



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 9, 2016

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – May 18

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, May 18, 2016 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Commission/Committee Meetings

- | | |
|--------|--|
| May 11 | Planning and Economic Development Commission, Suite Z, 12:00PM |
| May 16 | Special Meeting of the Recreation Commission, Suite Z, 5:00PM |
| May 31 | Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 9:00AM |

Save The Date - Town Clean-Up Day Saturday, May 21

Take pride in your neighborhood and volunteer to help clean-up our town on Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

On Saturday, May 21, beginning at 8:00 a.m., drop off your trash, recycling, and green waste at the TOWN CLEAN-UP DAY STATIONS conveniently located throughout town. Stations are located the Community Center (1000 Forest Trail), Sierra Valley Sites (407 Manzanita), and the Mammoth Disposal Transfer Station (59 Commerce Drive). Information, maps and complimentary bags will also be available for collection from Mammoth Creek Park between 8:00 a.m. and noon.

The Town encourages property owners, renters, community groups, local non-profit organizations, and homeowner associations to engage their constituents and pitch in to clean-up their neighborhood on May 21. Town Clean-Up Day is proudly supported by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Mono County, Mammoth Disposal, Mammoth Unified School District, United States Forest Service, Mammoth Lakes Fire District, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce, The SHEET, Mammoth Times, Sierra Wave, KMMT, and the Old Mammoth Road Restaurant Association.

For additional information on Town Clean-Up Day, or to arrange for collection of abandoned vehicles, please contact Sherine Sanders at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244.

The Town thanks you in advance for taking pride in your community and we'll see you on Saturday, May 16 for Town Clean-Up Day!

Be Prepared - Increased Wildlife Activity

With the warming weather and thawing snow, Mono County is experiencing an increase in wildlife activity. Although this trend extends through the entire county, Crowley Lake and June Lake have been the hot spots for bear activity. The bears are seeking food and are already damaging property and attempting to gain access to houses and out buildings. Residents and visitors also need to be mindful of the presence of mountain lions. While mountain lion attacks on humans are extremely rare, it is important to be educated on what to do should one encounter a mountain lion. The following are some steps that people can take in an effort to exist responsibly with wildlife:

- Invest in bear-proof garbage containers. This can include specialized commercial trash bins or can be as simple as buying surplus 55 gallon re-sealable barrels. Trash should be stored in secured containers away from buildings if possible. Always secure communal trash bins, either with a chain or a lock
- Properly store pet food. Pet food should be in an airtight, sealed container if stored in the garage. Bears are obviously attracted to pet food and have broken into numerous garages and residences.
- Do not leave anything in your vehicle that may attract bears. This includes, but is not limited to, food, wrappers, gum, perfume, mints, etc.
- Watch out for wildlife on the roads. The deer are migrating and other wildlife is moving around. Motorists need to be alert and watch the road in order to cut down on the number of animal involved collisions and deaths.
- NEVER feed wildlife. Feeding of wildlife is a violation of the law and also a death sentence to the animals. Once conditioned to human sources of food, bears will seek them out, creating conflicts with humans. Bears may be killed to ensure public safety if the nuisance behavior cannot be corrected. Attracting bears to urban areas can also increase risk of vehicle collisions, harming both humans and bears. Feeding deer is also illegal and the presence of deer will attract mountain lions.

Mammoth Lakes Plastic Bag Ban in Effect March 1

Beginning Tuesday, March 1, 2016, Ordinance No. 15-06 goes into effect that prohibits the use of single-use carryout bags in the Town of Mammoth Lakes. Town Council's action will reduce negative impacts on the environment, including reducing the use of natural resources and energy; reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and helping to eliminate waste in landfills, roadside litter, and pollution to lakes, streams, and soils. Most importantly it will contribute to a cleaner and more welcoming Town of Mammoth Lakes!

When the plastic bag ban goes into effect, consumers will be affected in the following ways:

- Retail establishments will no longer be able to utilize plastic, single-use bags.
- Customers may purchase paper bags for a minimum of 10 cents each.
- Customers may purchase or bring their own reusable bags.
- Restaurants are exempt and may still use plastic bags for take away orders.
- Some other exemptions exist, such as plastic bags used for produce and meats.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes will work with local businesses, including the Chamber of Commerce, to assist in the progressive elimination of plastic, single-use bags in our community. If you have questions about the plastic bag ban, please visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov to review Ordinance No. 15-06, or contact Pam Kobylarz, Assistant to the Town Manager, at (760) 934-8989 ext. 223 or pkobylarz@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Town Of Mammoth Lakes Open Positions

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is recruiting for a Finance Director, Aquatic Site Coordinator, Assistant Aquatic Site Coordinator, and two Crossing Guards. Come and be a part of the exciting Town of Mammoth Lakes team and help make a difference in our local community! For details, please visit the Town's website: <http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov>.

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.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov, 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.

TV 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.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy:

Friday, May 6, 2016	36%
Saturday, May 7, 2016	39%
Sunday, May 8, 2016	21%
Monday, May 9, 2016	20%
Tuesday, May 10, 2016	19%
Wednesday, May 11, 2016	23%
Thursday, May 12, 2016	24%
Friday, May 13, 2016	35%
Saturday, May 14, 2016	37%
Sunday, May 15, 2016	26%

If you're a lodging property and would like to sign up to report your numbers, please contact John Urdi at JUrdi@visitmammoth.com or (760) 934-2712 ext. 1259

Please remember that the projected occupancy is calculated in order to assist the business community with staffing levels and product ordering. The actual occupancy percentages are reported from the lodging industry to the Town of Mammoth Lakes Finance Department.

Community News

Permits for Personal Fuelwood Issued Early – May 1

The Inyo National Forest is offering early sale of personal use fuelwood permits for the 2016 season. Because of staffing shortages, permit sales will begin earlier than normal to help alleviate lines at the visitor centers. Locals are encouraged to purchase early to avoid crowds in the visitor centers as spring visitation season begins.

Fuelwood collection season is scheduled to open May 1, 2016, as in years past. Maps showing areas open to cutting are available with a purchased fuelwood permit. Fuelwood permits are \$15.00 per cord with a two cord minimum purchase.

The forest requests that fuelwood permits are purchased between the hours of 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon and 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m., April 11 through April 30, 2016, unless otherwise specified. Fuelwood permits may be obtained at the following locations:

Mono Basin Scenic Area Visitor Center in Lee Vining; (760) 647-3044

- Permits on sale, Thursday - Monday only.

Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center in Mammoth Lakes; (760) 924-5500

- Permits on sale, Friday - Tuesday only

White Mountain Ranger Station in Bishop; (760) 873-2500

- Permits on sale, Monday - Friday only

Interagency Visitor Center in Lone Pine; (760) 876-6222

- Permits on sale Saturday, April 9 and Sunday, April 10 only.

Please call ahead to your local visitor center to confirm hours of operations.

The Fuelwood Strategy, developed with public participation in 1998, remains valid and will be implemented this year. Large ends of all downed logs (those portions greater than 30 inches in diameter) are required to remain on the forest floor for wildlife habitat and recycling of soil nutrients. The majority of funds collected from permit sales are directly returned to the forest for continued implementation of this program. Comments on this strategy and fuelwood program are always welcome. For further information on the fuelwood program, contact your local ranger Station or visitor center.

Jumbo Wild– May 6

Join Friends of the Inyo for a showing of Jumbo Wild at the Mountain Rambler Brewery. From the acclaimed Sweetgrass Productions, Jumbo Wild explores the effort to protect a special place. Come on down to the Brewery and enjoy a good beer and a movie about the people trying to save a wild place and the amazing wildlife that calls it home. For info, email ben@friendsoftheinyo.org, call (760) 873-6500, visit our website: <http://friendsoftheinyo.org/foiD7/node/1604>.

Pamper Pedal – May 7

The 2016 Pamper Pedal is an all-ladies ride hosted by the men of Eastside Velo. The ride starts at Footloose in Mammoth Lakes and concludes 44 scenic miles later at the Elks Park in Bishop. This is the 10th anniversary of this ride, and the Pamper Pedal is

celebrating by honoring the first year's event with the theme "Back to the Bedroom."
Register online at: <http://www.eastsidevelo.org/>

Chamber Music Unbound Presents "Super-Heroes" – May 7

On Saturday, May 7 from 7:30pm at Cerro Coso College, Chamber Music Unbound presents The Felici Piano Trio guest Corey Cerovsek, violin, in a concert entitled, "Super-Heroes", with music by Dvořák, Prokofiev and Beethoven (his explosive "Eroica" Symphony arranged for piano quartet). 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.

Horse Meadow Potential Wilderness Exploration - May 21

Join Friends of the Inyo and the Sierra Club Range of Light Chapter on an exploration of Horse Meadow Potential Wilderness Area in Mono County. This tour will be half driving and half hiking and will explore the recovery of the burned area near Bohler Canyon before visiting lower and upper Horse Meadow. Please RSVP. For info and RSVP email info@friendsoftheinyo.org or call (760) 873-6500.

2nd Annual Mammoth Lakes Film Festival - May 25-29

Mammoth Lakes Film Festival (MLFF) is a five-day festival that screens 50 films in Mammoth Lakes, CA. MLFF will unlock the creative mind of the public by providing emerging filmmakers an opportunity to have their films excite the community.
<http://www.mammothlakesfilmfestival.com/>

Adventure Center Opening Day - May 27

The Adventure Center, summer's hub for outdoor fun, will open for Memorial Weekend. Purchase tickets for the Scenic Gondola & Eleven53 Interpretive Center, test out the lower mountain bike trails or let the kids loose on the zip line, climbing wall or euro-bungee.

Mountain Bike Park and Scenic Gondola Opening Day - May 27

Check Mammoth Mountain's website to get updates on the projected opening of the Mammoth Bike Park and Scenic Gondola.

Sierra Star Opening Day – May 27

Opening Day for Sierra Star is Friday, May 27. Book your tee time today!

Stacey Cook & Friends Speed Camp - May 28-30

A challenging three day weekend focused on learning the technical and tactical elements of the Speed disciplines with Stacey Cook and other US Ski Team members. Call 800-MAMMOTH to register.

May - Range of Light Group Outings/Meetings

May 8 (Sunday) Ski Tioga Pass Area to Greentreble Lake (depending on snow conditions): +/- 10mi, strenuous, meet 8am ML Union Bank or 8:30am Lee Vining Ranger Station, Contact Brigitte (760-924-2140, jungberman@mac.com).

May 15 (Sunday) Bohler Canyon: Re-visit Bohler Canyon after the fire to monitor

regrowth and to visit the many arborglyphs among canyon aspens, 4mi rt, easy with some cross-country, meet 8:30am ML Union Bank or 9am behind June Lake Shell station, Contact Jean (760-648-7109, dillinghamjean@gmail.com).

May 18 (Wednesday) Highway Clean-up: join ROLG for morning clean-up of our 2mi section of 395, meet 8 am Crestview Rest Area (5mi N of ML), vests, hard hats, trash bags, pickers, gloves and refreshments provided, Contact Dick and Joanne (760-709-5050, rhinn@skidmore.edu).

Sierra Club Outing, May 22 (Sunday) Hilton Lakes Trail (Crowley) to Davis Lake, 10-12 mi rt, strenuous, well-behaved dogs welcome, meet 9am Eastside Bakery off of 395, Contact Lisa (720-238-2581, lgbuckley@gmail.com).

May 29 (Sunday) Hike O'Harrel Canyon: near Glass Mt., possible trip to Glass Mt. summit depending upon group interest, panoramic views of canyon and Sierra Mts. along stream, meadow and in open terrain, cross-country hiking required, well-behaved dogs welcome, meet 8am ML Union Bank. Contact Melissa (760-937-0499, melissas1@verizon.net).

OUTINGS, DESTINATIONS MAY CHANGE DUE TO UNFORSEEN WEATHER CONDITIONS. ABOMINABLE WEATHER WILL CANCEL AN OUTING. IF IN DOUBT, PLEASE CONTACT LEADER AHEAD OF TIME.

25th Annual Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church Tour of Homes – July 16

The 25th Annual Mammoth Lakes Lutheran Church Tour of Homes will take place this year on Saturday, July 16th from 9:00am – 12:00pm. People can buy their tickets from Mammoth Business Essentials or Bishop Art Supply, or they go on-line to the church webpage, for a \$25.00 donation.

Parks and Recreation Department Highlights

Dance Yourself Into Shape With Zumba!

The department is currently running a Zumba fitness program at the Community Center (on the corner of Forest Trail and Minaret Road). This fun and upbeat program is a great way to add cardio to your day, and is a great fit for anyone looking for alternative workout solutions. Zumba is a dance based workout, allowing you to burn calories while getting your groove on. Licensed Zumba instructor Kaysie Williams is currently running the program every Tuesday from 5:30-6:30pm for teens and adults. The fee for the class is a \$4 drop in fee per class, and advanced registration is not required. The last session on Tuesday, May 24th is quickly approaching, so come check it out soon! For more information please contact Stephanie Daniel at (760) 934-8989 ext. 237.

"Little Sluggers" Instructional T-Ball – May 4

Little Sluggers is a great chance to introduce your child to the wonderful sport of baseball. This program, for kids ages 1½-5, scheduled on Wednesday evenings from 5:15 – 6:00 p.m. (at the MES field) and is designed to teach the fundamentals of baseball in a clinic and mock-game setting. Cost per child is \$48, which includes a shirt. Program is scheduled to begin on Wednesday, May 4, and will run through June 8. For more information call John C. at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234. Volunteer parents welcome. Sign up online at www.mammothrecreation.com

Lap Swim at Whitmore Pool Begins May 9

Lap Swim at Whitmore Pool (Benton Crossing Road) will commence on Monday, May 9. While public swim will not start until June 18, we will be offering Lap Swim starting Monday, May 9 through Friday, September 2, 2016. Morning public Lap Swim will run Monday-Friday from 6:30-8:30am. Evening sessions will run on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30-7pm. Please note that Whitmore Pool will be closed on Monday, May 30th and Monday, July 4th, 2016 in observance of Memorial and Independence Days. For more information, please contact the office at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222.

Public Service Announcements

Important Information for Verizon Customers

As of April 1, Verizon customers in California, Texas, and Florida will now be serviced by Frontier Communications. Residents should expect to have the same exceptional FiOS TV, Internet, and phone service from the new telecommunications provider.

Existing Verizon customers can request more information regarding their Internet service provider transition by clicking on this link: <http://internet.frontier.com/fios-network-acquisition/>. If you have questions regarding establishing Frontier service or switching to Frontier from your current service provider, please click on the following link: <http://internet.frontier.com/California/>

Town's Owner-Occupant Housing Rehabilitation Program

California Department of Housing and Community Development ("HCD") has awarded the Town of Mammoth Lakes a \$186,047 grant to administer a Housing Rehabilitation Program. Mammoth Lakes Housing, Inc. (MLH) as the "Program Operator," will administer the program. The funding may be used by property owners to update homes, attend to deferred maintenance, and address energy efficiency.

Property owners in Mammoth Lakes can benefit from this subsidy in the form of deferred payment loans, below market interest rate loans, and grants. Owners may use program funds to rehabilitate their home for the following eligible improvements:

- 1. Correct health and safety issues;**
- 2. Converting to current Uniform Building Code;**
- 3. Energy conservation improvements;**
- 4. Extension of useful life** (includes repairing siding, sheet rock, painting, new flooring, new cabinets, new interior doors, gutters and foundation upgrades and repairs); and
- 5. General property improvements.**

To qualify for program funding, an existing homeowner must occupy the home and the household income must be equal to, or less than the following:

1 person	\$43,250
2 person	\$49,400
3 person	\$55,600

4 person	\$61,750
5 person	\$66,700
6 person	\$71,650
7 person	\$76,600
8 person	\$81,550

Units must be located within the Town of Mammoth Lakes in order to qualify for rehabilitation funds. General property improvements that enhance the overall exterior appearance of the property will be limited to 15% of the rehabilitation loan amount.

Funds will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis until all funding is exhausted. All interested Mammoth Lakes property owners are encouraged to immediately contact Mammoth Lakes Housing for additional information, eligibility requirements, and an application.

Eastern Sierra Transit Expands Mammoth Express Route!

Eastern Sierra Transit is making your commute between Bishop and Mammoth a little easier. Starting Monday, July 6, 2015, there will two additional runs on the Mammoth Express route to accommodate an 8 to 5 work schedule in Mammoth. The bus will depart Bishop Kmart/Vons Center at 6:50am. There is a 5:20pm and now 7:00pm departure from Mammoth to accommodate those who may need to work a little later or want to stay in Mammoth for dinner.

The new departure times are:

North from Bishop - Kmart/Vons			
6:50am	7:30am	1:00pm	6:10pm

South from Mammoth - McDonalds			
7:50am	2:05pm	5:20pm	7:00pm

The Mammoth Express also stops at Tom's Place (by request only) and at the Crowley Lake Community Center. All busses have bike racks available on a first come first served basis.

Commuting with Eastern Sierra Transit is very economical. There are several pass options available to reduce the cost of commuting even further. Discounted one-way fares and 10-puch passes are offered to seniors 60+, disabled, and youth 5-16.

MAMMOTH EXPRESS FARES

		Adult	Disc	10-Punch	10-P Disc	1 Week	2 Week
Bishop to:	Mammoth	\$7.00	\$6.00	\$63.00	\$54.00	\$52.50	\$98.00
Tom's Place to:	Mammoth	\$4.00	\$3.50	\$36.00	\$31.50	\$30.00	\$56.00
Crowley to:	Mammoth	\$3.00	\$2.50	\$27.00	\$22.50	\$22.50	\$42.00

Contact ESTA at 760.872-1901 ext. 20 for more information or visit the website at www.estransit.com

Reduction of Wildland Fire Fuels

Website: <http://www.mlfd.ca.gov>

Now that winter seems to have faded, the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District (MLFD) wants to remind residents of your responsibility to keep your property fire safe. Long term residents are aware of the wildland fire incidence that can occur around town and especially after dry winters and with windy, hot, dry summers. From just about anywhere in town one can see the results of previous fire activity and the scars that have been left behind.

Establishing and maintaining defensible space around our property is all of our responsibilities. We are all part of the team that will protect our community should we find ourselves in the situation of a wildfire threatening town. A well-maintained landscape enhances the beauty and value of any property— and just as importantly, the work serves as a fuel break. The goal is to keep your landscape lean, clean and green. The following steps can reduce your home's vulnerability from the threat of wildfire and reduce your use of irrigation.

ZONE 1: 30 feet or more adjacent to the home and beyond attachments such as wooden decks.

- Within the first 10 feet of the home, use nonflammable landscaping materials (rock, pavers), or low level annuals or perennials less than 18 inches in height. There should be nothing flammable within 10 feet of the home.
- Keep this area lightly irrigated and free from dead or dry vegetation, combustible debris, and accumulations of leaf and needle litter. Plants should be carefully spaced, low growing and free of vegetation high in resins, oils, and waxes that burn easily. Mow lawns regularly.
- Prune all trees up 1/3 the height of the tree or so the lowest limbs are 10-15 feet from the ground. If adjacent to a structure, prune up to the eave level. Clearance shall be a minimum of 10 feet from chimneys/stovepipes. Keep roof surfaces clear.
- Thin out living vegetation 30 to 50% within this zone to decrease fire intensity and continuous path of travel.
- Allow space between tops of trees to reduce the risk of crown fire.
- Keep firewood stacks/piles at least 30 feet from the home. If this is not possible, from June 1 to September 30, cover entire woodpile with properly secured, fire resistive, California State Fire Marshal tagged tarp.
- Water plants and trees as needed to ensure they are healthy. Do not use finely shredded mulch and mulch should be wetted periodically.
- Areas around and above propane tanks need to be kept clear of vegetation for 10 feet.

ZONE 2: Approximately 30 to 100 feet from the home (if your property size permits).

- Leave approximately 30 feet between clusters of two to three trees, or approximately 20 feet between individual trees. Do not remove more than 1/3 of the crown density.
- Limit vegetation that serves as a link between low level vegetation and tree tops (ladder fuels).
- Prune trees so branches and leaves are at least 10-15 feet above the ground.
- Give yourself added protection with "fuel breaks," such as gravel walkways, and lawns.
- Remove any dead or dying material from yard and break up continuous patches of brush species to slow fire advance and decrease heat productivity.

Property owners who are unable to do this work themselves are encouraged to hire a licensed professional who both understand this information and can apply it to the property. MLFD maintains a list of qualified contractors that can perform this work.

Failure to comply with the regulations and clear your property in a timely fashion is not only expensive, but endangers the lives and homes of your neighbors, the community, and the firefighters who protect them.

If you would like more information on this or any other fire safety related matter, please feel free to contact the Mammoth Lakes Fire Department at (760) 934-2300.

Local Woodstove Replacement Program A Great Success - Limited Funds Remain

A successful Town of Mammoth Lakes woodstove replacement program comes to an end after replacing 150 older wood-burning systems resulting in the annual reduction of thousands of pounds of particulate matter. Mono County still has a small amount of public benefit funds remaining, or enough to provide for several more installations across the County.

There has been a silver lining to Mono County's dry winter months: With funding from local government agencies, new and much more efficient and cleaner heating systems have been installed to replace old fireplaces and woodstoves throughout the area all winter long!

In addition to the economic benefits, air quality has been improved. Each new heating system emits far fewer pounds of wood-smoke emissions than the older log-burning systems. According to U.S. EPA figures, an open fireplace burning logs emits over 46 pounds of 'particulate matter' (PM) per ton of wood burned (average amounts vary with wood type and dryness), while a new fireplace insert burning the same wood emits about 29 pounds of PM emissions per ton burned. A new pellet insert emits only around 6 pounds of PM per ton of pellets burned.

With almost \$275,000 in 'Environmental Public Benefit Funds' provided by the local Air District, the Town of Mammoth Lakes was able to help fund the replacement of around 150 older wood-burning systems throughout Town, resulting in the annual reduction of thousands of pounds of PM as well as the reduction of carbon monoxide, sulphur dioxide, nitrous oxides, and volatile organic compounds.

And while the Town's Woodstove Replacement Program is closed, Mono County still has a small amount of public benefit funds remaining, or enough to provide for several more installations across the County. All funds are committed on a 'first come, first served' basis, and interested property owners are encouraged to immediately contact a participating woodstove retailer. Shared costs will be required.

To qualify for funding, an existing wood-burning system (woodstove or open fireplace) must be a building's primary heat source, it must be located within Mono County (apart from Mammoth Lakes), and it must fall under one of two types for designated funding:

- 1) For pre-1990 wood burning stoves and open fireplaces (not EPA compliant), \$1,500 may be available toward a new EPA Phase II wood-burning stove or fireplace, or \$2,000 toward a new pellet stove or gas system.
- 2) For woodstoves currently being used that are newer than 1990 (EPA Phase I or II-certified stoves, excluding pellet stoves), \$2,000 may be available toward a new, cleaner-burning pellet stove or gas heating system.

Participating retailers serving Mono County: Alpine Stove & Mercantile (760) 934-4416; Angelo's Stove & Chimney (760) 937-0860, Clean Sweep (760) 934-3453; High Country Lumber (760) 873-5874 - ask for Kim Jones; Manor True Value Hardware (760) 873-3106, and Batchelder Enterprises for new kerosene heating systems (760) 873-3800. For additional information, please contact: Lisa Isaacs, Administrator, Woodstove Replacement Program at (760) 914-0388.

Sierra Conservation Project and Town of Mammoth Lakes Partner to Expand Condominium and Business Recycling Program

The Sierra Conservation Project, Inc. (SCP) and Town of Mammoth Lakes are pleased to announce the expansion of the current condominium, commercial and recreational area recycling programs in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

"This long-standing and successful partnership between the Sierra Conservation Project and the Town enabled us to submit and receive a substantial \$108,000 CalRecycle grant to expand on-going recycling programs within the community that benefits our residents, visitors and wildlife," stated Peter Bernasconi, Acting Public Works Director for the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

The Sierra Conservation Project is working in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes and the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to provide an additional 30 bear proof containers to the remaining Condominium complexes in town that currently don't have a recycling program in place. In addition, CalRecycle grant funds will enable SCP to upgrade all commercial bear proof containers at restaurants, bars and other business locations in town, including the enhancement and placement of recycling infrastructure in the Lakes Basin and at key park locations in Mammoth Lakes, such as the Whitmore Recreation Area and Shady Rest Park.

Recyclable materials make up a large percentage of the waste produced in our residential complexes and businesses," stated Brian Robinette, owner of SCP. "These community-based programs aim to divert recyclable materials from our local landfill, while also educate our residents and visitors on the need for convenient recycling programs. We are confident that by providing start-up infrastructure for these complexes and businesses it will help make program implementation affordable and reduce the environmental impacts of each resident and guest," said Robinette.

To register for the Condominium Recycling Program, please visit www.recyclesierra.com or www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

For additional information on the **Condominium and Business Recycling Program**, please contact Sierra Conservation Project at (760) 914 0115 or e-mail Brian@recyclesierra.com.

Would You Leave A Loaded Gun on the Floor?

If you have children in your home, hopefully you would not! However, a new threat to the health of our children is emerging. These are e-liquids, sold legally in stores and online in small bottles that may be carelessly and casually left around the house, used for the regular re-filling of e-cigarettes.

The danger is from the nicotine content in these vials of "juice". Children can happen upon a vial and ingest it. These fluids come in flavors and bright colors that are

attractive for kids – cotton candy, cherry, chocolate, and bubble gum among others. In addition, nicotine is absorbed through the skin, presenting a risk from a broken vial.

Electronic cigarettes, called e-cigarettes, are drug delivery devices originally designed to look like regular tobacco cigarettes. Now they are larger reusable gadgets that can be refilled with liquid, generally a mixture of nicotine, flavorings, and solvents. It is estimated that roughly four million Americans use these battery powered devices. They have been hailed by proponents as a way for addicted smokers to get their nicotine fix without sucking in the thousands of carcinogens found in traditional cigarettes.

However, the evidence of their effectiveness in assisting persons in weaning off their nicotine addiction is less than stellar. In addition, evidence is rapidly mounting that they are serving as a “gateway” for young teens into the world of nicotine addiction. A recent study found nearly 1.8 million youth had tried e-cigarettes, and the number of middle and high school e-smokers doubled in one year. No wonder the industry targets the young who will be potential customers for decades to come! Their goal – to have the number of e-smokers quadruple in the next few years.

So how bad is the risk of exposure? Nicotine is a naturally occurring powerful neurotoxin, and in its potent liquid form, can be ingested or absorbed through the skin. Tiny amounts can cause vomiting, seizures, and even death. A teaspoon of even the highly diluted liquid can kill a small child.

A dose of 50 to 60 milligrams (mg) is potentially fatal for an adult; a 30 pound child could die from 1.36 mg. A vial of e-juice as commonly sold in retail stores is 17 milliliters, and with a 2.4% concentration would have 408 mg of nicotine. This year it is estimated that 1 to 2 million LITERS of liquid will be sold, much of it on the Internet. A liter of 10% concentration costs about \$110, a gallon \$195, and one company even offers a 55 gallon drum!

Nationwide, reports of accidental poisonings linked to e-liquids in 2013 jumped 300% from 2012, and is on pace to double again this year. Most cases are under the age of 4. A shop owner says that “We tell them that this stuff is poisonous. We do everything we can to protect the consumers, but at the end of the day, you leave a loaded gun on the floor, and your child gets hold of it, it’s not gonna be the gunmaker’s responsibility.” A CEO of e-cigarette franchises says “It’s the wild, wild west right now.” There is no FDA regulation so far. So at the moment, if you are a user, your child has to go no farther than your own home to find a lethal dose of poison. Be aware of the risks, and keep vials out of reach. You are responsible for the safety of your children.

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/>

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

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

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.

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.

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.

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.

Do I need a business tax certificate?

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

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.

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.

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.

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 ext. 273.

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 ext. 273 or your property management company.

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.

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 ext. 275 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.

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:

- Go to monosheriff.org
- Scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
- Click on it and follow directions.

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.