



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**

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**Town News**

**Town e-News – Week of November 19, 2012**

**News from the Town Manager**

**Town Council Meeting – Dec. 5**

The next regular meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 beginning at 6:00 p.m. The regularly scheduled meeting for November 21, 2012 was cancelled. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

**Chapter 9 Bankruptcy Petition is Dismissed for Mammoth Lakes**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes announced today the dismissal of its bankruptcy case by U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Holman. The dismissal follows the recent historic settlement of a 2008 legal judgment and cancellation of the related airport Development Agreement.

The settlement is between the Town, and, collectively, Mammoth Lakes Land Acquisition LLC (MLLA) and Airport Developer Terrence Ballas ("Ballas"). The settlement amount is \$29.5 million, substantially less than the \$43 million judgment held by MLLA against the Town. The settlement also allows the Town to pay the reduced \$29.5 million amount over for 23 years, at a fixed 5.17% interest rate.

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court order dismissing the Town's case, and detailed settlement documents are available on the Town's web site: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=498>. The Town continues to be open for business. Our recent "Best Summer Ever" campaign was a great success, and we look forward to having the "Best Winter Ever." We invite you to help us live up to this goal!

**Planning Commission Seeks Input on Animation – Nov. 20**

On Tuesday, November 20, at 9:00 a.m. in Suite Z, the Mammoth Lakes Planning Commission is hosting an informal workshop on "animation" - the strategic and smart special events, outdoor sales and signs that pull visitors out of their cars, on their feet and into our shops and eating and drinking establishments to spend vacation dollars.

The Town is in the process of updating the Zoning Code so it is consistent with the General Plan update. Many current regulations don't reflect 21st Century reality in our resort town, and business owners are looking for new ways to promote and animate our commercial districts. Before new Zoning Code language is developed and brought back at future workshops and public hearings before Planning Commission on the Zoning Code Update, staff and the Zoning Code Users focus group need more input from the business community. Can you help?

The November 20 workshop will focus on three things:

- 1) How can we use animation to provide a "Mammoth Experience" for our visitors truly worthy of our spectacular setting and the best ski / snowboard mountain in the world? *Strategic and well-planned animation will enable us to compete successfully with our peer resorts. Everyone's bottom line will benefit.*
- 2) How should the Zoning Code language be written so the rules and regulations on all aspects of animation (special events, signage and merchandising, and outdoor sales, in particular) make for a level playing field on which local business owners can compete fairly?
- 3) How should the Codes that relate to business animation be enforced?

Please join us on Tuesday, November 20, in Suite Z at 9:00 AM to share your thoughts and ideas!

### **Town Seeks Community Solutions for Proposed Restructuring Plan**

On October 3, 2012 the Town Council presented the proposed restructuring plan to the community of Mammoth Lakes. All documents relating to the plan, including how and when you can provide comments can be viewed online at: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=498>. See below for public meeting dates, and times:

#### **Public Input**

The public is invited to comment on the proposed Plan in one of three ways:

- 1) By **attending** one of many public meetings, listed below. (All meetings will take place in the Town Council Chambers.)
- 2) By **calling** the Town Manager's office at (760) 934-8989, extension 223.
- 3) By sending an **email** to [mllasettlement@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](mailto:mllasettlement@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us), the Town Clerk, or the Town Council. All emails will be included in the next Town Council agenda packet.

The Town Council will take into consideration any and all comments received from the public through the above means, as well as through other interactions. If questions are asked, responses will be included in the "**Frequently Asked Questions**" document available on the Town's website.

Meetings on Phase 1 of Restructuring: Position Reductions to Finance the Settlement (October 3 – November 30)

#### **Public Meeting Dates:**

- (Occurred) Wednesday, September 27, 2012.
- (Occurred) Wednesday, October 3, 2012.
- (Occurred) Thursday, October 18, 2012: Continued discussion of all aspects of the Restructuring Plan, and possible alternatives.
- (Occurred) Wednesday, November 7, 2012: Town Council will deliberate on the proposed Restructuring Plan, based on the comments received to date, including the results of the online survey.
- (Occurred) Special Meeting: Tuesday, November 13, 2012
- **Wednesday, December 5, 2012:** Town Council will **vote** on the proposed Restructuring Plan-Phase 1, and move to Phase 2.

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

117, Including 1 Business/Building Check

### **Crime/Incident Reports**

19 Reports, Including 1 Arrest

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

11 Stops; 4 Citations; 12 Parking Citations; 0 Skate Park Citations; 3 Collisions

### **Animal Control Incidents**

0 Incidents; 0 Reports

### **Wildlife**

6 Calls; 1 Report

### **Projected Average Resort Occupancy**

Friday, November 16, 2012 - Saturday, November 17, 2012 = 14%

(19% same weekend in 2011, down 5% in 2012)

Sunday, November 18, 2012 - Thursday, November 22, 2012 = 19%

(18% same midweek in 2011, up in 2012)

Follow 'TownofMammoth' daily on Twitter at [www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us).

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## **Community News**

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### **Reds Meadow Area Open for Winter Use**

Logging operations in the Reds Meadow Valley have been completed for removing down trees from the wind event of last November 30, 2012. Consequently, the area closures in the Reds Meadow Valley will no longer be in effect. While the Reds Meadow Road is closed to wheeled motor vehicles for the season due to snow, access to Reds Meadow Valley will now be open to winter public use, including snowshoer, skier, snowmobile and pedestrian traffic.

Before travel into the Reds Meadow Valley, visitors should be aware of winter conditions and hazards in the area. The Reds Meadow Road is not maintained during winter, and may be subject to avalanche hazard. No services are available in Reds Meadow Valley during the winter. In case of need for emergency communication, public pay phones are located at the Reds Meadow Resort, Devils Postpile National Monument Ranger Station, and across from the Pumice Flat Group Campground.

For more information, please call the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center at (760) 924-5500 or visit the Welcome Center at 2510 Hwy 203 next to the Mammoth Ranger Station.

### **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.

### **BLM Releases Draft Environmental Document for 33-MW Geothermal Project Near Mammoth Lakes**

The Bureau of Land Management today issued a Draft Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (Draft EIS/EIR) analyzing a proposal to develop additional geothermal resources near Mammoth Lakes in Mono County, California.

A 60-day public comment runs through Jan. 15, 2013. Public meetings will be held Wednesday Dec. 5 at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail, Mammoth Lakes and Thursday Dec. 6, at the Crowley Lake Community Center, 458 South Landing Road, Crowley Lake. Both meetings run from 6 to 8 p.m.

The proposed 33-megawatt Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Development Project would be built on the Inyo National Forest within existing federal geothermal leases and private lands. It would include construction of a new geothermal power plant and substation, up to 16 new production/injection wells, multiple pipelines and access roads. A 650-ft long transmission line is proposed to interconnect the new power plant to the existing Southern California Edison substation at Substation Road. The proposed Casa Diablo IV plant, substation, access roads, well pads, pipelines and transmission line would occupy approximately 80 acres.

The agency preferred Alternative 3 differs from the applicant's proposal in pipeline alignments and the location of one well.

The Draft EIS/EIR may be reviewed at the BLM Bishop Field Office at 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100, Bishop, CA 93514, and the Mono County Library at 400 Sierra Park Road, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546. Additionally, CD-ROM versions of the Draft EIS/EIR may be obtained by contacting the Bishop Field Office. The document is also available on the Internet at: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/bishop.html>.

Written comments should be submitted to: BLM, Bishop Field Office, 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 100, Bishop, CA 93514; Attn: Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Development Project Draft EIS/EIR, c/o Collin Reinhardt, Project Manager; by facsimile: (760) 872-5050; or by e-mail: [cabipubcom@ca.blm.gov](mailto:cabipubcom@ca.blm.gov); Subject: Casa Diablo IV Geothermal Development Project Draft EIS/EIR. To ensure comments will be considered, the BLM must receive them by Jan. 15.

Oral comments may be submitted to Margie DeRose at the Inyo National Forest, Supervisor's Office by calling (760) 873-2424, or in person at, 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA 93514, or at a public meeting. Additional information regarding the project can be obtained from Reinhardt at (760) 872-5024, email [creinhardt@blm.gov](mailto:creinhardt@blm.gov).

### **Bluenose - Theatre For Young Audiences At The Edison Theatre – Nov. 17**

The Edison Theatre announces that the Theatre for Young Audiences (TYA) production of "Bluenose" presentations are coming the week of November 12, 2012 with a public performance on Saturday, November 17, at 2:00 pm. TYA is a movement that supports presentation of plays for children, performed by adults, with themes relevant to their lives. It helps develop critical and creative thinking skills by reinforcing thoughts and opinions about the play. Shira Dubrovner, Artistic Director at the Edison Theatre introduced the first local TYA production in 2008 with "Priscilla's Perfect Day." Now, as at that time, she approached local schools throughout Mono and Inyo County to bring their students to the production as a field trip experience. This year several schools are participating, providing their students with this unique opportunity of attending a fun show whose theme is about differences and tolerance.

In addition, Dubrovner provides teachers with an Educators Resource Guide in advance of the production to assist in preparing students before the show and to continue the process after. This year in the 2012-2013 Edison Theatre theatrical season TYA returns with a production of "Bluenose," a rollicking pirate tale with quick and witty banter, fantastic physical comedy, and a lovely story of tolerance and acceptance. Three red-nosed pirates stumble across a blue-nosed girl fishing in the water around their boat. Being different from them is an unthinkable offense, and they don't like it! Despite their bumbling and stumbling ways, she teaches them to let go of their prejudices and fears. And they all learn a little bit about themselves along the way

"We are very excited to be able to include this production in our theatrical schedule this season," commented Dubrovner. "We have a very talented cast of professionals bringing the story to life in Mammoth, led by LA-based director/actor Doug Oliphant, an alumnus of The Kennedy Center, The National Theatre Institute, The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, and the Russia's St. Petersburg State Theatre Arts Academy. Our ability to include this important programming component in our schedule—educating future audiences, is thanks in part to contributions from Measure U and an anonymous donor."

In addition to performances for elementary school students from Inyo and Mono County during the week, and the Saturday public performance, Oliphant is presenting two workshops—one for adults and one for children. The "Movement for Actors" workshop, geared for adults, is scheduled for Wednesday evening, November 14 from 6:00 – 8:30 pm.

The physical comedy workshop for children is on Thursday, November 15 from 3:30 – 6:00 pm. Students will learn clowning basics including: tripping over yourself, shoulder rolls, how to run into a wall, get slapped, slap someone else, and more! Students will be working on acting tools - voice, body, and imagination - to improve individual creativity, confidence, and ability to work and communicate effectively with others.

Both workshops cost \$25 per person and space is limited. The Saturday performance and both workshops take place at Edison Theatre, 100 College Parkway, across from Cerro Coso College. No previous experience is necessary to participate in the workshops. Information and reservations can be made at (760) 934-6592.

### **Mammoth Moves! – Nov. 21**

**What:** Join Dave Wilbrecht, Town of Mammoth Lakes Manager, and the Nutrition & Physical Activity Taskforce for a 30 minute walk! Let's keep shakin' and movin'!

**Where:** Meet at the parking lot in front of the Town Offices (by Giovanni's)

**When:** Arrive at 12:10 p.m. Walk from 12:15-12:45 p.m.

**Contact:** Sandra Pearce at (760) 924-1818 or [spearce@mono.ca.gov](mailto:spearce@mono.ca.gov). Also check out upcoming Mammoth Moves sessions at [www.monohealth.com](http://www.monohealth.com) under Resources, or go to Mono County Health Department's **Facebook** page for the latest Mammoth Moves updates or schedule changes. Here is the direct link to the website page for Mammoth Moves: <http://monohealth.com/public-health/page/mammoth-moves>

### **American Red Cross Emergency Shelter Volunteer Training – Dec. 5**

The American Red Cross is conducting Emergency Shelter volunteer training on Wednesday, December 5, 2012 on the 3rd Floor (Social Services Conference Room) in the Sierra Center Mall 452 Old Mammoth Road between 8:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Training is free - All are welcome! Please RSVP to Marlo Preis at [mpreis@mono.ca.gov](mailto:mpreis@mono.ca.gov) or (760) 924-1793.

Course topics include:

- A. Disaster Services: An Overview is a basic level course that provides an introduction to Disaster Services at the ARC. An introduction to disaster preparedness and response. Engages participants through integrated video & interactive activities.
- B. Shelter Operations is a basic level course designed to give participants an overview of the American Red Cross policies and procedures for setting up, running and closing a shelter during a disaster.
- C. Shelter Simulation is a basic level course. The simulation builds on the information presented in the Shelter Operations and provides participants an opportunity to practice working with procedures for setting up, running and closing a shelter during a disaster.

### **The Friends of Education Dinner Celebrates with Fun & Surprises – Dec. 15**

The 2012 Mammoth Lakes Foundation has special festivities planned as it announces its Friends of Education Celebration on Saturday evening, December 15, 2012. This annual event pays tribute to a Founder of the Year for their unprecedented support and dedication to education, the arts and the community, and to the Volunteer of the Year for selfless service to the mission of the Foundation. This year the event takes place in the Edison Theatre and features a performance of "A Dickens' Christmas

Carol: A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts," with some sparkling additions to the festivities.

The evening begins with a devastatingly delightful display of hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and wines, followed by a presentation of the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre's December production of a fun-filled holiday farce based on "A Christmas Carol"--with apologies to Mr. Dickens. During intermission tasty desserts and dessert wines accompany a presentation of awards to the Founder of the Year and the Volunteer of the year.

A special added feature of this year's event is a special Diamond giveaway! Each attendee has the opportunity to purchase a Diamond Raffle ticket and one lucky winner will walk away with a certified diamond. Diamond Raffle tickets will be available at a price of \$100, limited to one ticket per attendee. The evening will also include a "Holiday" raffle for which unlimited raffle tickets may be purchased. Prizes include two VIP tickets to the July 5-7 Mammoth Food & Wine Experience with other prizes soon to be announced.

Tickets for the event go on sale October 15, so plan your holiday celebration with us now. Seating is limited and the festivities and the setting are sure to be entertaining with a rib-tickling live theatre experience, honoring of some very special people, and awarding a Diamond of a prize!

To purchase tickets to the Friends of Education annual celebration, call (760) 934-3781, or visit the website at [www.mammothlakesfoundation.org/theatre.html](http://www.mammothlakesfoundation.org/theatre.html)

## Recreation Highlights

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### **Mammoth Ice Rink To Open December 7**

The Mammoth Ice Rink is now scheduled to open on Friday, December 7, 2012 (weather permitting). The Mammoth Ice Rink is an outdoor facility located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the new Mammoth Lakes Library offering public skating sessions, hockey clinics, pick-up hockey, lessons and is available for rental.

#### **Admission**

Adults skate for \$10.00 with skate rentals, \$8.00 for youth (5-15) with skate rentals, and kids 4 and under skate free with a paid adult. This winter get your 6th Skate FREE with the 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).

#### **Lessons**

Ice skating group lessons are scheduled every Friday night at the Mammoth Ice Rink. Lessons are scheduled for 45 minutes for a cost of only \$10 per student with a maximum of 8 students per session. Friday night lesson times are 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. for Elementary age children and from 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. for Middle/High School age skaters. Purchase five lessons in advance and get the 6th Lesson FREE! Ice skates are not included in the fee, but are available for rental. Private lessons are available for \$25/hour.

#### **Ice Hockey**

Pick-up Ice Hockey is programmed at the Mammoth Ice Rink for the entire season (includes holiday periods). Please refer to the winter schedule for details. Fees are

\$10 for adults or \$5 for youth per session, or \$150/\$100 for an Adult or Youth Season Pass.

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](http://www.mammothicerink.com), or call the Mammoth Ice Rink at (760) 934-2505 during winter operating hours. We'll see you on the ice!

### **Gymnastics/Tumbling Program**

**NEW SCHEDULE:** Beginning October 19, 2012, the Wednesday session will now take place on Friday. No class on October 26 – join us at the Halloween Party at the Mammoth Roller Rink!

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 programs are available:

- 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 – **Friday:** 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!

### **Zumba Fitness**

Party yourself into shape with Zumba® Fitness offered by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail. Cost: 10 punch-\$77.50; 5 punch-\$42.50; Drop-In rate \$10 per class and your first class is only \$5!

## **Sports & Recreation Calendar**

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|--------------|---|
| ▪ CLOSED     | Reds Meadow, Tioga, Sonora and the Lakes Basin        |
| ▪ Nov. 8     | Mammoth Mountain Opening Day!                         |
| ▪ Nov. 17    | Tamarack Cross Country Ski Center Opening Day         |
| ▪ Nov. 22    | Thanksgiving Day                                      |
| ▪ Nov. 23    | Thanksgiving Art Festival                             |
| ▪ Dec. 7     | Mammoth Ice Rink Opening Day!                         |
| ▪ Dec. 7     | Official Town of Mammoth Lakes Tree Lighting Ceremony |
| ▪ Dec. 14/15 | Old Mammoth Road Jam                                  |
| ▪ Dec. 22    | Mammoth Night of Lights                               |



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## **Public Service Announcements**

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### **Town And Partners Begin Construction On The Mammoth Gateway Community Project!**

The Town and its partners have begun construction on the Mammoth Gateway Community Project, which is a citizen-initiated, public-private partnership, to construct a gateway entry on Main Street. The Project, which was spearheaded by local citizen Mrs. Elizabeth Tenney, involves a number of partners that have contributed many hours and resources, including Snowcreek (Chadmar), Mammoth Mountain Ski Area (MMSA), Mammoth Community Foundation (MCF), Mono County, Mammoth Community Water District (MCWD), the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC), the United States Forest Service (USFS), and the Town of Mammoth Lakes, as well as a number of local citizens.

The Project, which was designed by local artist Larry Walker, (architectural services were provided by architect Bruce Woodward), is intended to reflect the unique environment, culture, and heritage of Mammoth Lakes, and serve as a welcome to visitors and residents. Construction is expected to be completed in mid-November.

For additional information below on the gateway project, please visit the dedicated webpage: [http://mammothgateway.org/Construction\\_Updates.html](http://mammothgateway.org/Construction_Updates.html).

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

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

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

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

### **California Mandates Recycling for Business and Multi-Family Residential Locations**

A new State of California Bill (AB 341) directed by CalRecycle mandating commercial recycling in California goes into effect July 1, 2012. The Town of Mammoth Lakes will be providing education and outreach to help the community comply with the new regulations.

The goal of AB 341 is to increase the statewide recycling rates to 75% by 2020. Starting July 1 2012, businesses and public entities that generate four cubic yards or more of waste per week, including multi-family units of five or more will be required to recycle. The purpose of this new law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling efforts while expanding opportunities for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California.

Please use the following link for additional information provided by CalRecycle that addresses the "Frequently Asked Questions:" <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/Recycling/FAQ.htm>.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), Sierra Conservation Project (SCP) and Mammoth Disposal (MD) are taking active steps to assist businesses and multi-family residences to comply with the new regulations.

Brian Robinette, owner of Sierra Conservation Project commented, "This is a big step in the right direction for recycling and diverting recyclables from our local landfills. The new regulation will give the extra incentive needed to make recycling programs a reality at all Mammoth Lakes business and residential locations."

The TOML, SCP and MD have been working together for several years to develop and grow recycling programs here in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector states, "Now is a great time for local businesses to take advantage of the numerous recycling opportunities we have available in Town. Condominium complexes can also take advantage of the TOML and SCP's recycling programs which are currently providing start-up infrastructure to the complex at no cost - while supplies last."

The TOML and SCP have applied for additional grant money to continue to offset the start-up cost for multi-family and businesses here in town. Bear proof recycling containers are provided to participating condo complexes, and are serviced by SCP.

Pat Fenton, General Manager of Mammoth Disposal added, "Recycling is at the core of the company's goal of sustainability, and it's the core of our commitment to business owners and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to meet this mandate."

The following recycling programs are currently available within the Town of Mammoth Lakes:

- Commercial cardboard recycling
- Restaurant and bar programs
- Lodging and hospitality programs
- Business recycling
- Office recycling
- Residential recycling
- Aluminum, plastic, and glass
- E-Waste
- Used oil and batteries

Some of the benefits of recycling identified by CalRecycle are creating jobs in California, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, keeping valuable materials out of landfills, and creating a healthy environment for the community and future generations by recovering natural resources.

For more information regarding recycling programs and opportunities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, contact Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 or [jgoetz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](mailto:jgoetz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us).

### **Town & MLFD Identify Potential Safety Issue**

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Community Development Department (Town) and Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (Fire District) have identified an issue with inserted

wood burning fireplace installations in town. If you have either a pellet/gas insert installation or a masonry flue/chase, these types of appliances or installations are not an issue. The issue is that wood burning inserts placed into zero clearance fireplace boxes (fireplace) with factory built metal flue pipes and wooden chases may not have adequate clearance to combustible materials (wood, plywood, and/or sheetrock behind the rock, brick, metal and/or wooden material that doesn't allow you to see on the interior surface of the fireplace façade). This issue can exist in all types of residential occupancies, from single family to multi-family projects. As a result of the clearances that may not have been met, combustible materials are igniting and several fires have resulted around town. Thus far there have been no injuries, but both the Town and Fire District feel that we cannot wait until something tragic occurs before we take necessary action. At this point both agencies are hoping to educate the town population to the concern.

The original fireplace contained fires that never obtained very high burning temperatures, due to the amount of heat that went up the flue. Once the insert was installed, the appliance burned much more efficiently causing the combustibles surrounding the original installation to be exposed to significantly greater heat levels. Another factor is the amount of use the insert is experiencing. The issue is occurring throughout town; no certain complex, no certain installer, no certain type of product, nor any other common characteristic that allows the agencies to narrow down the likely installations of concern. One complex in town had 23 of 60 units show some sign of heat damage to combustibles.

Permitted installations during the last 18 to 24 months that followed the manufacturer's installation instructions have been installed correctly. The Town and Fire District do not mean to alarm anyone, but strongly believe that this situation is serious enough to inform the public on the use and installation of these types of wood burning installations. If you need any further assistance or have any questions, please contact the Fire District at (760) 934-2300 or Town at (760) 934-8989, ex 244. For more information: <http://mammothlakesfd.intuitwebsites.com>

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

This list is intended as a guide only. Although the above zones permit transient use generally, other regulations, such as those found in master

plans, CC&Rs, or project conditions of approval may prohibit transient rental within a particular development. Generally, transient rental of single family homes is prohibited. A zoning map can be found on the Town's website.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit,

\$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 x245.

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **13. Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline**

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

### **Register for CodeRED**

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

1. Go to [monosheriff.org](http://monosheriff.org)
2. scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
3. click on it and follow directions.

### **Leash Law Reminder**

Mammoth residents and visitors are reminded that the Town has a leash law, and it is a violation of the ordinance to allow your dog to run loose off of your property. While budget cuts eliminated the Animal Control Officer position, the laws pertaining

to controlling your pets did not change, and you can still be cited by Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers if your dog is at large. The PD is currently receiving a large number of complaints from several neighborhoods, and will be targeting patrol time in those areas when possible to apprehend loose dogs and to cite their owners. In addition to the citation fine, you could also be charged boarding fees by Mono County Animal Control if we choose to impound your dog at the Whitmore Shelter.

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

### **Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance**

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