



Town of Mammoth Lakes
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Town e-News: August 6, 2021

Town Announcements

Mono County Issues Indoor Mask Order Following Increase in Local COVID-19 Cases

Effective **Friday, August 6**, Dr. Richard O. Johnson, Acting Public Health Officer for Mono County, issued a Local Health Order requiring the use of face coverings for both vaccinated and unvaccinated residents and visitors within indoor public spaces.

This Order will remain in effect until rescinded, in writing, by the Mono County Health Officer based on three consecutive weeks of adjusted case of below 6.9 per 100,000. As of July 24, the county's case rate per 100,000 was 15.3.

"During the last six weeks, increased interactions among members of the public have resulted in an increased number of daily new COVID-19 cases in Mono County, with case rates more than quadrupling since reopening on June 15," said Bryan Wheeler, Mono County Director of Public Health. "Community transmission of COVID-19 within Mono County is now considered Substantial by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) indicators, and we anticipate the rate to continue to increase over the coming days and weeks."

The Order includes the following:

- All persons within Mono County and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, regardless of vaccination status, shall wear face coverings while in indoor public settings, venues, gatherings, and businesses (examples include offices, retail, restaurants, theaters, family entertainment centers and meetings, among others).
- Individuals, businesses, venue operators, or hosts of public indoor settings must require all patrons to wear masks, for all indoor settings, regardless of their vaccination status, and post clearly visible and easy to read signage at all entry points to communicate the masking requirements for patrons.
- Recommendation: It is recommended that all persons wear face coverings while attending large outdoor public events.

The following individuals are exempt from wearing masks:

- Persons younger than two years old. Very young children must not wear a mask because of the risk of suffocation.
- Persons with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that prevents wearing a mask. This includes persons with a medical condition for whom wearing a mask could obstruct breathing or who are unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a mask without assistance.
- Persons who are hearing impaired, or communicating with a person who is hearing impaired, where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication.
- Persons for whom wearing a mask would create a risk to the person related to their work, as determined by local, state, or federal regulators or workplace safety guidelines.

A number of counties have issued similar Orders in the past few weeks, including many of Mono County's drive market counties such as Los Angeles County. In addition, both the CDC and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) recently recommended that unvaccinated and fully vaccinated individuals wear a mask in public indoor settings in areas of Substantial or High transmission.

The official Order can be accessed online: <https://coronavirus.monocounty.ca.gov/>

Mono County residents and visitors are encouraged to visit the California Department of Public Health's My Turn website at myturn.ca.gov to schedule local COVID-19 vaccination appointments or visit an upcoming Mono County Walk-In Clinic. Mammoth Hospital, Vons, and Rite Aid have all joined in the vaccination effort, and appointments are available via My Turn. In addition to the My Turn website, appointments can be made directly with medical providers and at Mammoth Hospital.

Mammoth Lakes' Town Council Allocates \$1.5 million to Access Apartments

Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. (MLH) is excited to announce that it is \$1.2 million closer to starting construction on eleven one-bedroom apartments. The Mammoth Lakes' Town Council approved an increased funding commitment to the Access Apartments project at their July 21st meeting to provide the required leverage for grant sources. The Town's increased allocation brings the total local commitment to \$1.5 million. This funding is part of a \$6 million commitment by the Town to housing-related projects and programs that includes:

- \$1.5 million to Mammoth Lakes Housing low-income Access Apartments – 11 units
- \$3 million to construct 6 rental units targeted at moderate income households
- \$1.5 million to purchase 6 deed restrictions on new units for moderate income households

"The Town is pleased to be a partner in assisting this project to proceed as it will provide much needed affordable housing for our community." Bill Sauser, Mayor.

MLH purchased the property located at 238 Sierra Manor Road in 2017 through a partial land donation with the intent to convert the two commercial properties into eleven one-bedroom apartments. Since then, the nonprofit has held community workshops, hired an architecture firm, and applied for grants and building permits. The project is considered shovel ready pending outstanding financing.

A local commitment of \$1.5 million in Town funding will allow MLH to leverage approximately \$5,200,000 in State and Federal funds designated for affordable housing development. This investment in community housing will support the community by alleviating overcrowding and providing affordable rents while also assisting local businesses attract and retain employees.

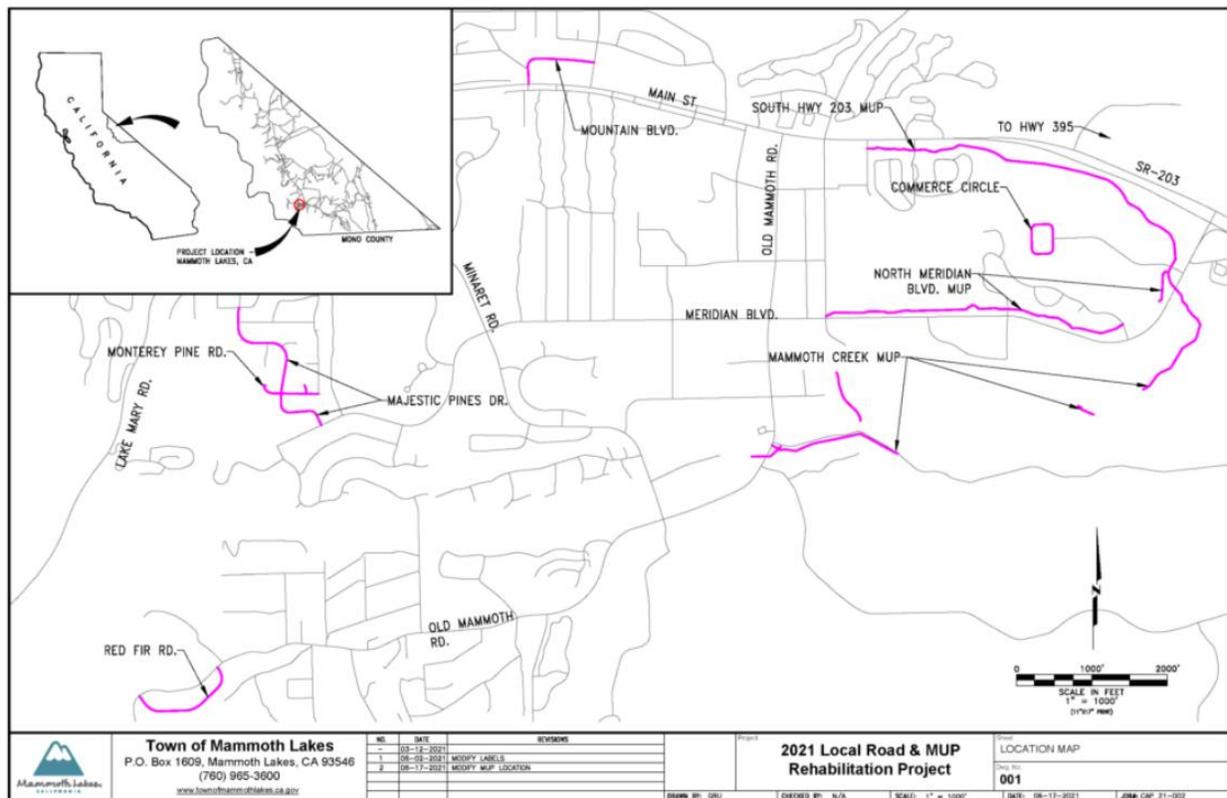
"This significant contribution enables us to leverage the local funds three times over with State, Federal, and additional local grants from partners in the region to create this housing project. It's evident that we need to work together," Patricia Robertson, Executive Director.

As the local nonprofit Community Housing Development Organization serving the Eastern Sierra, MLH hopes to replicate this small, infill affordable housing development model throughout the region to continue to address the housing needs of our communities one project at a time. Occupancy is scheduled in the summer of 2023.

For more information or to make a donation, please visit www.mammothlakeshousing.org or contact Patricia Robertson at (760) 934-4740.

Multi-use Path (MUP) and Road Improvements

- On July 21st, Town Council awarded the \$2.38 million Local Road and MUP Rehabilitation STIP Project to Qualcon Contractors, Inc. This project is anticipated to begin in late-summer/early-fall. Staff has coordinated local utility companies to conduct any necessary infrastructure improvements in the right-of-way prior to paving and staff intends to use any open trench as an opportunity to place conduit for future broadband connectivity.
- The project scope of work includes maintenance of the following streets and MUP's:
 - Mountain Boulevard – from Main Street to Sierra Boulevard.
 - Monterey Pine Road – from the west end to the turn near 479 Monterey Pine Road, including Monterey Circle.
 - Majestic Pines Road – from Meridian Boulevard to Silver Tip Lane.
 - Red Fir Road and Commerce Circle
 - Multi-use Paths (MUP's) – see map below:
 - South Highway 203 MUP from Thompsons Way to Trails End Park
 - North Meridian Blvd. MUP from Trails End Park to Sierra Park Road
 - Sections of the Mammoth Creek MUP



CPUC Unveils New Website to Better Serve Californians

The CPUC has launched a redesigned website that offers convenient access to essential information about its programs and policies that benefit Californians. The redesigned website features an engaging user experience, improved functionality across desktop and mobile devices, and enhanced navigation and search features to put information at the public's fingertips.

The CPUC's primary goal during the redesign process was to ensure that key features of the new website met the needs of California consumers, practitioners, and others who rely on the site. Specifically, the CPUC focused on making the website easier for consumers to find

information and stay up-to-date on key issues and programs and services. In addition to modern design features, the CPUC streamlined the navigation and optimized the search tools based on feedback from focus groups. View the new website: <https://www.cpuc.ca.gov/>

Old Mammoth Road Transit Update

The Town Council discussion regarding Old Mammoth Rd Transit Service (previously scheduled for August 18) has been postponed. The item has not yet been rescheduled. We apologize for this unexpected change. The Town is working with its partners to address community concerns and evaluate various opportunities to ensure a comprehensive report and presentation is provided at a future Town Council meeting. We will send an email notification as soon as the new date is determined.

Town Staff provided a *[presentation to the Planning and Economic Development Commission](#)* on July 14 (click link to view recorded video). An introduction to the presentation can be found below.

We are continuing to collect your input! Please sign in to the **Engage Mammoth Lakes** website at <https://engage.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/woodmen-st-old-mammoth-rd-bus-turnaround> to take the **Old Mammoth Rd Transit Survey** regarding Old Mammoth bus stop locations and other transit service topics. This webpage also includes a project site plan, and **FAQs** about the project and transit service in the Old Mammoth neighborhood.

Town Council Accepts 2020 Community Indicators Report

The 2020 Community Indicators Report uses indicators to report performance related to the “triple bottom line” sustainability goals of the community of Mammoth Lakes: Community, Prosperity, Environment. View the Community Indicators Report here: <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11549/2020-Community-Indicators-Report>

Housing In Lieu Fees Increases to be Considered

The Town Council on August 4 provided direction regarding a potential increase in the Town’s housing in lieu fee charged on new development. Fee increases of 7% is recommended. Formal consideration and a public hearing will be held by the Town Council in September.

Town to Authorizes Agreement with Bird Scooters

Town Council on August 4 authorized staff to finalize an agreement with Bird Scooters. The agreement allows for an initial pilot program for the use of electric scooters in the Town. This represents one means of providing micro-mobility options for our community.

Town Meetings & Events

Town Council

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for **Wednesday, August 18, 2021** beginning at 4:00pm. Public comments can be made in-person in Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Commission/Committee Meetings

August 11 Planning and Economic Development Commission, Zoom, 2:00pm

Sept. 7 Recreation Commission Meeting, Zoom, 1:30PM

Notify Me!

Receive updates sent directly to your email or phone from the Town of Mammoth Lakes by subscribing to "Notify Me." [Click here](#) to subscribe to receive Public Service Announcements, Emergency Alerts, Town e-News, Recreation This Week, No Burn Announcements, DNDP updates, bid postings, news flash, calendar items, and more! Make smart decisions, subscribe today.

Department Updates

PARKS AND RECREATION NEWS...

Beat the Heat at the Whitmore Pool!

The Whitmore Pool is OPEN for full operations (including swim lessons and public recreational swimming). Join us every Saturday from 10am-6pm and Sunday from 12-6pm. Lap swim is currently scheduled every morning Monday-Friday and Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. For further information, schedules and rates, please visit: www.WhitmorePool.com to review the schedule. **Update: Lap swim has been extended to Friday, September 10!**

Summer Camps and Programs Update

Online summer registration remains OPEN! We still have availability in the following camps and programs:

- Explorer 2-Day Camp (Session 4)
- NEW Treasure Hunters Camp (Session 2)

Youtheatre Camp Performances

Don't miss these artistic masterpieces by our local youth. Performances will take place at the Sam's Woodsite on Friday, August 13 ('Grease') and Saturday, August 14 ('Beauty and the Beast') from 2pm. Admission is only \$5 (children are free) - first-come, first served. Cash only.

Adult Softball League Playoffs

The Adult Softball League begins playoffs on Monday, August 9. Please view the Men's League and Coed League standings and schedules on the Town's website.

Parks and Facilities Update

Whitmore Pool, Trails End Park, Volcom Brothers Skatepark, Shady Rest DiscGolfPark, Shady Rest Park, Whitmore Recreation Area, Community Tennis Courts (1-4) and the multi-use pathways throughout town and the Lakes Basin are OPEN. Learn more about our parks and facilities [here](#).

Community Recreation Center (CRC) Construction Updates

Visit the Town of Mammoth Lakes [Facebook page](#) (#crcupdates) for frequent updates on the construction and planned programming of this new community recreation amenity.

MAMMOTH LAKES POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS...

Police Activity and Services

Forest Service Patrols: The Mammoth Lakes Police Department signs, each year, a Cooperative Law Enforcement Agreement with the USDA Forest Service Inyo National Forest, contracting MLPD to patrol areas within the Forest Service's jurisdiction. These

vehicle patrols are conducted in Shady Rest, the Mammoth Lakes Basin and Minaret Vista from May 24 to September 30 and the U.S. Forest Service reimburses the department for these services. You may notice Police Officers driving through, responding to calls, issuing tickets, or moving along bears in these areas when they are technically outside of the Town Limits. This Agreement with the Forest Service is a great partnership allowing our Agency to engage with Mammoth's many visitors camping in the busier developed campgrounds.

Speeding Enforcement: During the months of June and July, MLPD issued 25 speeding violations on SR 203/Main Street. Many additional drivers were pulled over and received a speed warning. Just having a Police Officer parked on SR 203 likely helped slow speeders down. MLPD's speed enforcement campaigns will continue to help protect our community members, visitors, and wildlife. The department's new mobile radar trailer is still being moved around Town with recent locations including Westbound Main Street at the California Welcome Center, Eastbound 3800 block of Main Street, Minaret Rd. outside of Snowcreek Condominiums, Old Mammoth Rd. at Sherwin Creek Road and on Meridian Rd. to help traffic flow with the graduation parade. The message board on the radar trailer is fully customizable and the current message reads "35 means 35" when you are over the speed limit!

OHV Patrols: MLPD's new OHV Program is very successful so far with 406 miles of trails patrolled, 74 OHV riders and dispersed camper contacted, and 5 warnings issued. The Officers also assisted with an OHV collision on Sherwin Creek Road and helped patrol Crowley Lake during the 4th of July Fireworks. OHV Razor patrols typically include moving along campers from illegal dispersed camping areas, advising on illegal campfires, contacting riders for community engagement, issuing warnings or citations for speeding, expired registration & missing helmets along with assistance in collisions or other emergencies. The goal of the MLPD's OHV program is to provide safety and education for both residents and visitors and to reduce intrusions into the wilderness and other protected areas.

Lost and Found Property: Did you know that the Police Department receives found property almost daily? Wallets, cell phones, bikes, license plates and more! Please be sure to contact us if you've lost property or if you have found property in Mammoth Lakes. Stop on by 58 Thompsons Way or give us a call at 760-965-3700.

Programs

Car Seat Program: Mammoth Lakes Police Department is proud to offer car seat inspections, education and replacement seats courtesy of SafeKids Mono County and California Public Health Department Kids' Plates & Vehicle Occupant Safety Programs (residents only please). Contact Community Service Officer Kari Orr to schedule car seat inspection at 760-965-3710 or by email at: korr@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

MLPD Explorer Post 7880: Do you have or know a child who might be interested in Law Enforcement? Explorers meet weekly on Wednesday evenings and actively participate in police training including physical fitness, ride-alongs, court procedures and local events. The requirements to join are: 14 years of age or older, graduated the 8th grade, maintaining a 2.0 GPA, no felony or misdemeanor convictions and be willing to work hard. For questions about the Explorer Program, please contact Officer Daniel Hansen at 760-965-3703 or email: dhansen@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Ride-Along Program: We also have a Ride-Along Program to encourage community involvement in the law enforcement process. Interested citizens and students can fill-out an application for this program which allows them to ride as a passenger in a patrol vehicle for the day (masks required). If you are interested in a Ride-Along, please do not hesitate to contact us for the application at 760-965-3700.

Station Tours: If you oversee a youth, school group or are just looking for something different to do with your family, please contact us to schedule a station tour (masks required) at 760-965-3700 or email: contactmlpd@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov

Mammoth Lakes Community Emergency Response Team (CERT): CERT has begun recruitment for new members and a free CERT Academy will take place in October. The CERT program educates people about disaster preparedness and trains them in basic disaster response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, and disaster medical operations. CERT responds to requests for aid in coordination with MLPD, MLFD and the Mono County Health Department. For more information, please contact Sergeant Joe Vetter at 760-965-3713 or jvetter@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Police Community Alerts

Mammoth Lakes Basin Parking: A reminder that all drivers in the Lakes Basin must park in either a designated parking space or have their vehicle's tires off the pavement. This doesn't mean off-roading your car into the neighboring forest! However, you can park parallel to Lake Mary Road if all vehicle tires are on the dirt. Parking is very limited this summer and taking the Town's free Trolley to the lakes might be more convenient. Some trolleys tow a courtesy bike rack trailer and muzzled dogs are always welcome. Our Community Service and Code Compliance Officers are patrolling the Lakes Basin daily and parking citations are issued as necessary.

No Overnight Parking at Park & Ride Lot, Corner of Old Mammoth and Tavern Roads: This year, MLPD is asking that all overnight and long-term backpackers park their vehicles in Lots A or B just below Mammoth Mountain's Main Lodge (no reservations needed). Alternatively, vehicles can be parked at the departure trailhead such as the Duck Pass lot at the end of Coldwater Creek. Unfortunately, vehicles will no longer be able to stay overnight at the Town's Park & Ride Lot at Tavern and Old Mammoth Rd. The reason for this parking change is due to the anticipation of record visitation this summer. The small Park & Ride lot, which is already frequently at capacity, is now to be used for day trips, carpooling, and electric vehicle charging. Please give us a call if you need additional information at 760-965-3700.

The Police Department reminds all visitors and residents to please keep safety in mind while enjoying beautiful Mammoth Lakes during the summer and fall with the following safety tips:

Driver Safety

- Be aware of the pedestrian crosswalks on Main Street & Old Mammoth Road
- Be courteous to bicyclists and give ample room when passing
- The sun is powerful at higher elevation, never leave children or pets in unattended vehicles, even if the outside temperature feels reasonable

Bicycle Rider Safety

- Obey the rules of the road – stop at red lights and stop signs, use hand signals, etc.
- Wear a helmet and bright-colored or reflective clothing while riding
- Ride with traffic, never against it
- Bicycle lighting is required at night
- Bicyclists must use the bicycle lane when on a roadway equipped with such lane and the bicyclist is moving slower than the normal speed of traffic

Pedestrian Safety

- It's dark at night in Mammoth Lakes - Do not assume drivers can see you
- Pedestrians do not automatically have the right of way

Altitude Safety

- Drink plenty of water
- Moderate activity on the 1st day at elevation
- Use sunscreen and lip protection
- Always bring along layers, the weather can be unpredictable
- Water is cold year-round at this elevation

Wildlife Safety

- Bears are present – Keep your doors locked and do not leave food or other scented items like sunscreen, deodorant, chapstick, etc. in your vehicle
- Secure dumpsters after use and do not leave trash/food unattended outdoors
- Black bears are easily scared off by yelling, loud noises and waiving your arms
- Slow down! Speeding kills wildlife and collisions with wildlife will cause major damage to your vehicle

Hiker Safety

- Let someone know where you are going
- Bring enough food, water (not safe to drink out of the streams), clothing, and reasonable safety equipment for the nature of your hike
- Be aware that cellular phone service may not work, Garmin inReach® or spot device is recommended.

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Town Council Accepts 2020 Community Indicators Report

The 2020 Community Indicators Report uses indicators to report performance related to the “triple bottom line” sustainability goals of the community of Mammoth Lakes. These goals and indicator results reflect the interplay between the social, environmental, and economic factors affecting the community’s well-being. Impacts from the COVID-19 Pandemic are evident in the 2020 Community Indicators Report.

Indicators that were significantly affected by the pandemic are identified and acknowledged throughout the report. The purpose of this report is to educate local residents, inform planning and other public resource allocation decisions, and attract new private capital to the community. The indicators in this report are influenced by sustainability actions taken by the Town of Mammoth Lakes (Mammoth Lakes), other public agencies, non-governmental organizations, private sector businesses, and local residents.

View the Town of Mammoth Lakes 2020 Community Indicators Report: <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/808/Annual-Planning-Reports>

Mobility Hub Study Survey

Town staff are working to complete the Mammoth Lakes Mobility Hub Study and Program by using previously collected data and new stakeholder input to determine whether the mobility hubs proposed in the Administrative Draft are still appropriate. As part of this process, we are identifying quick-build mobility hub strategies that could enhance the use of the existing park-and-ride lot on Old Mammoth Road, and determining whether any mobility hub strategies have the potential to enhance the future Community Recreation Center (CRC) at Mammoth Creek Park mobility hub or other locations. We are conducting a survey that will help us better understand traveler behavior and interests, therefore identifying strategies that will help reduce driving, increase walking, and manage parking, among other things. Please click on this link <https://forms.office.com/r/61stG9eLkT> or scan the attached QR code using your mobile phone to take the survey. Please feel free to pass this on to your constituents and let me know if you have any questions.



Summer Air Quality Monitoring

During the summer months, the region can occasionally experience wildfire smoke impacts from active wildfires throughout the State. The Town of Mammoth Lakes in coordination with the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District (GBUAPCD) continually monitors air quality in Mammoth Lakes. The Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District is a California regional government agency that works to protect the people and the environment of Alpine, Mono and Inyo Counties from the harmful effects of air pollution.

When air quality has reached unhealthy levels, both the GBUAPCD and Mono County Health Department will issue Health Advisories. Check current smoke impacts from active fires that are affecting the air quality in the region by visiting the dedicated Air Quality Information webpage on the Town website: <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/414/Air-Quality-Information>.

Go Digital!

Are you looking for help to bring your business online? The State of California has launched an e-commerce initiative to promote accelerators and intensive trainings to build the skills necessary to compete in an online marketplace and drive Californians to support small businesses through online festivals. Find out more here: <https://business.ca.gov/advantages/small-business-innovation-and-entrepreneurship/get-digital-ca/>

Building Division

The Building Division has published prescriptive (pre-approved) designs for decks, stairs, and porches. If you are planning on building one of these structures, please review the plans on our webpage as they may eliminate the need for engineering and designs. <https://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11281/Prescriptive-Designs---Deck-Stairs-Porch-Roof?bidId=>

Temporary Outdoor Dining – Summer 2021

On June 2 the Town Council directed staff to implement a process to allow outdoor dining within required parking areas during summer 2021 to accommodate increased social distancing related to COVID-19. If you have questions about outdoor dining, please contact the Planning Division at planning@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT NEWS...

Work for the Town of Mammoth Lakes!

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

Public Service Announcements

Inyo National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Fire Restrictions

The Inyo National Forest and Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office implemented (Stage 1) fire restrictions on all Federal lands under their jurisdiction. This decision is based on very high fire danger, drought conditions coupled with extremely dry vegetation, an increase in human caused wildfires and the availability of firefighters for response. Seasonal fire restrictions for the Eastern Sierra Region are being implemented in close coordination with the Cal Fire San Bernardino/Inyo/Mono Unit and the Mono County Sheriff's Office. [Click here](#) to review the fire restrictions now in effect for your safety.

Residential Recreational Fire Restrictions in Mammoth Lakes

In conjunction with the fire restrictions put in place by the Inyo National Forest and Bureau of Land Management which prohibit campfires outside of developed campgrounds and recreation sites, MLFD is prohibiting residential recreational fires within the Town of Mammoth Lakes. If you obtained a permit for a recreational fire pit on your property, it is suspended until further notice. Propane fire pits that do not burn wood will continue to be allowed.

Camp like a Pro!

Learn how you can camp like a pro this summer. The Eastern Sierra Dispersed Camping Collaboration's (ESDCC) developed a five-point campaign to improve management of dispersed camping. Visit the comprehensive [website](#) for tips on campsite selection, campfire skills, an interactive camping map and helpful resources.

"Through our collaborative efforts, we have identified real actions to implement this summer to protect our communities and public lands, while preserving our forests, water, and way of life here in the Eastern Sierra," stated Supervisor Gardner.

Keep Bears & All Wildlife Wild

As the summer season gets underway, the Inyo National Forest and California Department of Fish and Wildlife would like to remind visitors to be vigilant with proper food and trash storage. Working together with visitors, permit holders and private and public entities we can help keep wildlife wild.

We offer the following recommendations for proper food storage and appreciate your participation to this matter. The following recommendations include rules and responsibility with the intent that such practices become the norm and lead to positive experiences when visiting the Inyo National Forest.

Do not leave food or fragrant items without properly storing them. Bears and wildlife have a keen sense of smell and will access your campsite, car, or cabin if you don't take the precaution of storing your food properly. Bear-resistant containers, including equine panniers, are the most effective method of food storage. Use bear resistant food lockers (normally 48 inches wide, 29 inches deep and 38 inches high (24 cubic feet). Lockers are at many trailheads and campgrounds to be shared by visitors. Space in lockers is limited so bring only what you will need during your trip. Deposit trash in bear resistant trash cans, not in lockers.

Non-food items such as plastic bottles, water bottles, coffee mugs, pet food, empty cans, trash, wrappers, cosmetics, grocery bags, boxes, and ice chests must also be secured. Do not leave these items in your car or tent. Removing such items may help deter a bear from entering and doing damage to property. Always clean up your camp of food and trash promptly after meals so that bears are less likely to visit your camp. If you have a child who

uses a car seat, please consider cleaning the car seat, because too often there are food particles found in car seats that may attract bears. Other attractants such as bird feeders & bird houses (not authorized) could also attract a bear, and should not be placed on forest system lands. Please discontinue this practice.

In all wilderness areas of Inyo National Forest, use of bear-resistant containers is strongly recommended. There are eight specific areas where using a container that prevents access by bears is mandatory: Bishop Pass Area, Cottonwood Lakes Basin/ Cottonwood Pass Area, Duck Pass/Purple Lake Area, Fish Creek Area, Kearsarge Pass Area, Little Lakes Valley Area, Mammoth Lakes/Rush Creek Area, and the Mount Whitney Area. Maps for these areas can be found at: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/Inyo/Bears.

Bear containers are preferred over counter-balance hanging because trees are limited above certain elevations, and where they do occur, they are easily accessible to climbing bears. Bear proof designs are proven deterrents, odor proof, weigh less than 3 pounds, and come in hard and soft designs.

Black bears (*Ursus americanus*) are the most abundant and widely distributed bear; they have been recorded in all states except Hawaii. Black bears can vary in color from jet black to cinnamon to white. Bears eat a variety of plants and animals; their diets consist mainly of grasses, roots, berries, insects, and fish and animals, including dead animals. They have an acute sense of smell; they can smell a scent from miles away. Although black bears rarely kill or seriously injure people, when they do, it's most often the result of predatory behavior by single males. Most conflicts between humans and black bears occur when bears access and become addicted to human food sources.

More information on proper food storage is on our website at: www.fs.usda.gov/goto/Inyo/Bears. Bear Safety Tips from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife is available at: <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Keep-Me-Wild/Bear>.

To report human-bear conflicts, contact the California Department of Fish and Wildlife at (916) 358-2917, or report online using the Wildlife Incident Reporting (WIR) system at <https://apps.wildlife.ca.gov/wir>.

When To Make A Bear Call

DO NOT CALL:

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

OPTIONAL NON-EMERGENCY

- Bear on porch or deck
- Bear in unoccupied vehicle
- Bear making regular visits to property or under deck or house
- Bear sitting in a hammock (call us so we can come and take a photo!)

EMERGENCY - CALL 911:

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

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
- Scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
- Click on it and follow directions.