



Town of Mammoth Lakes

P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546
Ph: (760) 934-8989
Fax: (760) 934-8608

Town News

Week of January 9, 2012

News from the Town Manager

Special Meeting of the Town Council – Jan. 10

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a special meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes was called by the Council to be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 commencing at 1:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers/Suite Z, Minaret Shopping Center, Old Mammoth Road. Said special meeting shall be for the purpose of **CLOSED SESSION**: Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 subdivision (c) with regard to Case No. C059239 being held in the Court of Appeal of the State of California Third Appellate District, Mammoth Lakes Land Acquisition v. Town of Mammoth lakes.

Town Council Meeting – Jan. 18

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, January 18, 2012 beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a joint workshop with the Recreation Commission. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Chief Watson Swears in New Sergeant

Mammoth Lakes Police Officer Paul Robles was sworn in as the newest Sergeant for the Mammoth Lakes Police Department during a brief ceremony at the Police Station on January 4, 2012. Sergeant Robles filled the vacancy created by the retirement of Sergeant Karen Smart.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, January 6, 2012 - Saturday, January 7, 2012 = 38%
(65% same weekend in 2011, down 27% in 2012)

Sunday, January 8, 2012 - Thursday, January 12, 2012 = 21%
(35% same midweek in 2011, down 14% in 2012)

So far for MLK weekend Friday, Jan. 13- Sunday, Jan. 15 = 40%

Calls for Service/Officer Observations

221, including 0 business/building checks

Crime Incident Reports

17 reports, including 4 arrests

Traffic Stop/Citations/Traffic Collisions

68 stops; 11 citations; 47 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 2 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

1 incident; 0 reports

Wildlife

2 calls; 0 reports

Twitter

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

Community Development

Mobility Commission Transit Workshop

Each year, the Town's Mobility Commission holds two Transit Workshops; one in January and one in June. The next workshop is Tuesday, January 17 at 5:00 p.m. in Suite Z (one hour later than normal start time). This workshop offers an opportunity for Town residents to bring their concerns, questions and proposals forward for anything having to do with transit. Suggestions for changes or improvements are always welcome, even if they may not be immediately feasible, as the Commission maintains a "wish list" of future routes, hours, and services. Many changes and improvements have come about as a result of past transit rider suggestions.

Our free transit system has evolved over the years as a combined service between the Town, the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA), and the ski area. During the ski season, the ski area offers the red, green, blue, yellow, and orange line service, in addition to the Town-funded ESTA Trolley, Mid-Town Lift, and Old Mammoth Lift.

If you have suggestions or concerns about our transit system, you're invited to attend the Transit Workshop, or to make your voice heard by calling or e-mailing any of the Mobility Commissioners listed on the Town's website at any time. Written comments may also be sent via e-mail to rjarvis@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us or to Ray Jarvis, TOML Public Works Director, P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546.

TOT Enforcement Update

In August 2011, the Town implemented an aggressive transient occupancy tax enforcement (TOT) program. TOT collection, compliance, and enforcement are critical components to the success of our resort community of Mammoth Lakes.

According to Mayor Jo Bacon, "Everyone who visits our town, including our property owners, expect the highest level of service that the Town can provide. When TOT is not collected, those owners/renters are negatively impacting our ability to fund and provide important transit, public safety and road maintenance services."

The Town values the quality of life of our residents and visitors, and because TOT is so important to maintaining our community's vitality we are making a concerted effort to make it easier to find information about and comply with TOT and zoning rules. For TOT-related information, please visit www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us, call us at (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or send an email to: tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Thank you in advance for your understanding and compliance.

Community News

Tioga Pass Remains Open

Tioga Pass is open with no restrictions, and in celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Yosemite National Park will offer free admission into the park starting Saturday, January 14 through Monday, January 16, 2012. The fee waiver is good for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day weekend only. For updated 24-hour weather and road information please call: (209) 372-0200.

Mid-Winter "Snow Guarantee" Pass

For a limited time, Mammoth Mountain has introduced the Mid-Winter "Snow Guarantee" Pass. The Mid-Winter Pass is valid January 9 - February 10, 2012 including weekends, but here's the catch...Starting January 4, 2012 for every day that goes by until we get a total of 24 inches of new snowfall, we'll add another day to your pass for FREE!

Prices start from as low as \$99 for a child, \$229 for Youth, \$249 for Seniors and only \$299 for an adult. The Mid-Winter pass must be purchased by January 9, 2012, and bonus days are simply added to the end of the pass period. Passes can be purchased online at www.mammothmountain.com.

Edison Theatre Presents a Farce of Hysterical Proportion

There's no better way to start off 2012 at the Edison Theatre than with a riotous, door-slamming, dress-dropping, mixed-up-identity farce. Ken Ludwig's *Lend Me a Tenor*, which just completed a successful Broadway run starring Tony Shaloub (Monk) as the hysterical opera company manager, opens in February with strong local talent bringing the crazy cast of characters to life.

It's September 8th, 1934, and Cleveland's premiere opera producer is on the verge of a nervous breakdown. The tickets are sold, the stage is set, and the thirty-piece orchestra is ready. But, it's about to become "un disastro gigantesco," because with three minutes to curtain, the leading man - the greatest tenor in the world, known as "Il Stupendo" has gone missing! And that's only in the first five minutes! Love, lust, laughter, romance, chases, champagne, and opera—what more could anyone want in a night in the theatre?

The local cast features Chuck Scatolini as Tito Merelli, the great Italian Tenor also known as "Il Stupendo"; Greg Young is the scheming opera manager Mr. Saunders; Tim Casey is Max, Saunders' mousy assistant who dreams of an operatic career and who's in love with Saunders' daughter Maggie played by Erica Sutch, who in turn is infatuated with "Il Stupendo." Alice Suszynski plays Julia the overexcited chairman of the opera board; Lynne Blanche is the sexy soprano Diana; Jim Marcotte plays the star-struck bellhop; and Juliana Olinka is "Il Stupendo's" jealous wife, Maria.

"Lend Me a Tenor," will play **February 9-26, 2012** for three weekends, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings at 7:00 p.m., and on Sunday afternoons at 4:00 p.m. Tickets prices for this production are \$20 General Admission and \$18 for seniors and Students.

The Edison Theatre is also offering the opportunity for companies to buy out a night of the theatre as a gift for their employees or supporters; or for local non-profits to partner with us and use an evening's performance as a fun a way to raise funds. If interested, contact Shira Dubrovner at (760) 934-6592 or shira@mammothlakesfoundation.org.

Recreation Highlights

Skate Monday Night!

No more Monday Night Football? Don't despair! Due to overwhelming demand, the Mammoth Ice Rink will now open to the public on Monday evenings. Skate under the lights between 6:30 - 9:30 p.m. for the same low price of \$10 for adults, \$7.00 for youth, and FREE for children under 4 years of age with a paid adult. Prices include skate rental. This winter get your 6th Skate FREE with the new Five Skate Pass (5SP), Seniors and college students skate mid-week for half-price, and local students skate for only \$2.00 per session (including skate rentals). Visit www.Mammothicerink.com for all the details. We'll see you on the ice!

Stick-Time at the Mammoth Ice Rink!

Get some "Stick-Time" at the Mammoth Ice Rink every Wednesday during lunch (12:00 – 2:00 p.m.). Anyone can get on the ice and experience an introduction to Ice Hockey. Instruction is provided and normal skating fees apply, skate rentals, sticks, and pucks available - helmets recommended!

Mammoth Men's 4 on 4 Basketball League Begins Jan. 23

The Recreation Department is hosting a Men's 4 on 4 Basketball League every Monday and Wednesday evening at the MHS gym. The League begins January 23, 2012 and concludes on April 16, 2012. The deadline for signing up a Adult Basketball team is **Wednesday, January 18, 2012**. Teams are admitted into the league on a first-come, first-served basis with 8 person/team maximum. League fees are \$350/team. Fees cover custom jerseys, end-of-season awards, and league administration. For more information please call John at (760) 934-8989 x234 or William at (619) 987-2670. Team and individual sign-ups are taking place now at the Recreation office located upstairs in the Minaret Village Mall.

Open Gym Basketball Begins Jan. 8

The Recreation Department in partnership with the Mammoth Unified School District will be offering open gym basketball at the MHS gym every Sunday from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. beginning January 8, 2012. The cost is only \$2/player per session with the completion of a Town waiver. Program concludes on Sunday, March 25, 2012. Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for additional information.

Pick-Up Youth Soccer Begins Jan. 8

If you're looking for more soccer, the Recreation Department in partnership with the Mammoth Unified School District and Mammoth AYSO will be offering pick-up youth soccer at the MHS Gym every Sunday from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. beginning January 8, 2012. The cost is only \$2/player per session with the completion of a Town waiver. Based on demand, games will be 5 v 5 and structured by age division (U8-U10, U12-U15 & U19). Goals and soccer balls are supplied - shin guards and indoor shoes required (no cleats). Program concludes on Sunday, March 25, 2012. Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for additional information.

Tennis Anyone!

Looking to play some tennis this winter? Head up to the Community Center Tennis Courts and play a few sets with your friends and family. Nets have been erected on courts 3 & 4 so enjoy, and be patient and considerate of other players. We would like to remind you that the bathrooms and water fountains are closed for the winter.

Get Your Skates On Mammoth Lakes!

The new and improved Mammoth Ice Rink is now open to the public. The Mammoth Ice Rink is located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Library and opposite Mammoth High School. The Mammoth Ice Rink is an outdoor facility offering public skating sessions, hockey clinics, pick-up hockey, skating lessons and special events. Amenities include skate sharpening, skate rentals and snack and beverage services.

Session rates for the 2011/12 season have been 'frozen' from 2009/10. Adults skate for \$10.00 with skate rentals, youth (5-15) for \$8.00 with skate rentals, and kids 4 and under skate free with a paid adult. This winter get your 6th Skate FREE with the new Five Skate Pass (5SP), Seniors and college students skate mid-week for half-price, and local students skate for only \$2.00 per session (including skate rentals).

New Hockey Times: Drop-in Ice Hockey has been programmed on Wednesday evenings for youth between 6:30 - 8:00 p.m., followed by women's hockey from 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. On Tuesday/Thursday evenings the men take to the ice between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Saturday morning the youth (5-15 yrs) are on the ice, and an open Hockey session has been scheduled on Sunday morning from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. When visiting the Mammoth Ice Rink, please consider taking the Main Lodge – Village/Vons – Snowcreek Shuttle (Red Line), Mid-Town LIFT (Purple Line) or Old Mammoth LIFT (Grey line) to the Mammoth Ice Rink as parking is limited.

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

Get Gymnastics Fever!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Offered by Michelle DeJong, a level 8 competitive gymnast and Level 1-5 gymnastics coach, participants will learn to tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a

recipient of Measure R funding with \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail.

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

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

Party Yourself into Shape!

Zumba® Fitness offered by Kaysie Williams returns on Monday, January 9, 2012 from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail.

Contact Us

All the summer, fall, winter and Spring events, programs and activities are listed on www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us and in the 2011-12 Annual Mammoth Recreation Guide. Please call the Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 or visit us in the Town Offices – Minaret Village Mall (above Giovanni's) to register for a program, for additional information or to forward your comments and suggestions.

Notify Me!

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

Recreation Events & Activities in Town...

Mammoth High School Sports

On Friday, January 6, 2012 for the first time ever, the girls and boys soccer teams will be playing at Tom Gault Stadium. Women kick off at 3:00 p.m., and the Men at 5:00 p.m. Go Huskies!

Burton Mountain Festival & Pro-Test – Jan. 6

Stop by the snow in front of Main Lodge to experience the Burton Mountain Festival. This three-day event begins Friday, January 6, 2012, and gives everyone a chance to demo and test ride the newest 2012 hardgoods and get information on Burton products. Try before you buy! Test ride Burton's latest gear during Burton Mountain Festival and receive a 10% discount off your purchase of any Burton hardgoods from the Main Lodge Sport Shop. Must be 18 or have a parent-signed liability waiver to demo the gear, and if you're new to freestyle snowboarding you'll love the addition

of the all-new Riglet Park! This area located on the snow in front of the Yodler Restaurant will provide a safe environment for children to experience their first moves on a snowboard, whether it's the basics of balance or sliding a box. For the more experienced, register for the Burton Pro-Test. This all-ages 4-Star TTR contest invites participants in slopestyle and halfpipe to compete for part of a \$7,000 purse and the chance to qualify for the Burton U.S. Open of Snowboarding. It's only \$10 to enter and you can register at Burton.com or on site.

Polar Extremes - ESAC Annual Fundraiser – Jan. 7

Keep the holiday celebrations rolling for one more week with the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center as it holds its annual Season Kickoff Event and Fundraiser on Saturday, January 7, 2012. This year's event features world-renowned ski mountaineer, Andrew McLean, who has completed first descents on all seven continents, and runs the popular website www.straightchuter.com. McLean's presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. and is titled, "Polar Extremes." It covers two trips that McLean took in 2011 to spots on nearly polar opposite points on the globe — Spitsbergen, Norway and the Antarctic Peninsula. The two areas are separated by 145 degrees of latitude.

Doors open for the evening program at Eagle Lodge at 6:00 p.m. and tickets are only \$10. Shortly following McLean's presentation there will be a huge raffle. Don't miss your chance to win a new pair of skis, a snowboard, or one of the other fabulous prizes provided by local businesses and corporate sponsors. Also enjoy light snacks and a no-host bar while you bid on silent auction items throughout the evening.

Earlier in the day, beginning at 11:30 a.m., head over to the Mountainside Conference Center at Mammoth Mountain's Main Lodge for free daytime avalanche clinics. Register between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. for sessions running from 12:30-2 p.m. and 2:30-4 p.m. Local backcountry mountain guides will lead all seminars, and you can pre-register at www.esavalanche.org. All of the daytime events are free and open to the public.

The event is being put on by the Friends of Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center, which is a 501(c) 3 non-profit that supports the Eastern Sierra Avalanche Center in fundraising and outreach. ESAC's mission is to advise and educate the public on avalanche conditions in the backcountry of the Eastern Sierra. They accomplish this through a partnership with the Inyo National Forest and through the support of Inyo and Mono counties, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, the Town of Mammoth Lakes, and Mammoth Mountaineering Supply. Funds raised during the Season Kickoff, other events, and through grants help fund the avalanche forecaster's salary and overall Center operations. The Season Kickoff Event is also the main membership drive of the season. For more information visit www.esavalanche.org

Adventure Slide Show Series – Jan. 10

The 2012 Adventure Slide Show Series has begun. Snowcreek Athletic Club hosts a series of eight multi-media presentations with a focus on adventure every Tuesday night in January and February (except Feb 14). Shows start at 7:00 p.m. Below is the line up....put the shows on your calendar! Come early to grab some food and a drink, and please carpool as parking is limited.

Tuesday, January 10th
Speaker: Jim Barnes
Kyrgyzstan: Climbing Big Walls in the Remote Karavshin

Tuesday, January 17th

Speaker: Shawn Reader with Sean Jones

Yosemite Valley and Hetch Hetchy: First Ascents with Sean Jones

Tuesday, January 24th

Speaker: John Dittli

Leather Boots and Three Pins to Carbon Fiber and Titanium: A 35 year retrospective of Backcountry Skiing in the Range of Light

Tuesday, January 31st

Speaker: Cathleen Calkins

Kamchatka Peninsula: Backcountry Skiing Russia's Remote Volcanos

Tuesday, February 7th

Speaker: Dave Nettle

Italy: A Ski Mountaineering Hut to Hut Adventure in the Ortler Alps

Tuesday, February 21st

Speaker: Kari Castle

Peru: Hang Gliding Over the Andes' Mystical Ruins

Tuesday, February 28th

Speaker: Marty Lewis

The Owens River Gorge: A traditional sport climbing paradise

Glass Creek Winter Exploration with Friends of the Inyo – Jan. 15

This is one of FOI's favorite winter outings for snowshoeing or skiing. This year the weather isn't really cooperating for those activities. But... when life gives you lemons, make lemonade! Rare is the year where we can drive all the way to the trailhead for Glass Creek Meadow in mid January. Meet at the Obsidian Dome Road parking area (opposite the Bald Mountain Road) off Highway 395 on Sunday, January 15, 2012 at 9:00 a.m; we'll carpool, continue to the trailhead and follow the summer trail to the meadow. Perhaps we'll find a weasel in its white winter coat! Some snow and potentially icy conditions should be expected. Bring clothing and footwear appropriate for the conditions, and food and water for a full day. Gaitors and ski poles are recommended. Email todd@friendsoftheinyo.org for more information.

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going: Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- Jan. 6: MHS Soccer
- Jan. 6: Burton Mountain Festival and Pro-Test
- Jan. 7: Polar Extremes - ESAC Annual Fundraiser
- Jan. 7: Mono Cup (USSA Far West Open Series GS)
- Jan. 8: The Unbound Series- Giant Slalom and Slalom
- Jan. 8: Open Gym Basketball & Pick-up Youth Soccer begins at MHS (ends March 25)
- Jan. 9: Zumba Fitness resumes at the Community Center
- Jan. 10: VILLAGE CHAMPIONSHIPS RACE 1
- Jan. 10: Recreation Commission Mtg. Ste Z, 3PM
- Jan. 13: Inyo/Mono League GS 1&2
- Jan. 14: Martin Luther King Holiday
- Jan. 14: National Safety Awareness Week!
- Jan. 14: Volcom Peanut Butter & Rail Jam Qualifiers

- Jan. 15: Jr. VC Race # 1
 - Jan. 18: Joint Town Council/Recreation Commission Workshop, Ste Z, 5PM
 - Jan. 19: Special Meeting of the Recreation Commission, Ste Z, 4PM
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Public Service Announcements

Winter Safety Issues

The [Christmas Day fire in Stamford](#), Ct that claimed the lives of five people, has shaken many in the United States. The fire in Stamford has thrust the focus on home safety once again. On a special holiday, a woman experienced an unimaginable tragedy, seeing her parents and three young children perish in a tragic blaze. It's left many wondering why something so devastating like this can happen.

The investigation has revealed that one of the adults in the home placed what he thought were extinguished fireplace ashes into a bag and placed the bag in the foyer near the back of the home. Fireplace ashes can be deceiving; sometimes where there is no smoke, there can be fire. US Fire Administration officials estimate that there are nearly 11,600 residential building fires in the U.S. each year caused by improper management of hot embers or ashes.

The mistake that people make is removing the ashes too quickly. Even though ashes may look gray, treat everything that's in a fireplace or woodstove as a potential source of fire for up to 48 hours. Proper storage or disposal of ashes is essential to prevent potentially devastating accidents. If you have to remove the embers, place them in a metal container and leave them outside, well away from a structure, for at least a day. Then dispose of them properly.

The Stamford fire became more life threatening as a result of house construction where none of the smoke alarms were operational. Whenever a home is occupied, and especially if used for sleeping purposes, families need to make sure that their home's smoke alarms are in working order. This involves replacing batteries every year with new batteries and replacement of alarms every ten years. There are two types of smoke alarms used to protect residents in the event of a fire; photoelectric and ionization smoke alarms - both respond differently to smoke and flame. Ionization smoke alarms react poorly to deadly smoke but faster to flames while photoelectric alarms react much faster to smoke. To properly protect a residence, both should be used.

In addition to the above, remember other fire prevention measures to keep you and your family safe. Have a family escape plan and practice the plan regularly with the entire family. Be extra careful with any type of heating device and provide for adequate room around the device. Never allow candles to burn in an unoccupied room and never leave a candle burning when going to sleep. Do not use extension cords for anything but temporary use. Keep exits clear of stored items. And remember all single family homes in California are required to have at least one operating carbon monoxide alarm, but usually more are required.

For more information or for any questions pertaining to fire related issues, please feel free to contact the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department at (760) 934-2300.

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

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

1. What is a transient rental?

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

2. Can I rent my unit as a transient rental?

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

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

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

3. What is transient occupancy tax (TOT)?

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

4. Do I need to pay TOT?

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

5. Do I need a business tax certificate?

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

6. Do I need a transient occupancy tax certificate?

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

7. What is the difference between a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Business tax is an annual tax and is required for all business activity. The transient occupancy tax certificate is a one-time purchase that is non-

transferable. This certificate is required to be posted in your transient rental unit.

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

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

9. How do I apply for a business tax certificate?

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit, \$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245.

10. Do I have a business tax certificate?

To find out if you have a valid business tax certificate on file, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245 or your property management company.

11. What is illegal rental activity?

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

12. How can I report illegal rental activity?

If you suspect illegal rental activity, you may submit an anonymous tip via the Town's TOT hotline at (760) 934-8989 x275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's name if you have it. You may also email tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

13. Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline

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

Help Keep Mammoth's Air Clean This Winter

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

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

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

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Register for CodeRED

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

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

Mammoth Lakes Police Department is Looking for Reserve Police Officers

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department is reactivating its Police Reserve Officer Program. Police Reserve Officers are part-time volunteers who supplement the full time officers. They can serve a variety of assignments including patrol, special events, prisoner transportation, and wildlife management. Police Chief Dan Watson reports that he and other Eastern Sierra law enforcement personnel have been working with Cerro Coso College to institute a Reserve Academy at the Bishop or Mammoth Lakes campus. In the meantime, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department is looking for any retired police officers who live in the general area who may be interested in joining the MLPD as a Reserve Officer. Anyone interested in learning more about the MLPD Police Reserve Program should contact Sergeant Marc Moscovitz at (760) 934-2011 ext. 68 or at mmoscowitz@mammothlakespd.org.

New Non-Stop Winter Flights to Mammoth Lakes

Beginning this winter, San Diego and Orange County residents will have easy access to world-class skiing and snowboarding thanks to [United Airlines'](#) new non-stop service to Mammoth Yosemite Airport. United is also expanding service from San Francisco International Airport to Mammoth Lakes with a second flight from Friday – Monday. The new flights will depart daily throughout the winter from San Diego and four days per week from Orange County (Friday - Monday). In addition, air service to and from San Francisco now includes additional Friday - Monday flight service to complement the daily flight service already in existence.

United Express regional partner SkyWest Airlines will operate the flights using 66-seat CRJ700 regional jets which include six first-class and 60 economy seats per plane. The first flights of the season are scheduled to depart Thursday, December 15, 2011 from San Francisco and San Diego and Friday, December 16, 2011 from Orange County. For more information about the new flights or to reserve a seat, call 1-800-UNITED1 or visit www.united.com. For more information about Mammoth Mountain, visit www.mammothmountain.com.

Leash Law Reminder

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

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

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance

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