



Town of Mammoth Lakes

P.O. Box 1609

Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546

Ph: (760) 934-8989

Fax: (760) 934-8608

Town News

Town e-News – Week of May 13, 2013

News from the Town Manager

Measure U Application Committee Meeting – May 14

The regular meeting of the Measure U Application Committee will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in Suite Z. To review the meeting agenda please visit the following page: <http://ca-mammothlakes.civicplus.com/index.aspx?nid=462>

Town Council Meeting – May 15

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will be held on Wednesday, May 15, 2013 beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a budget workshop. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Notice of Vacancies - Town Of Mammoth Lakes Measure U Application Committee

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that two terms of office are open on the Measure U Application Committee due to the Town Council's decision to expand the Committee's membership. These terms of appointment expire on July 31, 2014.

The Measure U Application Committee is responsible for overseeing the Measure U application process, funding recommendations, and project oversight. The Committee meets monthly on the second Tuesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before **Friday, May 24, 2013 at 5:00 p.m.** Application forms may be obtained from the Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; or by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; or by phoning 934-8989, extension 267; or by visiting the Town's website at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Adds a Reserve Officer

On Wednesday, May 8, the newest (sort of) member of the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) was sworn in by Town Clerk Jamie Gray. Retired Sergeant Karen Smart becomes the first MLPD Reserve Officer in many years. Karen retired at the end of 2011, but has been volunteering since then by working in the property room to reduce the backlog of evidence. When the Police Department announced that it was reestablishing a Reserve Corps to help offset the loss of seven officers, Karen volunteered to be the first Reserve.

Reserve Officer Smart will be coordinating the Police Department's Volunteer Program, scheduled to be presented to the Town Council on June 5. She will also be working some special events like the Fourth of July Parade.

Police Chief Dan Watson said, "It's great to have Karen back in the family. She never really left us, but now she's officially part of the MLPD again."

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

Motorists Urged to Use Caution

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department would like to caution motorists to be extra alert for migrating deer on Highway 395 and Highway 203. Large numbers of deer are on the move at this time of year and they pose a real threat to motorists. Serious injuries or death can occur if you strike a deer at highway speeds. Evidence of multiple vehicle versus deer encounters is visible while traveling on Hwy 395.

The bears are also out of hibernation and are active in and around Mammoth Lakes. The public is cautioned against feeding bears. Well meaning people sometimes feel they are doing the right thing by putting food out for the bears. Just the opposite is true. When bears become reliant on food sources provided by humans, they stop looking for natural food sources and become problem bears. The Town's Wildlife Specialist, Steve Searles, and MLPD officers are trained and equip to condition bears to avoid human food sources. Their efforts are thwarted by people feeding bears, and that can end in tragic results for the bear.

Please help to keep our bear population healthy and safe. Enjoy their presence, but don't intentionally feed them, never leave food in a vehicle, and always lock or secure trash dumpsters.

Calls For Service/Officer Observations

128, including 1 business/building check

Crime/Incident Reports

15 reports, including 5 arrests

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

34 stops; 5 citations; 14 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 0 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

1 incident; 0 reports

Wildlife

5 calls; 1 report

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, May 10, 2013 - Saturday, May 11, 2013 = 24%

(19% same weekend in 2012, up 5% in 2013)

Sunday, May 12, 2013 - Thursday, May 16, 2013 = 14%

(16% same midweek in 2012, down 2% in 2013)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 33% (Friday-Saturday) 14% (Sunday-Thursday)

Condos: 15% (Friday-Saturday) 13% (Sunday-Thursday)

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

Disclaimer: Social media communications regarding Town business may be subject to disclosure. Social media is not the official method of communicating with the Town. Please contact Town staff via telephone, in writing or in person.

Community News

Tioga Pass Road to Open May 11

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has re-opened State Route 120 (west) - Tioga Pass Road, to the East Yosemite Park Entrance Gate. State Route 120 is closed beyond this point. Users can access State Route 120 for recreational activities from the junction of US 395 at Lee Vining up to the park entrance closure gate.

Yosemite Park officials have indicated to Caltrans that Tioga Pass through the Park will open on Saturday, May 11th, dependent on the weather.

For the latest in highway information please visit Caltrans QuickMap site at quickmap.dot.ca.gov or call our Road Condition Hotline at 1-800-427-ROAD (7623).

Inyo National Forest Announces Open Houses for Forest Plan Revision

The Inyo National Forest announces a series of planned meetings to continue dialogue and receive input from the public and interested stakeholders for the Forest Plan Revision.

This follows multiple meetings in March and April to launch the Forest Plan Revision process. As part of the current Assessment Phase, the Forest Service has posted a series of "topic papers" to the Living Assessment Wiki and the Forest website for review. Input can be provided through the Living Assessment wiki, or by hardcopy or email. **The topic papers are available for public review and feedback through June 30, 2013.**

"I look forward to meeting and discussing forest management with those who care about the Inyo National Forest, said Ed Armenta, Forest Supervisor. "These conversations are important for us to understand your interests as we proceed with Forest Plan Revision."

Bishop, CA May 20, 6pm-8 pm Forest Supervisors Office 351 Pacu Lane	Town of Mammoth Lakes, CA May 29, 6-8 pm Community Center 1000 Forest Trail	Dyer, Nevada, June 4, 6 pm -8 pm Fish Lake Valley Community Center, Highway 264
Hawthorne, Nevada June 6, 2013, 6 pm-8 pm, Mineral County Library, First & "A" Street	Webinar June 5, 2013, 2 pm-4 pm, For those who cannot attend a meeting in person.	

Please contact Susan Joyce, Forest Planner, at (760) 873-2516 or sejoyce@fs.fed.us for more information about the topic papers, meetings, or to register for the webinar.

The Forest's Land and Resource Management Plan was completed in 1988. While parts of the plan remain relevant, some elements need to be updated to meet changing demands and to incorporate new information.

These meetings will build on conversations from earlier meetings and allow participants to discuss Forest Assessment topics in greater detail with Inyo National Forest employees. During this Assessment Phase of the Forest Plan Revision process, the public can share key information they have about the forest and raise specific interests and concerns.

More information about the meetings and Forest Plan Revision is available at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/inyo/landmanagement/planning>

Opportunity for Firewood Collection at Mammoth Lakes Basin

The Inyo National Forest announces a special opportunity for personal use fuelwood collection in the Mammoth Lakes Basin on the weekend of May 17-19, 2013. The area will open for fuelwood collection at 8:00 a.m. on these three days. All firewood collection activities must be completed by 4:00 p.m. each day. This is a one-time event for these three days only, which will be supervised by U.S. Forest Service personnel.

You must have a valid 2013 personal use fuelwood permit to collect dead and down material only. Permittees will be required to park along the shoulder of Lake Mary Road during collecting activities, and will not be permitted to drive off-road for firewood retrieval. Firewood gathering will be permitted along existing roads and Forest Service Campgrounds. No firewood cutting will be allowed at lodges, resorts, recreation cabins, the pack station, or any other developed site other than campgrounds. All other wood cutting regulations are in effect. No firewood cutting will be permitted on private land, and the public is asked to avoid trespass on nearby private property at Pokonobe Lodge.

Fuelwood permits may be purchased at local Forest Service Ranger Stations and Visitor Centers. Fuelwood permits are \$15.00 per cord with a two cord minimum purchase. The Inyo National Forest will institute shut down days (for chainsaw use) based upon daily Project Activity Levels. Permit holders can call (760) 873-2555 for information on shut down days.

Fuelwood permits may be obtained at the following locations:
Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center in Lee Vining; (760) 647-3044
Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center in Mammoth Lakes; (760) 924-5500
White Mountain Ranger Station in Bishop; (760) 873-2500
InterAgency Visitor Center in Lone Pine; (760) 876-6222.

Please call ahead for current business hours.

Inyo National Forest Campgrounds Opening

A light winter snowpack and warm spring weather means that many campgrounds in the Eastern Sierra will be open before the 2013 fishing opener weekend (Friday, April 26th), and many more Forest Service campgrounds are expected to be open before Memorial Day.

Inyo National Forest Campgrounds in the Mammoth Lakes and June Lake area expected to open by April 24th include Silver Lake, Oh! Ridge, June Lake, Gull Lake, New Shady Rest, Old Shady Rest, Sherwin Creek and Convict Lake Campgrounds. Further south, anglers will find that McGee, French Camp, Tuff, Forks, Bitterbrush, Four Jeffrey, Big Trees, Intake Two, Upper and Lower Sage Flat Campgrounds are open. Others currently open include Grandview Campground in the White Mountains, Lower Grays Meadow and Lone Pine Campground. Other campgrounds may also open in time for the weekend, depending on conditions.

Forest Service campgrounds can be reserved at www.recreation.gov For more information please go to the Inyo National Forest website at www.fs.usda.gov/recremain/inyo/recreation or call the nearest Forest Service visitor center:

- Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center in Lee Vining; (760) 647-3044
- Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center in Mammoth Lakes; (760) 924-5500
- White Mountain Ranger Station in Bishop; (760) 873-2500
- Interagency Visitor Center in Lone Pine; (760) 876-6222

Many other camping opportunities exist in Bureau of Land Management campgrounds and various Inyo County, Mono County and private campgrounds in the Eastern Sierra.

Save The Date: May 18 is Town Clean Up Day!

Take pride in your neighborhood and volunteer to help clean up our Town on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Drop off your trash, recycling and green waste at the TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY STATIONS conveniently located throughout town. These include locations at the MHS Parking Lot, Community Center, Sierra Valley Sites, Canyon Lodge and the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station. Mammoth Creek Park will once again host the community picnic at 1:00 p.m., and be the HQ for Town Clean Up Day.

The Town will not be distributing or collecting complimentary orange trash bags. Please purchase your yard-waste bags from local businesses, including the Do-It Center (DIY) or High County Lumber/ACE Hardware. Please do not leave bags on the side of the road. These items will not be collected by Town staff or Mammoth Disposal.

The Town encourages property owners, renters, community groups, local non-profit organizations, and homeowner associations to purchase their own trash bags and pitch in to clean-up their neighborhood.

Town Clean-Up Day is proudly supported by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Disposal, United States Forest Service, Mammoth Lakes Fire District, Sierra Conservation Project, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, and the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce.

Look for more information about Town Clean Up Day in our local papers, on the radio or at the Town offices located in the Minaret Village Mall above Giovanni's.

For additional information on Town Clean-Up Day, or to arrange for collection of abandoned vehicles, please contact Sr. Building Inspector Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244, or Recreation Department Supervisor John Connolly at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234.

The Town thanks you in advance for taking pride in your community!

Recreation Highlights

Little Sluggers Instructional T-Ball is Underway!

This is a great program designed to introduce your child to the wonderful sport of baseball. It will also provide a unique opportunity for parents to share quality time with their children while preparing them for future baseball and softball activities. Count on plenty of socializing and fun at no extra charge. All parents are encouraged to help with their children. (Don't be shy just hop right in there)

- WHO: Youth ages 2-5
- TIME: Wednesdays, 5:15 – 6:00 p.m.
- DATES: May 8 - June 12, 2013
- WHERE: Mammoth Elementary School
- COST: \$30 (includes shirts)

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program

NEW SCHEDULE: Last class for spring is May 17, 2013. Classes resume July 30, 2013.

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. 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 yr. olds – Saturday: 8:30 – 9:15am
- 4-5 yr. olds – Saturday: 9:15 – 10:00am
- 5-8 yr. olds – Saturday: 10:00 – 11:00am
- 8-12+ yr. olds – **Friday:** 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & **Saturday: 11:00am-12:15pm**
- 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!

Public Service Announcements

Town Recognized In Annual American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) Community Recycling Award

The Town of Mammoth Lakes and its recycling partners were recently recognized as one of three finalists chosen by the judges in the 2013 American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) Community Recycling Award.

First launched in 2006, the annual AF&PA Recycling Awards recognize outstanding paper recycling programs. Each year, the AF&PA Recycling Awards recognize outstanding business, community and school paper recycling programs across the country. While the programs vary greatly in terms of geography and reach, they are reminders of the on-going commitment of the millions of Americans who recycle at home, work, and school every day. Winners receive bragging rights, a cash prize, and framed artwork, and local and national recognition for their recycling efforts.

"It is amazing that the Town of Mammoth Lakes finished in the top three in the entire country competing against large metropolitan areas as the award includes all communities in one category," said Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes Assistant Building Official & Solid Waste Coordinator. "This clearly reflects our efforts as a community, staff, and partners, which in my mind are "second to none" and clearly demonstrates that we can achieve whatever we set out to do."

Research conducted by the AF&PA found that in 2011, 66.8 percent of the paper consumed in the U.S. was recovered for recycling. This impressive amount is a result of industry leadership and the on-going commitment of Americans who recover their paper and paper-based packaging products at home, work, and school. In addition to establishing a new record-high, the rate makes significant progress toward achieving the industry's goal of exceeding 70 percent recovery, part of the Better Practices, Better Planet 2020 suite of sustainability goals.

Raffy Kouyoumdjian from CalRecycle applauded the Town with its recent recognition. "You made the final three. That is an accomplishment! I am glad that the association recognized the Town of Mammoth Lakes and your efforts."

To qualify for consideration in the 2013 AF&PA Community Recycling Award, the Town of Mammoth Lakes and its partners launched several community recycling programs specifically for the business, community and school categories.

Business Category

Mammoth Disposal, under franchise with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, built a new facility in 1994 to accommodate a larger volume of fiber from all categories. In 1995 a baler was added to increase weight to end customers, and by 2003 Mammoth Disposal added recycling dumpsters throughout the Town, targeting the larger retail customers. The partnership between the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mammoth Disposal, and Sierra Conservation Project delivered accessible and efficient community waste solutions for fiber recycling throughout Mammoth Lakes. Continued efforts have contributed to the recovery of corrugated and non-corrugated

cardboard, newspaper, magazines, books, white ledger, office pack, mixed waste, shredded paper, training manuals, poly-coated board and waxed cardboard.

To accommodate the business community and the collection of large volumes of paper for recycling, 4-yard outdoor collection containers were strategically placed at larger venue business locations. Smaller rolling carts for paper collection were positioned at smaller business locations. Mammoth Hospital and Mammoth Mountain Ski Area are among the larger producers of paper materials.

The office paper recycling programs consist of over 30 participating office locations ranging in size from the larger Town of Mammoth Lakes and Mono County offices to smaller home business offices.

School Category

The Town is also very proud of the success of the paper recycling program within the Mammoth Unified School District. Every classroom has a paper collection container and each of the three school locations have centralized recycling collection. Educating our students about the importance of recycling is a key component for the Town in achieving long-term stewardship of our valuable resources.

Community Category

Another key element to the success of the recycling program is convenience. The Town of Mammoth Lakes' recycling program works hard to capture paper from public locations including residential curbside collection. Collection containers are located at highly visited locations throughout town including the Mammoth Lakes Post Office, Mammoth Lakes Library and the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station.

Community Awareness

Awareness of these recycling programs for both our residents (8,023) and 1.5 million annual visitors is achieved by providing printed materials in English and Spanish that outline program guidelines and procedures. Large scale condominium rental units also receive magnets and fliers posted in the units and at recycling drop-off locations. Radio and email newsletter campaigns have been extremely successful in generating community involvement and participation.

Recycling Partners

Mammoth Disposal (MD) plays a critical role in the success and sustainability of the paper recycling programs here in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. MD operates the facility where all collected paper is baled and stored before transport to market. MD also facilitates the public drop off portion of the program as well as loading and transporting material to market.

The program's cost-effectiveness is measured by monthly route and drop-off recycling tonnages and an annual analysis is conducted to determine waste characterization. Although end users are 5-hours away, Mammoth Disposal continues to ship these recyclables despite the considerable freight expense. The Town of Mammoth Lakes is committed to aggressively pursuing all recycling opportunities despite our geographic location. We employ every strategy to ensure fiber grades are maximized to ensure profitability.

Patrick J. Fenton, District Manager of Mammoth Disposal & Bishop Waste recognizes the significance of this national award. "Having participated in this competition in the past, for the Town to get as far as we did is a remarkable achievement. This national competition is very tough as so many communities want to show their commitment to the environment. I congratulate your Town staff on this achievement. Johnny's efforts in righting the ship have been exemplary. Well done!"

Sierra Conservation Project Inc. (SCP) has been a major contributor to the growth and continued success of the paper recycling program in Mammoth Lakes. SCP has helped secure grant funds to purchase recycling containers and equipment to facilitate paper collection for recycling. They provide the weekly pickup of paper materials, educational materials and public outreach to ensure recycling programs work for each specific application.

Brian Robinette from SCP was excited to see that the combined efforts of the Town of Mammoth Lakes, SCP and MD are being recognized. "These recycling programs are a great example of the dedication and commitment not only by these organizations but by the community as a whole. Sierra Conservation Project has been working with Mammoth Disposal and the Town to expand recycling programs for the past 10 years. Recycling is an important issue with the members of our community and it is rewarding to see that we are gaining national recognition for our efforts."

For additional information about the nationally recognized Town of Mammoth Lakes' community recycling program, please contact Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes, Assistant Building Official & Solid Waste Coordinator at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244.

Town Amends Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code Regarding Woodstove Inserts

On March 20, 2013, Town Council adopted a resolution amending the Town ordinance establishing standards for new and reconstructed woodstove inserts. Over the last several decades, large numbers of open fireplaces in town have been modified by the installation of woodstove inserts. However, neither the Town nor the fire district nor the woodstove insert manufacturers have had clear and consistent standard governing how the inserts must be installed. The result has been installations that have been demonstrated to be unsafe by a number of fires occurring around woodstove inserts in town.

The fire district and Town staff jointly developed installation standards for woodstove inserts, which are contained in the new ordinance. The ordinance also contains a list of approved woodstove insert manufacturers, but allows contractors and homeowners to request the building official to add other manufacturers.

The amended ordinance would require all new woodstove insert installations to meet the new standards. Recognizing that reconstruction of existing woodstove insert installations can cost several thousand dollars, the ordinance does not require immediate removal and reconstruction of existing inserts. Instead, the ordinance requires nonconforming inserts to be removed or reconstructed upon sale of the residential unit, or by October 31, 2022 if no sale of a particular unit has occurred before then.

Because the woodstove insert installation standards constitute a local amendment to the requirements of the California Mechanical Code, the ordinance includes the specific findings necessary for such local amendments. The findings acknowledge that the unique climatic, geological, and topographical conditions in Mammoth require these amendments. Please contact Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector, Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 for additional information.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Implementing Reserve & Volunteer Program

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

RESERVE OFFICER PROGRAM

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

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

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

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

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

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

TECHNOLOGY

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

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

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

Boxer Applauds President Obama for Signing the 'Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act'

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA) today praised President Obama for signing her bill, the Mt. Andrea Lawrence Designation Act, into law. This legislation will name a mountain peak in Mono County "Mt. Andrea Lawrence" in honor of the renowned conservationist, three-time Olympian and former member of the Mono County Board of Supervisors who passed away in 2009. The bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent, and passed the House on a 408 to seven vote.

"I am so pleased that President Obama signed this bill honoring the life and contributions of one of Mono County's most distinguished residents," Senator Boxer said. "Andrea Lawrence dedicated her life to protecting the treasures of the Eastern Sierra. Her passion and achievements were larger than life, which is why I cannot think of a more fitting tribute than to name this majestic peak in her honor."

Andrea Mead Lawrence was a three-time Olympian who remains the only American double Olympic gold medalist in alpine skiing. She was inducted into the U.S. National Ski Hall of Fame in 1958 at the age of 25, and in 2002, sports writer and documentary filmmaker Bud Greenspan called her "the greatest Winter Olympian of all time."

Lawrence was also a committed conservationist who worked to protect and restore Mammoth Lakes, Mono Lake, Bodie State Historic Park and other important natural and cultural resources of the Eastern Sierra. She served for 16 years on the Mono County Board of Supervisors as well as on the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District and in 2003 founded the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers to promote environmental protection and economic vitality in the region.

Peak 12,240, previously identified only by its elevation, is located in Mono County near the Tuolumne County border. It is on the border of the Ansel Adams Wilderness, just east of Yosemite National Park. The John Muir trail passes close to the peak.

Senator Boxer and Congressman Buck McKeon (R-Santa Clarita) – who sponsored identical House legislation – first introduced the legislation during the 111th Congress. Supporters of this bill include Andrea Lawrence's family, the Mono County Board of Supervisors, the Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, the Mono County Democratic Central Committee, the Mammoth Town Council, the Mono Lake Committee, the Andrea Lawrence Institute for Mountains and Rivers, the Sierra Nevada Alliance, the Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Town of Mammoth Lakes Council Member Wendy Sugimura and former Mono County Supervisor Tim Alpers.

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.

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.

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.

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.