



Town of Mammoth Lakes
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Town News

Town e-News – Week of January 27, 2014

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Feb. 5

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, February 5, 2014 in the Minaret Village Mall, Suite Z beginning at 5:00 p.m. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

January Commission/Committee Meetings

Jan. 27 Mammoth Lakes Recreation (MLR) Steering Committee Meeting, Suite Z, 3:00PM

For a complete listing of Town meetings, please visit: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/calendar.aspx>

Town Channel 51 Has Moved!

The Town's dedicated channel, TV 51 has moved to Channel 18. The move was necessitated by Suddenlink and their local programming needs. TV Channel 18 will still continue to provide access to all the Town's meetings with live and taped coverage of Town Council, and advisory body meetings such as the Planning and Economic Development Commission and Recreation Commission. For meeting dates and times, please visit: www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Calls For Service/Officer Observations

116, including 2 business/building checks

Crime/Incident Reports

22 reports, including 6 arrest

Traffic Stops/Citations/Traffic Collisions

40 stops; 5 citations; 5 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 1 collision

Animal Control Incidents

1 incident; 1 report

Wildlife

1 call; 0 reports

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, January 24, 2014 - Saturday, January 25, 2014 = 34%

(68% same weekend in 2013, down 34% in 2014)

Sunday, January 26, 2014 - Thursday, January 30, 2014 = 21%

(36% same midweek in 2013, down 15% in 2014)

Hotels/Motels/B&B: 41% (Friday-Saturday) 21% (Sunday-Thursday)

Condos: 26% (Friday-Saturday) 20% (Sunday-Thursday)

Community News

Mammoth Lakes Library Hosts Artists Reception

On Friday, January 24, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. the Mammoth Lakes Public Library is pleased to announce the 5th annual photography exhibit, Images from the Eastern Sierra and Beyond running through March 2014 in the Ellie Randol Reading Room. Thirty framed photographs by amateur photographers along the Eastern Sierra are on display. Photographs will be offered for sale and prices start at just \$55! 30% of any sales will be donated to the Mammoth Lakes Friends of the Library to benefit future library programming.

Mono County 2014 Finals Of Poetry Out Loud Announced – Jan. 25

The public is invited to attend the Saturday evening, January 25th event at the Edison Theatre at 7:00 pm. Students compete for the right to travel to Sacramento and represent Mono County in the March 17th State Finals. High school students from Coleville, Lee Vining, and Mammoth Lakes will be participating in the annual poetry recitation contest. They will each present two poems they have memorized from the selection of published poems eligible for this year's contest.

Poetry Out Loud, which began in select areas in 2005 and has grown to encompass the entire United States, helps students improve public speaking skills, build self-confidence, and learn about poetry in literature. It is an innovative program that encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance of the written word. It also incorporates the dynamic aspects of slam poetry, spoken word, and theater into the English and drama class, meeting Common Core Standards as well.

Last year's Mono County winner, Kate Wilson of Mammoth High School, returns this year to compete again. "Poetry Out Loud is a great experience," Wilson said, "for high school students like me to be introduced to poems that are important and relevant to our lives. Teachers ask us to simply write a sonnet about love or a haiku

about a river, and usually kids aren't interested in that. Poetry Out Loud encourages us to choose poems that are important to our lives on issues that interest us. We get to speak through another's words and learn to use our voice, which is a truly valuable experience. Meeting students from across California in Sacramento last year was amazing. I knew I wanted to enter again this year."

"We are very excited to be hosting Poetry Out Loud finals for Mono County for the fourth year, having first introduced the program in 2010," stated Artistic Director of the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre, Shira Dubrovner. "When Eva Poole-Gilson, a local poet, first approached me about supporting Poetry Out Loud, I realized how important it was for students in a small rural community to have the same opportunities as those from large urban areas."

Local judges evaluate each student's performance on six criteria: physical presence, voice and articulation; dramatic appropriateness of the poem's presentation; level of complexity of each poem; evidence of understanding of each competitor for their poems; and overall performance. Students must also present the poem word-for-word--and there is an accuracy judge who follows along as the poems are recited to evaluate that portion of each student's presentation.

The winner of the Mono County contest proceeds to Sacramento, and hopefully, on to the Poetry Out Loud National Finals will take place April 29-30, 2014, in Washington, D.C.

Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure that starts at the classroom level. Winners advance to a school-wide competition, then to a regional and/or state competition, and ultimately to the National Finals. We hope you will join us for an always inspiring and entertaining evening beginning at 7:00 pm on Saturday, January 25th, at the Edison Theatre. There is no charge for the event.

Governor Brown Declares Drought State of Emergency

With California facing water shortfalls in the driest year in recorded state history, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. today proclaimed a State of Emergency and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for these drought conditions.

"We can't make it rain, but we can be much better prepared for the terrible consequences that California's drought now threatens, including dramatically less water for our farms and communities and increased fires in both urban and rural areas," said Governor Brown. "I've declared this emergency and I'm calling all Californians to conserve water in every way possible."

In the State of Emergency declaration, Governor Brown directed state officials to assist farmers and communities that are economically impacted by dry conditions and to ensure the state can respond if Californians face drinking water shortages. The Governor also directed state agencies to use less water and hire more firefighters and initiated a greatly expanded water conservation public awareness campaign (details at saveourh2o.org).

In addition, the proclamation gives state water officials more flexibility to manage supply throughout California under drought conditions.

State water officials say that California's river and [reservoirs](#) are below their record lows. Manual and electronic readings record the snowpack's statewide water content at about 20 percent of normal average for this time of year.

The Governor's drought State of Emergency follows a series of actions the administration has taken to ensure that California is prepared for record dry conditions. In May 2013, Governor Brown issued an [Executive Order](#) to direct state water officials to expedite the review and processing of voluntary transfers of water and water rights. In December, the Governor formed a [Drought Task Force](#) to review expected water allocations, California's preparedness for water scarcity and whether conditions merit a drought declaration. Earlier this week, the Governor toured the Central Valley and spoke with growers and others impacted by California's record dry conditions.

Public Workshop Invites Feedback on the Preliminary *Need to Change* – Jan. 30

The U.S. Forest Service is planning a public workshop in Bishop, CA to review the recently released preliminary *Need to Change*. The public is invited to provide feedback on the *Need to Change* document, which will drive how the Forest Service revises its management plans.

The workshop is planned for Thursday, January 30, 2014, from 5-9 pm at the Inyo National Forest Supervisor's Office, 351 Pacu Lane Suite 200, Bishop, CA 93514. Light snacks will be provided.

Those unable to attend in person are invited to participate via a conference phone line. Please contact Deb Schweizer to register for the conference call in at (760)-873-2427 or at debraaschweizer@fs.fed.us.

The Forest Service will explain the key themes for the forest plan and gather public feedback on the preliminary *Need to Change*. There will be time for small group sessions to learn about specific topics addressed in the preliminary *Need to Change*.

The Inyo, Sierra, and Sequoia are three of eight national forests that were selected as *early adopters*. They will be the first to revise their land management plans using the 2012 National Forest System Planning Rule, which provides the framework for Forest Service land management plans across the nation.

The Inyo, Sierra, Sequoia plan revisions will be completed through one environmental impact statement. This single EIS will be an efficient and cost-effective way to pool staff expertise. The final EIS will result in three separate Record of Decisions and three separate forest plans. Forest Supervisors will remain the responsible official for making decisions on their specific forest plan.

The recently completed Forest assessments, Bio-regional assessment, and the preliminary *Need to Change* can be viewed on-line at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/landmanagement/planning>.

Public feedback received by January 24, 2014, will be incorporated into the public workshop discussions. Feedback on the *Need to Change* document is most useful if received by January 31, 2014, and may be submitted via e-mail or by hard copy. Written feedback should be addressed to: Land Management Plan Revision, U.S. Forest Service, Ecosystem Planning Staff, 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592. E-mail feedback may be submitted to: R5planrevision@fs.fed.us

Chamber Music Unbound Presents "Ticket to Ride" – Feb. 1

On Saturday, February 1, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. Chamber Music Unbound presents The Felici Piano Trio and guests Josefina Vergara, violin, and Jim Dell, bass, in a concert entitled "Ticket to Ride". With music by Mozart, Debussy (his early Piano Trio) and

Vaughan Williams at the Cero Coso Community College. Tickets (\$20 Adult, \$15 Senior, \$7 Student) are available online (www.ChamberMusicUnbound.org), at the Booky Joint, the Inyo Council for the Arts, or at the door on concert nights.

2014 Eastside Know-How Series Resume Feb. 11

Inspired by TED Talks! Eastern Sierra locals, famous for their creativity, ingenuity and resourcefulness, will share their "How to..." secrets in six power-packed minutes each over three evenings. Eastside Know-How talks begin at 6:15 p.m. – No-host drinks and appetizers preceding talks. FREE ADMISSION.

Save these Tuesday evenings at Rafters Restaurant:

- February 11, 2014
- February 25, 2014

Donations will be accepted each evening for Disabled Sports of the Eastern Sierra (1/14), Wild Iris (2/11) and Mammoth Hospital Auxiliary (2/25). A portion of the evening's proceeds at Rafters will be donated as well according to Brent Truax, The Sierra Nevada Resort General Manager.

Recreation Department Highlights

Celebrate National Skating Month At The Mammoth Ice Rink

In celebration of U.S. Figure Skating's National Skating Month, the Mammoth Ice Rink invites you to take advantage of some fabulous January promotions and to join us for 'It's Great to Skate' Open House on Friday, January 31, 2014.

In March 2002, U.S. Figure Skating unveiled National Skating Week with great success. Following the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, thousands of people took to the ice for National Skating Week. As part of the weeklong activities, more than 110 member clubs and facilities nationwide hosted 'It's Great to Skate' clinics. U.S. Figure Skating recently announced details for Destination Sochi, a program with the mission of "promoting U.S. Figure Skating through association with the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia." The 2014 Olympics are scheduled from February 7-23, 2014. Additional details about National Skating Month can be found online at: www.usfsa.org.

'IT'S GREAT TO SKATE' OPEN HOUSE:

Beginning on Monday, January 27, 2014 the Mammoth Ice Rink has scheduled a week-long series of events including an introduction to youth and adult hockey; discounted skate sessions, and a chance to win skate passes and Mammoth Logo wear; culminating with a 'It's Great to Skate' Open House on Friday, January 31. Beginning at 2:30 p.m., please join us for FREE beginner level - learn to skate lessons, and youth 15 years and younger skate FREE with a paid adult admission.

On February 1, at 7:00 p.m., the Mammoth Ice Rink in partnership with youth hockey is hosting the inaugural Winter Youth Hockey Classic – a fundraiser for our local players. Free entry for spectators with some great raffle prizes!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Day/Date	Program	Time	Fee	Details
Mon. Jan. 27	Midweek Skate Special	2:30-5:00pm	\$5.25	Includes skate rental
	Youth Pick-up Hockey	5:15-7:00pm	\$5.00	Join our local youth for some pick-up hockey – includes rental
Tue. Jan. 28	Midweek Skate Special	2:30-5:00pm & 5:30-7:00pm	\$5.25	Skate for the midweek fee of only \$5.25 with rental!
	Adult Pick-up Hockey	7:30-9:00pm	\$10.00	Get some stick time with our local hockey players
Wed. Jan. 29	Midweek Skate Special	11:30-2:00pm & 2:30-5:00pm	\$5.25	All ages, includes skate rental
	Youth Pick-up Hockey	5:15-7:00pm	\$5.00	Join our local youth for some pick-up hockey – includes rental
Thur. Jan. 30	Midweek Skate Special	11:30-2:00pm, 2:30-5:00pm & 5:30-7:00pm	\$5.25	All ages, includes skate rental
	Ice Hockey Exhibition	7:30-9:00pm	FREE	Our local players will host an exhibition match – checking and all! Stay off the glass....
Fri. Jan. 31	Midweek Skate Special	11:30-2:00pm	\$5.25	All ages, includes skate rental
	'It's Great to Skate' Open House	2:30-9:00pm	FREE with paid adult	Ages 15 years and younger skate FREE with a paid adult admission. FREE beginner level - learn to skate lessons, scheduled at 3:00pm, 4:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:00pm and at 8:00PM. Max. 6-8 per class. FREE Logo wear and skate pass give-a-ways!
Sat. Feb. 1	Winter Youth Hockey Classic	7:00 – 8:00pm	FREE	Exhibition Game and fundraiser for Mammoth Youth Hockey

Coed Indoor Soccer Is Back!

After a six year hiatus, Mammoth Recreation is bringing back the fast-paced game of Indoor Soccer every Sunday night at the Mammoth High School Gym! The last night for pick-up is Sunday, January 26 from 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and the league is scheduled to commence on Feb. 9 for an eight-week season. Teams will be scheduled on a first come, first served basis on. Practice Signups will be allowed after the team registration payment is made and all required paperwork is completed. Games will be played 5 v 5 (includes Keeper) and there must be one female on the playing court at all times. Please call Steph at (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 for additional information. Bring Your Game...

Youth Ice Hockey At The Mammoth Ice Rink

Don't miss out on Mammoth Lakes Lakers Youth Hockey programming at the Mammoth Ice Rink this winter!

Beginner Youth Stick Time: Monday and Wednesday Nights between 5:15 - 6:45 p.m. Learn to Pass, Shoot and Skate like a hockey player. Full pads not needed, but recommended.

Youth/Junior Hockey Pickup: Monday and Wednesday Nights from 5:15 to 7:00 p.m. and Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. -11:00 a.m. Any Questions or Inquiries please Email: Mammothyouthhockey@gmail.com.

Hot Shots Youth Basketball

Our local youth basketball program for 3rd-5th grade girls and boys wraps up on Thursday night with Pizza and Pick-up. Call John C at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234 for all the details and what to bring.

Gymnastics/Tumbling Program Is Back!

Join Melissa (and Kari), our level 5 gymnastics coach here at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center for the following classes:

- * 3 yr. olds Saturday: 8:30 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.
- * 4-5 yr. olds Saturday: 9:15 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- * 5-8 yr. olds Saturday: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- * 8-12+ yr. olds Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (invitation only)
Friday: 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Saturday: 11:00 a.m. 12:15 p.m.

Five session punch card for \$60, drop-ins welcome at \$15 session. Want to try it out? Try your first session for free! Please call (760) 934-8989 x222 for more information or visit 'Mammoth Gymnastics' on Facebook.

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, 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.

Notify Me!

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

Public Service Announcements

Town Administration Offices Closed to the Public On Friday

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Administrative Offices located on the second floor of the Minaret Village Mall will be closed to the public every Friday. Appointments with staff are available on Fridays by reservation only, for the submittal of plans, permits, payments, etc. so please plan ahead accordingly. There will be no changes to the daily operations of the Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mammoth Yosemite Airport or the Public Works Department.

This office closure is an initiative to enhance the productivity and efficiency of employees. Town Council established Priorities for Fiscal Year 2013/14 that included the provision to provide sufficient resources and support to Town staff to effectively do their work. Goals of effective management include: commitment to increase IT funding, support additional funding for the replacement of the finance system, fund sufficient staffing in the Town's departments that provide critical services (finance, Public safety), and to encourage an increase in productivity without reducing service levels.

The Town encourages our residents and visitors to purchase their Recreation products or reservations online at www.mammothrecreation.com or by calling (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 Monday through Thursday.

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) and TBID remitters are also able to pay their taxes conveniently online. Please copy and paste the following links in your internet browser for additional information or to create an account.

TOT: <http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=201>

TBID: <http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov/index.aspx?nid=550>

For additional information regarding the Friday office closure beginning January 3, 2014, or to make an appointment with staff, please call (760) 934-8989 and follow the prompts.

Winter Preparedness Tips from Mono County Sherriff

It's that time of year again! Yes, winter is slowly creeping upon us. As we all hope for that massive snow storm to strike and an epic winter season, the question remains, are you prepared for the season?

The Mono County Sheriff's Office would like to remind citizens and visitors alike to always be prepared for winter conditions, whether you are simply out and about in town on foot or driving across the many roadways of Mono County. Always have an emergency bag in your vehicle with extra food, water, warm clothing and shoes, and emergency supplies just in case you are stuck in your vehicle for an unknown amount of time as you try to reach your intended destination due to hazardous weather and road conditions. Remember, if you get stuck in your vehicle, stay in your vehicle until help arrives or you can safely continue on your journey. Remember to take some extra time while traveling, slow down, and obey all chain control requirements. Even those that are seasoned drivers on the Mono County roadways, please slow down and take your time when driving on the snowy conditions. This ensures your safety and those traveling around you.

Be aware of your surroundings while traveling the roadways and various communities of Mono County. Watch for snow removal equipment. This could be a large snowplow clearing the roadway or an individual shoveling a driveway or sidewalk. Both their safety and your own are important and will benefit from your awareness. Also, be aware of the various locations around Mono County that have parking restrictions during the winter months. Vehicles parked in the restricted areas will hinder necessary snow removal and be subject to citations and/or having the vehicle towed. These restrictions are in place and enforced for your safety and to allow proper snow removal for safer driving conditions for all.

Mono County utilizes what is known as the CodeRed Emergency Alert System when a critical incident or emergency situations takes place within the county. This system is a database of resident and citizen information for use only in critical and emergency situations to send critical communications from evacuation notices, to hazardous weather alerts, to missing children alerts. Your contact information remains private and is only used to contact you for community emergency communications. To register for the CodeRed emergency alerts, log on to www.monosheriff.org – Resources – CodeRed. There is also a mobile app available for all Android and Apple phones.

For more information on winter preparedness and safety, please visit the Mono County Sheriff's Office Facebook page (www.facebook.com/pages/Mono-County-Sheriffs-Department/597961140216123) and listen to a panel radio interview, compliments of KMMT radio, on winter and emergency preparedness. The panel consists of members from the Mono County Sheriff's Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, Mammoth Lakes Fire Department, CERT, and California Highway Patrol. Let the experts give you the necessary tips you may be looking for to stay prepared this winter, and during other emergencies that could happen in our area!

Additional Snow Needed for Shady Rest, Obsidian Dome Nordic Trails and Snowmobiling Trails

Recent snowstorms have left the ground covered but are not providing the snow base required to use grooming equipment on the public Nordic and snowmobile trails on the Mammoth and Mono Lake Ranger Districts of the Inyo National Forest. Upon sufficient snowfall, grooming of the Shady Rest and Obsidian Dome Nordic Trails and the Groomed Snowmobile Trail System will begin.

This winter, Friends of the Inyo, a local non-profit organization, has received a Measure R grant from the Town of Mammoth Lakes to provide grooming services for the Shady Rest Nordic Trail system in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service.

The Nordini groomer will be back in action and operated by Friends of the Inyo providing the public, free of charge, over five miles of groomed trails for Nordic users compliments of local Measure R funds. Roads within the Old and New Shady Rest Campground and along the paved bike trail will be groomed through the winter as snow conditions allow. The Nordic trails are part of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System and will be groomed five days a week by Friends of the Inyo, with additional grooming by the U.S. Forest Service as needed. Users may access the Shady Rest Nordic Trail system by parking in the front parking area (closest to Highway 203), adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center. A groomed entrance to the trail system begins directly across from the Welcome Center.

Please remember, dogs must be on leash at all times and owners are responsible for removing dog waste from the trail system. Owners of dogs off leash or disposing of dog waste irresponsibly may be issued a citation.

The U.S. Forest Service is waiting for additional snow accumulations to begin grooming the California Department of Parks and Recreation funded snowmobile trail system and the Obsidian Dome Nordic trails. With a shallow, low density snowpack, snowmobilers should use caution and refrain from traveling in areas where snow depths are minimal. Snowmobile users are responsible for knowing all regulations and understanding closure area boundaries.

Maps and information on winter recreation in the Mammoth Lakes area and on the Inyo National Forest can be obtained at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, open daily 8:00AM to 5:00PM, by visiting the Inyo National Forest website, or by calling (760) 924-5500.

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.

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.