday morning with Angela and Victoria from 9:30-11:00am.

## **Public Service Announcements**

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### **Town Installs Hawk Signal in The Village**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has installed a High-intensity Activated Crosswalk (HAWK) to improve pedestrian safety at the Minaret Road crosswalk adjacent to The Village. The HAWK signal is a pushbutton-activated pedestrian signal designed to aid pedestrian crossing at a mid-block crosswalk and reduce the amount of delay for vehicles. The HAWK signal differs from conventional traffic signals because it only becomes operational when activated by a pedestrian, allowing for normal traffic to flow unimpeded until pedestrians need to cross and minimizes wait time for vehicular traffic. Data suggests the pedestrian activated safety devices led to a 29% reduction in total crashes, a 69% reduction in pedestrian crashes, and a 15% reduction in severe crashes (2010 FHWA before-and-after study).

*What Drivers Should Know:* Pedestrian hybrid beacons are only activated by pedestrians wishing to cross a street press the signal button. If the lights of the

beacon are dark, vehicles can proceed through the crosswalk. Flashing yellow lights usually last around three seconds, during which the driver should prepare to stop. A solid yellow light indicates the driver must stop. Once the light turns red, pedestrians will cross. Flashing red lights indicate that if there are no pedestrians in the walk, the driver may proceed through the walk with caution. After the flashing red lights, the signal will go dark again, and vehicles may freely pass through the intersection again. Additional information may be found at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Offices, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite R or on the website.

### **Old Mammoth Road Limited Transit Service**

New Monday-Friday fixed route transit service (the Old Mammoth Road Limited) began Monday, January 23, 2017. This new service is intended to address concerns raised by area residents and businesses following the cessation of the Gray Line service last month and is a pilot program service which will operate through the spring in order to gauge demand and ridership from the area.

The service will be focused on employees traveling to work in the Minaret Village Mall and Mammoth Hospital area, and students/persons wishing to transfer to other fixed routes including the Purple, Red, and Green Lines. The new midweek service will operate three runs in the morning (7:13am, 7:45am and 8:05am) from Aspen Village, two afternoon return runs from the school area to Old Mammoth (1:52pm and 2:45pm from Mammoth High School), and one evening return run from the Hospital and Minaret Village Mall area to Old Mammoth (5:05pm).

For more information, check ESTA's website at [www.estransit.com](http://www.estransit.com), or phone (760) 924-3184. Stops serviced are as follows: Aspen Village, Lower Red Fir/Old Mammoth Road, Juniper Springs Resort Meridian/Old Mammoth Road (transfer to Purple, Red, Green), Mammoth Elementary School, Mammoth High School and the Mammoth Hospital.

### **Beware of Deer on the Roads**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) would like to notify motorists that deer are out and about in the Eastern Sierra. Due to the snowy conditions, deer are venturing out onto the roadways to escape from the snow. Motorists should watch for deer as they are commuting especially during the dawn and dusk times of the day. Slow down and be vigilant!

#### *Ways to Prevent a Collision with a Deer:*

1. Slow Down. Motorists should take it slow especially with the low temperatures and icy conditions.
2. Watch for the rest of the gang. Deer are pack animals, and rarely travel alone. If a deer crosses in front of you, chances are there are more nearby. Slow down and keep an eye out for more deer darting across the road.
3. Timing is everything. Deer are most active at dusk and dawn: periods when your vision is most compromised. Slow down and stay alert, especially after dark.
4. Wear your seatbelt. It may not prevent a collision, but if the inevitable happens a seatbelt can reduce injuries.
5. Look. First, look for the road signs. The yellow diamond shaped signs with the deer on it are placed in high-traffic areas for deer. You may also spot a deer because their eyes will brightly reflect a car's headlights, making them easier to spot.

6. Stay Center. On a multi-lane road, the center lane is your safest bet for avoiding a deer collision, as long as your local traffic laws permit it. This gives deer plenty of space; and in case your vehicle does startle them, it gives you more time to react if one darts onto the road.
7. Stay the course. If you see a deer, brake firmly and calmly, and stay in your lane. Swerving could make you lose control of your vehicle and turn a bad situation much worse. Not to mention, deer are unpredictable, and you could swerve directly into their changed path.
8. Honk! Some experts recommend that one long blast of the horn will scare deer out of the road. Do not rely on hood whistles or other devices designed to scare off deer — studies have shown them to be largely ineffective at minimizing traffic incidents.

*What to do if you hit a deer.*

1. Pull to the side of the road as soon as it is safe to do so.
2. Turn on your hazard lights and remain in the vehicle until you are sure it is safe.
3. Call emergency services if injuries are involved or the local police for property damage.
4. Stay away from the deer. If it is still alive, it could be confused, injured and dangerous if approached. When contacting the authorities, let them know if the deer is in a dangerous spot on the road so that it can be removed.

For more deer migration information visit the Caltrans District 9 webpage: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/d9/deer.html>

### **Town Of Mammoth Lakes Updates Phone System Taking Advantage Of Digital 395**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is excited to announce that the aging old analog phone system has been upgraded to a new digital Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) system. The introduction of Digital 395 into our community allowed the Town to benefit from a robust fiber-optic network which provides connectivity between Town facilities. The network provides the opportunity to leverage Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) based communication to replace the aging phone system, which not only offers better connectivity in a modern and maintained system, but also reduces costs.

The new phone system will offer a significant improvement in functionality and ease of use for Town staff while providing more efficient integration between all seven of the Town's facilities, offering staff the ability to call any employee at any location simply by dialing the extension. Additionally, the system will provide a variety of options for call handling and routing, voicemail, auto-attendant/phone tree options, and mobility. All of these enhancements will greatly help Town staff with their day-to-day responsibilities of serving the public and providing high quality customer service. Improved access to Town Departments and employees and connectivity between Town operations will enhance public access and Town responsiveness.

As a result of these improvements, all of the Town's phone numbers will be changing, effective Thursday, June 23, 2016. Each department will have its own direct phone line and each employee will have a new extension number.

Below is a list of the new department phone numbers:

- Administration - (760) 965-3600
- Airport - (760) 965-3620

- Community and Economic Development - (760) 965-3630
- Engineering - (760) 965-3650
- Finance - (760) 965-3660
- Public Works Yard - (760) 965-3680
- Parks and Recreation - (760) 965-3690
- Police Department - (760) 965-3700

The new VoIP system will replace the Town's 20-year old Nortel analog phone system which is no longer supported, difficult to maintain, and not interconnected between Town locations. The new system furthers the Town Council's goal of using enhanced technology to improve Town operations, enhance customer service, and reduce costs.

Please be patient with us while we transition to our new system. For a full list of employee phone numbers, please visit our website at [www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

### **Important Information for Verizon Customers**

As of April 1, Verizon customers in California, Texas, and Florida will now be serviced by Frontier Communications. Residents should expect to have the same exceptional FiOS TV, Internet, and phone service from the new telecommunications provider.

Existing Verizon customers can request more information regarding their Internet service provider transition by clicking on this link: <http://internet.frontier.com/fios-network-acquisition/>. If you have questions regarding establishing Frontier service or switching to Frontier from your current service provider, please click on the following link: <http://internet.frontier.com/California/>

### **Town's Owner-Occupant Housing Rehabilitation Program**

California Department of Housing and Community Development ("HCD") has awarded the Town of Mammoth Lakes a \$186,047 grant to administer a Housing Rehabilitation Program. Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. (MLH) as the "Program Operator," will administer the program. The funding may be used by property owners to update homes, attend to deferred maintenance, and address energy efficiency.

Property owners in Mammoth Lakes can benefit from this subsidy in the form of deferred payment loans, below market interest rate loans, and grants. Owners may use program funds to rehabilitate their home for the following eligible improvements:

1. **Correct health and safety issues;**
2. **Converting to current Uniform Building Code;**
3. **Energy conservation improvements;**
4. **Extension of useful life** (includes repairing siding, sheet rock, painting, new flooring, new cabinets, new interior doors, gutters and foundation upgrades and repairs); and
5. **General property improvements.**

To qualify for program funding, an existing homeowner must occupy the home and the household income must be equal to, or less than the following:

1 person	\$43,250
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2 person	\$49,400
3 person	\$55,600
4 person	\$61,750
5 person	\$66,700
6 person	\$71,650
7 person	\$76,600
8 person	\$81,550

Units must be located within the Town of Mammoth Lakes in order to qualify for rehabilitation funds. General property improvements that enhance the overall exterior appearance of the property will be limited to 15% of the rehabilitation loan amount.

Funds will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis until all funding is exhausted. All interested Mammoth Lakes property owners are encouraged to immediately contact Mammoth Lakes Housing for additional information, eligibility requirements, and an application.

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

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

The new departure times are:

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

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

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

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

**MAMMOTH EXPRESS FARES**

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

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

## **Sierra Conservation Project and Town of Mammoth Lakes Partner to Expand Condominium and Business Recycling Program**

The Sierra Conservation Project, Inc. (SCP) and Town of Mammoth Lakes are pleased to announce the expansion of the current condominium, commercial and recreational area recycling programs in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

"This long-standing and successful partnership between the Sierra Conservation Project and the Town enabled us to submit and receive a substantial \$108,000 CalRecycle grant to expand on-going recycling programs within the community that benefits our residents, visitors and wildlife," stated Peter Bernasconi, Acting Public Works Director for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

The Sierra Conservation Project is working in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to provide an additional 30 bear proof containers to the remaining Condominium complexes in town that currently don't have a recycling program in place. In addition, CalRecycle grant funds will enable SCP to upgrade all commercial bear proof containers at restaurants, bars and other business locations in town, including the enhancement and placement of recycling infrastructure in the Lakes Basin and at key park locations in Mammoth Lakes, such as the Whitmore Recreation Area and Shady Rest Park.

Recyclable materials make up a large percentage of the waste produced in our residential complexes and businesses," stated Brian Robinette, owner of SCP. "These community-based programs aim to divert recyclable materials from our local landfill, while also educate our residents and visitors on the need for convenient recycling programs. We are confident that by providing start-up infrastructure for these complexes and businesses it will help make program implementation affordable and reduce the environmental impacts of each resident and guest," said Robinette.

To register for the Condominium Recycling Program, please visit [www.recyclesierra.com](http://www.recyclesierra.com) or [www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

For additional information on the **Condominium and Business Recycling Program**, please contact Sierra Conservation Project at (760) 914 0115 or e-mail [Brian@recyclesierra.com](mailto:Brian@recyclesierra.com).

## **Would You Leave A Loaded Gun on the Floor?**

If you have children in your home, hopefully you would not! However, a new threat to the health of our children is emerging. These are e-liquids, sold legally in stores and online in small bottles that may be carelessly and casually left around the house, used for the regular re-filling of e-cigarettes.

The danger is from the nicotine content in these vials of "juice". Children can happen upon a vial and ingest it. These fluids come in flavors and bright colors that are attractive for kids – cotton candy, cherry, chocolate, and bubble gum among others. In addition, nicotine is absorbed through the skin, presenting a risk from a broken vial.

Electronic cigarettes, called e-cigarettes, are drug delivery devices originally designed to look like regular tobacco cigarettes. Now they are larger reusable gadgets that can be refilled with liquid, generally a mixture of nicotine, flavorings,

and solvents. It is estimated that roughly four million Americans use these battery powered devices. They have been hailed by proponents as a way for addicted smokers to get their nicotine fix without sucking in the thousands of carcinogens found in traditional cigarettes.

However, the evidence of their effectiveness in assisting persons in weaning off their nicotine addiction is less than stellar. In addition, evidence is rapidly mounting that they are serving as a "gateway" for young teens into the world of nicotine addiction. A recent study found nearly 1.8 million youth had tried e-cigarettes, and the number of middle and high school e-smokers doubled in one year. No wonder the industry targets the young who will be potential customers for decades to come! Their goal – to have the number of e-smokers quadruple in the next few years.

So how bad is the risk of exposure? Nicotine is a naturally occurring powerful neurotoxin, and in its potent liquid form, can be ingested or absorbed through the skin. Tiny amounts can cause vomiting, seizures, and even death. A teaspoon of even the highly diluted liquid can kill a small child.

A dose of 50 to 60 milligrams (mg) is potentially fatal for an adult; a 30 pound child could die from 1.36 mg. A vial of e-juice as commonly sold in retail stores is 17 milliliters, and with a 2.4% concentration would have 408 mg of nicotine. This year it is estimated that 1 to 2 million LITERS of liquid will be sold, much of it on the Internet. A liter of 10% concentration costs about \$110, a gallon \$195, and one company even offers a 55 gallon drum!

Nationwide, reports of accidental poisonings linked to e-liquids in 2013 jumped 300% from 2012, and is on pace to double again this year. Most cases are under the age of 4. A shop owner says that "We tell them that this stuff is poisonous. We do everything we can to protect the consumers, but at the end of the day, you leave a loaded gun on the floor, and your child gets hold of it, it's not gonna be the gunmaker's responsibility." A CEO of e-cigarette franchises says "It's the wild, wild west right now." There is no FDA regulation so far. So at the moment, if you are a user, your child has to go no farther than your own home to find a lethal dose of poison. Be aware of the risks, and keep vials out of reach. You are responsible for the safety of your children.

### **Mammoth Lakes Police Department Implementing Reserve & Volunteer Program**

In an effort to off-set some of the impact resulting from the loss of 7 sworn officers, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department has been moving forward on developing Reserve and Volunteer Programs, and evaluating various forms of technology to help make the MLPD more efficient and effective. The following are some of the programs the MLPD is moving forward on:

#### **RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM**

On February 6, the Town Council approved the establishment of pay scales for Reserve Officers. The pay will be:

- Level 1 Reserve - \$25/hour
- Level 2 Reserve - \$23/hour
- Level 3 Reserve - \$20/hour

Providing pay for Reserve Officers will make the MLPD competitive with other local agencies that have reserve programs and serve as a recruitment and retention tool.

Anyone interested in learning more about the MLPD Reserve Program should contact Sergeant Marc Moscovitz at (760) 934-2011.

#### VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Many police departments benefit from active volunteer programs where trained volunteers assist police personnel by staffing front counters, completing reports, and providing community patrols. Retired Sergeant Karen Smart has agreed to manage the MLPD's volunteer program. At some time in the future, information will be released about the types of volunteer work available and the selection criteria. Anyone interested in volunteering with the MLPD should be on the look-out for a news release announcing the start of the program.

#### TECHNOLOGY

The MLPD is moving forward with technological advances on several fronts. They include:

- An on-line reporting system where certain crimes can be reported on-line.
- An on-line crime and traffic report purchase program where victims of crimes and parties in traffic collisions can purchase copies of reports on-line.
- Access to surveillance cameras at the North Village.
- Surveillance cameras at the Volcom Brothers Skatepark.

The MLPD is also exploring other technology that will make the Police Department more effective in addressing crime, the fear of crime, and quality of life issues.

#### **Free, Real-Time Property Information Now Available!**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County are proud to present ParcelViewer, the Town and County's official web-based property information system. This free, public, on-line service can be relied upon to provide convenient, accurate and up-to-date information, based on the official Assessor's data-base. Use ParcelViewer to view and print customized parcel information and maps, including:

- Zoning Information
- Property Addresses
- Complex Names/ Condo Unit Numbers
- Parcel Lines\*
- Valuation Data
- Acreage
- Aerial imagery of surrounding properties and more!

Visit Parcel Viewer today at <http://gis.mono.ca.gov/parcelviewer/>

#### **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions**

Some of the most frequently asked questions about legal rentals and Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) are:

##### **What is a transient rental?**

A transient rental is any unit that is occupied for the purpose of sleeping, lodging, or similar reasons for a period of 30 consecutive days or less in exchange for a fee or similar consideration.



### **Can I rent my unit as a transient rental?**

Only some zones within the Town of Mammoth Lakes permit transient rentals. The following zones permit transient rentals:

- RMF-2 (Residential Multi-family 2)
- CL (Commercial Lodging)
- CG Commercial General)
- R (Resort, including master plan areas)
- SP (Specific Plan, including North Village and Clearwater)

This list is intended as a guide only. Although the above zones permit transient use generally, other regulations, such as those found in master plans, CC&Rs, or project conditions of approval may prohibit transient rental within a particular development. Generally, transient rental of single family homes is prohibited. A zoning map can be found on the Town's website.

### **What is transient occupancy tax (TOT)?**

Transient occupancy tax, or TOT, is a 13% tax that is charged "for the privilege of occupancy of any transient occupancy facility." The tax is required to be paid to the operator of the transient occupancy facility at the time the rent is paid. It is the operator's responsibility to remit the TOT to the Town.

### **Do I need to pay TOT?**

If you are renting your unit as a transient rental, even if it is only for one weekend a year, you need to pay TOT. This includes single family homes and other units that are not permitted to rent nightly, but may be doing so illegally. TOT shall be remitted for each night the unit is rented.

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

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

### **Do I need a transient occupancy tax certificate?**

Yes. You are required to purchase a transient occupancy certificate for each rental unit to post in your transient rental property. This is included as part of Schedule E or F in the business tax certificate application.

### **What is the difference between a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate?**

Business tax is an annual tax and is required for all business activity. The transient occupancy tax certificate is a one-time purchase that is non-transferable. This certificate is required to be posted in your transient rental unit.

### **Do I need a business tax certificate if all of my rentals are handled through a reservation company?**

If all of your rentals are handled through a reservation company, most reservation companies will purchase the transient occupancy tax certificate and collect and remit the TOT to the Town. You may wish to check with your reservation company to confirm that this is being taken care of. If you rent your unit by owner in addition to renting with a property management company, you are also required to obtain a separate business tax certificate and transient occupancy tax certificate.

### **How do I apply for a business tax certificate?**

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit, \$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273.

### **Do I have a business tax certificate?**

To find out if you have a valid business tax certificate on file, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273 or your property management company.

### **What is illegal rental activity?**

Illegal rental activity is any rental activity that is not consistent with the Town's Zoning Ordinance, or any rental activity that is not compliant with the Transient Occupancy Tax Ordinance. This can include transient rental of units located in zones that prohibit transient rentals. It can also include transient rentals in a zone where it is permitted, but when the TOT is not remitted to the Town.

### **How can I report illegal rental activity?**

If you suspect illegal rental activity, you may submit an anonymous tip via the Town's TOT hotline at (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's name if you have it. You may also email [tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](mailto:tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us). Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

### **Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline**

If you have questions about TOT enforcement, or if you would like to report suspicious activity or rental advertisements please contact our anonymous hotline. The Town will follow-up on any reports submitted. The Hot Line Number is (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or email your information to: [TOT@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](mailto:TOT@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us).

### **Register for CodeRED**

Residents of Mono County can register their cell phones to receive emergency CodeRED (reverse 911) alerts from Mono County. This is a county public service available to all Mono County residents so please tell your friends and neighbors in Mono County that they can register for this service. CodeRED announcements are for personal notification and will not replace CERT CAHAN notification. Here is how to sign register/sign up using the INTERNET:

- Go to [monosheriff.org](http://monosheriff.org)
- Scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;

- Click on it and follow directions.

### **Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance**

In 2003, the Town implemented an outdoor lighting ordinance to eliminate light pollution and preserve views of our starry skies. The outdoor lighting ordinance was adopted to encourage residents to administer a lighting system that not only promotes public safety and night-time ambiance but to maximize energy conservation. To eliminate glare and light trespass into neighboring properties and roadways, the outdoor lighting fixtures on your property should be shielded and re-directed to shine downward or changed out to a lower wattage. More information about responsible lighting can be found at [www.crlaction.org](http://www.crlaction.org).