



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**

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## Town News

### Town e-News – Week of August 5, 2013

#### News from the Town Manager

##### Town Council Meeting – August 7

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council will be held on Wednesday, August 7, 2013 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

##### August Town Commission/Committee Meetings

- Aug. 5 Mammoth Lakes Trail System Coordinating Committee – Suite Z, 1:30p.m.
- Aug. 5 Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) Steering Committee – Suite Z, 3:30p.m.
- Aug. 6 Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 2:00 p.m.

##### Black Bear Activity Is On The Increase

The black bears in the Mammoth Lakes area have become very active over the past few weeks and the drought conditions mean that there will be high activity for the next three months. Recent sightings have been observed throughout Town, and second year cub has been very active in the Old Mammoth Area. Unfortunately, some residents have been encouraging bad bear behavior such as not properly securing their vehicles or residences. Some have also been reluctant to report problems with the bears to the Police Department or its Wildlife Specialist, Steve Searles.

Mammoth Lakes has a very successful bear management program that includes public education and aversive conditioning for bears. It's especially important for young bears, such as the one causing havoc in Old Mammoth, to be "taught" that certain behavior, such as entering cars or buildings for food, is unacceptable. The Wildlife Specialist spends many hours during the day providing public education and interacting with the bears, but he and the officers of the MLPD need to be informed when a bear is misbehaving.

Another big problem is created by unsecured dumpsters. It is vitally important for businesses, residents, and visitors to always properly secure dumpsters. All food, ice chests, and sweet smelling products like shampoo should never be left outdoors or in a car overnight. Bears are highly intelligent animals and when they see an ice chest

they know it may contain food. So if a bear sees an ice chest in the back of a car or truck, they will figure out a way to get into the ice chest, and it's usually an expensive repair.

The best way of preventing bears from becoming dependent on humans for food is to follow these common sense rules:

- Never leave food out for bears or other wild animals
- Securely store food and fragrant items such as shampoo and deodorant in an airtight container. When camping, use a bear-proof box
- Don't leave food, even in a cooler, in a car, tent, or other unsecure location
- Don't leave pet food outdoors or use a bird feeder. Bears love bird seed!
- Put away picnic leftovers and keep barbecue grills clean
- Always deposit trash in a bear proof trash can or dumpster
- Keep your car locked and your garage door closed and locked
- Never leave food on or near a window sill or on a counter near an open window
- Close and lock ground floor windows when no one is home and at night

Bears that have been conditioned to rely on humans for food become unmanageable and unfortunately, sometimes have to be destroyed. Please help to keep our bears healthy. Enjoy their presence, but do not encourage behavior that is harmful to them. DON'T FEED OUR BEARS!

For more information on co-existing with wildlife or to report a bear problem, contact the Town's Wildlife Specialist Steve Searles at (760) 937-BEAR.

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

173, including 1 business/building check

### **Crime/Incident Reports**

19 reports, including 3 arrests

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

15 stops; 1 citation; 13 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 2 collisions

### **Animal Control Incidents**

12 incidents; 1 report

### **Wildlife**

7 calls; 1 report

### **Projected Average Resort Occupancy**

Friday, August 2, 2013 - Saturday, August 3, 2013 = 82%

(79% same weekend in 2012, up 3% in 2013)

Sunday, August 4, 2013 - Thursday, August 8, 2013 = 62%

(59% same midweek in 2012, up 3% in 2013)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 91% (Friday-Saturday) 60% (Sunday-Thursday)

Condos: 73% (Friday-Saturday) 64% (Sunday-Thursday)

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

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### **Footloose/Charthouse 5/10k Race CANCELLED**

Dear runners, volunteers and sponsors,

The nearby Aspen Fire has wreaked havoc on air quality in our beautiful mountain town. As coach of the Mammoth Track Club, it is our mission to promote health and fitness through running and with the unstable and potentially dangerous air quality caused by the Aspen Fire, I am left with a difficult decision to cancel the 30th Annual Footloose/Chart House 5k/10K.

I will also add that the Mono County Health organization issued a Stage 1 warning to people recreating outside this week. We do not want to compromise our Mission to promote Health and fitness through running.

Thanks to all who have put in the time, energy and resources into the event thus far. Thank you to the runners for supporting the event with your enthusiastic participation. You will have 3 options with your registration:

- 1) Receive a full refund.
- 2) Divert your registration to next year's event.
- 3) Donate your registration to the Mammoth Track Club's track project.

Please notify Andrew directly with your registration option via email: [Andrew@CoachKastor.com](mailto:Andrew@CoachKastor.com)

I hope the smoke clears and we can run freely very soon.

Sincerely,  
Andrew Kastor

### **Aspen Fire Update –Aug. 2 (7:00AM)**

#### *Incident Statics*

Acres Burned:	17,791
Structures Threatened:	3
Containment:	45%
Structures Damaged:	0
Fire Start Date:	July 22, 2013
Injuries:	2
Fire Cause:	Lightning
Total Personnel:	1941
Cost to date:	\$14.9 million

### *Summary*

The Fire is located within the Sierra National Forest in Fresno County and is approximately seven miles North of Big Creek. It is currently burning off Stump Springs Road, North of Aspen Springs. The South Central Sierra Interagency Incident Management Team is in command of the Aspen Fire.

Last night's infrared image showed the direct line construction in the northwest, near Mammoth Pools is holding. The fire growth continued in the northeast and southeast areas of the fire perimeter. Fire crews continued to make good progress with indirect attack operations, but access and fire behavior are still a major safety concern for fire crews. Air and ground resources continue to construct and reinforce indirect line around the fire's perimeter. Helicopters dipped for water out of Huntington Lake this morning.

Due to the extremely steep, rugged and inaccessible terrain, fire crews are using a tactic called indirect attack which creates control lines away from the fire's active edge. Air resources, including several helicopters and air tankers are being utilized along the fire-line to slow the forward progress of the fire and to cool down hot spots. As the situation changes and firefighters can safely gain access to the fire, a more direct attack will be implemented.

Smoke from the Aspen Fire continues to impact air quality in local communities. Crews will utilize firing operations over the next three days to assist with enforcing containment lines. Firing operations are actions taken to remove unburned fuels between the active fire line and the contingency lines which fire crews have been creating over the past several days. The operation will put additional smoke into the atmosphere.

### **Summer Of Stewardship – August 3**

**TITLE:** Coldwater Trails and Mammoth Consolidated Mine Trail Day!  
**WHAT:** Join Mammoth Brewery and the Southern Mono Historical Society for trail work on the Coldwater Trails and the Mammoth Consolidated Mine site.  
**WHEN:** SATURDAY, August 3, 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Meet at the parking lot at the very top of the Coldwater campgrounds for a free bagel breakfast, safety talk and work assignments. Free lunch and lots of giveaways will be hosted on site.  
**WHO:** Volunteers of all ages and abilities are welcome! Please dress for trail work: sturdy, close-toed shoes and long pants. Gloves and all tools provided.  
**CONTACT INFO:** Visit [mltpa.org](http://mltpa.org) or [friendsoftheinyo.org](http://friendsoftheinyo.org), Call (760) 873-6500 or (760) 934 3154 or E-MAIL: [drew@friendsoftheinyo.org](mailto:drew@friendsoftheinyo.org)

### **Get Golf Ready (GGR) August Reload at Sierra Star – Aug. 5**

Sierra Star is going to do a two-session August kids GGR on August 5 and 12, 2013. The focus will be on course SNAG golf and playing tactics. Sessions will start at 4:00 p.m. and the cost will be \$39 for both sessions. We hope you can join us for some fun before school starts. Please call Sierra Star at (760) 924-GOLF for all the details.

### **Chamber Mixer – Aug. 13**

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation is hosting the monthly Chamber of Commerce Mixer on Tuesday, August 13 from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. in the Edison Pavilion – a joint

venture by Mammoth Food & Wine (MLF), Jazz Jubilee, Mammoth lakes Music Festival (Felici Trio/Chamber Music Unbound), and Sierra Summer Festival supported by Measure U. Hear about upcoming events at MLF – including 14th Annual MLF Golf Tournament, Edison Theatre Season, and more. Ride your Bike on the New Bike Path and get a two-for-one ticket to Edison Theater!

### **Mammoth Lakes Changeable Message Sign Project**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has begun a project to install a changeable message sign on eastbound 203 0.2 miles east of Meridian Blvd. The purpose of this sign is to alert travelers departing from the Mammoth Lakes area of the driving conditions on US Hwy 395. Winter snow and ice and associated chain controls, as well as the potential for year round high winds will be conveyed in real-time to allow drivers to make better trip decisions and encourage safer driving.

Monday through Friday, one lane of traffic will be closed on eastbound SR203 although drivers should not encounter any delays. Construction is expected to be complete by August 2013. The contractor for this \$155,552 project is Traffic Development Services, Inc. from Moorepark, CA.

### **Topaz Digouts**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will begin the Topaz Digout project on August 5, 2013. This project will cold plane the asphalt pavement, place a hot mix asphalt overlay and paint traffic stripes on US Hwy 395 near Coleville from Larson Lane to Topaz Lane.

Drivers will encounter one way reversing lane closures with flaggers and should anticipate up to 20 minutes. Construction work has been scheduled for Monday to Wednesday from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm. This project is scheduled to be completed August 7th, 2013.

The contractor for this \$260,560 project is Qualcon Contractors of Minden, NV.

For the safety of the construction crew and motorists, please be attentive to closures, slow for the cone zone, and move over one lane where possible.

### **Mono Thin Blanket**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will begin the Mono Thin Blanket project on August 12, 2013. This project will place a hot mix asphalt overlay, place a shoulder backing, replace the drainage systems and paint traffic stripes. Various locations along SR 120, SR 167 and US Hwy 395 will receive these treatments.

Drivers should anticipate daily lane closures along US Hwy 395 Monday – Thursday from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm and on Friday's from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm. There should be minimum delays due to the work being performed.

Along SR 120 & SR 167 drivers will encounter one way reversing lane closures with flaggers and a pilot car. Construction hours are scheduled to be Monday – Thursday from 6:00 am to 7:00 pm and on Friday's from 6:00 am to 3:00 pm. Drivers may encounter up to 20 minute delays.

This project is scheduled to be completed by October 2013.

The contractor for this \$4,238,324 project is Granite Construction of Bakersfield, CA.

For the safety of the construction crew and motorists, please be attentive to closures, slow for the cone zone, and move over one lane where possible.

### **Finding of No Significant Impact for Wilderness Unauthorized Route Restoration Environmental Assessment**

The Inyo National Forest announces that the Decision Notice (DN) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Wilderness Unauthorized Route Restoration Project Environmental Assessment (EA) were signed on July 29, 2013.

Inyo National Forest prepared the EA for a proposed restoration project on unauthorized routes in a project area that includes the White Mountains Wilderness, John Muir Wilderness, and adjacent non-wilderness lands. These unauthorized routes were fully or partially within wilderness areas designated by Congress in 2009, and were not added to the Forest Transportation System in the 2009 Travel Management Record of Decision.

The Modified Proposed Action is the selected alternative for implementation. The forest will conduct restoration activities on fifty-eight unauthorized routes in the project area. The restoration activities include six types of treatments: de-compact surface soils on routes, reestablish natural contours on route surfaces, install native vertical mulch, spread native mulch, install water bars or similar water diversion structures, and transplant/seed with native plants on the non-wilderness portion of routes. All activities within wilderness will be conducted by hand, using non-mechanized tools or transportation.

The selected alternative will enable the forest to best meet the purposes to prevent illegal vehicle trespass in wilderness and promote natural revegetation processes on the routes.

The legal notice of decision was published in The Inyo Register on August, 1, 2013. The Decision Notice and Finding of No Significant Impact are available in hard copy format or can be viewed on the Inyo National Forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/inyo/landmanagement/projects/?cid=stelprdb540746>  
[2](#)

To obtain a copy of the Decision Notice or if you have questions, please contact project leader Jeff Novak at 760-876-6231 or [jnovak@fs.fed.us](mailto:jnovak@fs.fed.us) or PO Box 8, Lone Pine, CA, 93545.

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## Recreation Department Highlights

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### **Bringing The Flair Of Brazil To The USA! – Aug. 5**

The TetraBrazil Academy provides players with authentic Brazilian coaching right in their own community. The TetraBrazil curriculum has been designed by professional coaches and staff to provide teams, coaches and players with the same expert level of training received by professional clubs in Brazil. The Recreation Department in partnership with Mammoth AYSO is hosting Tetra Brazil at the new Whitmore synthetic soccer field from August 5-9, 2013.

To for more information or to register online, please visit:  
<http://www.challengersports.com/tetrabrazilcamps.aspx>

*Experience authentic Brazilian Training:* TetraBrazil offers unique camp programs that combine learning and fun. In our Programs, players are grouped according to age, size and ability in an atmosphere set to challenge each player to raise their game to new heights. Learn how to play the Brazilian Way!

TACTICS:                   Triangulations - The Brazilian Way, Combination Plays, Change the Point of Attack, Phases of Play, Using the Wide areas, Expressing the players Creativity, and learn the Brazilian Box Formation

TECHNIQUES:           Give and Go - The Brazilian Way, First Touch & Receiving, Passing Weight and cy, Individual Moves, Crossing, Finishing and Shooting, Free Kicks & Penalty Kicks, 1v1 Attack & Defending, Futsal Techniques.

CONDITIONING:       Foot Speed and Quickness, Circuit Training, Speed Training, Flexibility, Balance.

Get your game on this summer at Tetra Brazil!

### **Showboat Youtheatre Sails Into Mammoth – For Over 20 Summers – Aug. 5**

"I've never had so much fun in all of my life"...

"I can't wait until the next one"...

"I never knew my child had it in him!"

These are just a few of the comments overheard at the performance of Showboat Youtheatre's most recent blockbuster musical, completely cast with children. This summer, they will drop anchor in Mammoth Lakes on Monday, August 5 to begin its annual summer musical comedy workshops for all of the local youngsters from 5 to 17 years of age.

The workshops, sponsored and invited by Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department will be held at the Community Center and Mammoth Lakes Arts Center. The children from 5 to 10 years of age will be working on "Surf's Up!" from 9 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. and the more advanced thespians from 10 and up will be working on the adapted, well known musical "AQUANET". The workshop/rehearsals will be held on August 5-15, with local recitals for both shows the weekend of August 16 & 17. Cost is \$95 for kids 10 and under, \$105 for ages 11 and up.

Instructor is Ann Monahan, choreographer/director, who has been performing and teaching for over 45 years. For many years, she has conducted similar workshops throughout the Los Angeles area. For further information and to register for this

exciting and creative summer camp, either register online at [www.mammothrecreation.com](http://www.mammothrecreation.com) or call John Connolly at Mammoth Lakes Recreation at 934-8989 x234. Don't miss the boat!

### **Youth Rock Climbing Camp – Aug. 5-6**

The SRCS (Sierra Rock Climbing School) youth climbing camp is a unique and special opportunity for young people to learn about rock climbing from expert professional rock-climbing guides, in a safe as possible and non-competitive atmosphere. Our youth rock climbing camps are for beginner through advanced climbers. The focus of the camps will be on having fun and climbing safely; nevertheless, participants will learn valuable technical climbing techniques. The experience of climbing with others will also help participants develop valuable skills in group dynamics, leadership, team building and interpersonal communications. SRCS is proud, as well as excited to be offering these climbing camps through Mammoth Lakes Recreation. Our guides look forward to meeting you and getting to know all of you. We hope you will join us for an excursion full of rock climbing. Camps will run on Mondays and Tuesdays throughout the summer from 9a.m. - 4p.m. on these dates: August 5-6, and August 19-20. Cost is \$155.

### **Skate Camp – Wave Rave Konkrete Kommandos – Aug. 7-9**

This three-day camp, designed for all abilities, will meet daily at Volcom Brothers Skate Park. In addition to a heavy emphasis on skateboarding and skill development the camp will also go swimming, play fun games, and eat out. Camp is open to kids ages 6-13 and goes from 9-4 p.m. Cost is \$105/session. Next sessions: August 7-9, and August 19-21. Recreation staff highly recommends this camp as a warm-up to the annual WAVEHAVE contest held at Volcom Brothers skate park on Saturday, August 24.

### **Gymnastics/Tumbling Program is Back!**

Classes resumed on July 30, 2013.

### **Steering Committee Convenes On August 5 To Discuss The Potential Formation Of A Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) Entity**

The Town Council appointed Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) Steering Committee will meet for the second of three times on Monday, August 5, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. in Suite Z. The facilitated workshops are led by the Strategic Marketing Group regarding the potential formation of a Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) entity. Information regarding the upcoming MLR process, including meeting dates (July 22, Aug. 5 & 19), agendas and reference documents can be viewed online at: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=533>.

Public participation is encouraged and public comments will be received during the last 15 minutes of each session or as time allows. Comments regarding the sessions or MLR process are welcomed and can be sent to Stuart Brown at [sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us](mailto:sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us), or by calling (760) 934-8989 ext. 210.

### **Recreation Department Launches Online Registration**

In an effort to improve customer service and streamline operations, the Recreation Department – compliments of Measure R, has partnered with the Active Network to provide 24/7 web-based activity and facility reservations. To begin, visit us online at [www.mammothrecreation.com](http://www.mammothrecreation.com), click on the Online Activity/Facility Reservations tab



and your first step is to "Request Account." All you need is an email and password. The system will allow you to register online for an activity, reserve a facility or request Measure R equipment...it's fast and easy! Please drop by the office or call us at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 if we can be of assistance to you.

### **New Post Camp Cool Down!**

This summer the Recreation Department is adding a 2-hour after camp 'cool down' session at the Mammoth Roller Rink for only \$10/participant (3 person min.). Drinks and healthy snacks will be provided, along with supervised entertainment. This program is available for any parents needing additional supervision while at work. The 2-hour program is offered after every parks and recreation hosted program. Call for more information or reserve online!

### **2 For 1 Skate Rental Deal Is Extended At The Roller Rink**

The Recreation Department has extended the 2 for 1 skate rental (value \$3.00) offer at the Mammoth Roller Rink. The offer now expires on August 31, 2013 so grab a partner and come on down! The facility is located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Library and opposite Mammoth High School. New this year, the facility will operate from 6:00 – 10:00 p.m. Thursday thru Saturday evening – under lights. Low admission fees for students (\$2.00 MUSD/MCOE) make it one of the most affordable recreation activities in Mammoth Lakes. For the 2013 summer season, adult and youth admission is only \$4.00 (Thursday/Friday), skate rentals are \$3.00 per session (4-hours), and kids 4 and under get in for free with a paid adult. This summer get your 6th Admission FREE with the Five FUN Pass (5FP). It's only \$30 for adults and \$20 for youth (5-15 yrs.) and every 6th visit is FREE!

Rent the Mammoth Roller Rink for your next party! All-inclusive birthday party packages are available from as low as \$75 per 10 children, and up to \$15 per child for your personal party coordinator, cake, pizza, drinks and skate rental.

The Mammoth Roller 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. Roller/inline skates, scooters, skate boards are allowed on the surface. Bikes are not allowed at any time. Helmets and appropriate safety equipment are recommended.

For the complete summer schedule, rates and special promotions visit [www.mammothrollerrink.com](http://www.mammothrollerrink.com), see our rack card in all Certified Racks located throughout Mammoth Lakes and along HWY 395, or call the Mammoth Roller Rink at (760) 934-2505, or Recreation Department office at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222.

### **Play Drop-In Street Hockey Every Sunday At The Mammoth Roller Rink**

The Recreation Department in partnership with members of the Ice Hockey League have scheduled Drop-in Street Hockey every Sunday night at the Mammoth Roller Rink from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The program will conclude on Sunday, August 24, 2013. Cost is only \$2/participant per session with the completion of a signed waiver by an adult (18+ yrs.) Please bring shoes and a stick. All adults and high school age teens welcome!

### **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](http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us)

[lakes.ca.us](http://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!

## **Public Service Announcements**

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### **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](mailto: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](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).

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).