



Town of Mammoth Lakes
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Town News

Town e-News: Week of May 30, 2016

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – June 1

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 1, 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 31 | Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 9:00am |
| June 1 | Town Council Meeting, Suite Z, 6:00pm |
| June 8 | Planning and Economic Development Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 2:00pm |

June 7, 2016 Primary Election - Important Information For Mammoth Lakes Voters

Mammoth Lakes Town Council Election Ballot Error

There is an error on your ballot: this error appears on sample ballots, vote-by-mail ballots, and the ballots you will see at your polling place. Because of this error, you will need to fill out two ballots—the original primary election ballot (shown in your sample ballot), plus an additional ballot to vote for the two open seats on the Mammoth Lakes Town Council. Here's how you vote:

Vote-by-mail/Absentee:

- Which vote-by-mail/absentee ballot do I use? You must return 2 ballots—your original ballot, for all offices and measures other than Town Council, and your additional, replacement ballot for the Town Council election. You have already received your June 7 primary ballot—use this ballot to vote for everything except Town Council (votes for Town Council on this ballot will not be counted). Your additional, replacement ballot for Town Council only will arrive the week of May 31, and this ballot will only include Town Council election options.
- How do I return my vote-by-mail/absentee ballots? You can return your ballots in one of these three ways:

1. Mail both ballots by Tuesday, June 7. Postage is prepaid for the replacement ballot.
2. Return your ballots in person to the Mono County Community Development Department on the second floor of the Minaret Village Mall (above Giovanni's), during business hours, Tuesday, 5/31 through Monday, 6/6.
3. Return your ballots in person at the Mammoth Lakes polling place (details below).
 - You must use the return envelope that was sent with each ballot, no matter which way you choose to return your ballots.
 - What if I already returned my original ballot and voted for Town Council members on that original ballot? All of your votes on the original ballot will be counted except your votes for Town Council. You must still return the replacement ballot in order for your votes for Town Council to be counted.

In Person/Polling Place:

- Follow the usual procedure at the polling place on Tuesday, June 7, and note that all Mammoth voters have a new polling place (details below).
- You will receive two ballots at the polling place. Use the original June 7 Primary Election ballot to vote for all offices and measures other than Town Council. Use the additional replacement ballot to vote for the two open Town Council seats—the instructions on the replacement ballot will make it clear that you are to only vote for two candidates in the Town Council election.

Mammoth Lakes Polling Place/Voting Location Change

All Mammoth Lakes voters have a new polling place. Vote here!

Mammoth High School Library, 365 Sierra Park Road, 7am-8pm

HOTLINE: For questions about the voting process, please contact our Election Hotline at (760) 932-5537 or email us at elections@mono.ca.gov or visit www.monocounty.ca.gov/elections. We apologize for this inconvenience and are working hard to assist voters with the revised process.

For Election Page....More Questions and Answers

Q: What is the ballot error?

A: The ballot mistakenly instructs voters to select up to three Town Council candidates. There are only two Town Council positions up for election this year.

Q: What if I didn't receive or I threw out my original ballot? Can I get a new one?

A: Before May 31st, you may have a new ballot mailed to you. Contact the Mono County Elections office at 760-932-5537. From now until June 7th, if you want to be absolutely sure you receive your ballot in time, pick it up at the Bridgeport office is the best option. On June 7th, Go to the polling place at Mammoth High School Library from 7:00am to 8pm and cast a provisional ballot. Once your eligibility to vote is verified, your vote will be counted. (This is a normal process for anyone who doesn't have their official ballot on election day.)

Q: What happens if I voted for town council candidates on my original absentee ballot and I already mailed it?

A: Town Council candidate votes on the original ballot will not be tallied. Vote for up to two Town Council candidates on the additional, replacement ballot.

Q: I didn't see an argument for or against Measure G in my sample ballot. Why?

A: The argument in favor of Measure G was mistakenly left out of the sample ballot. You can read it here: http://www.monocounty.ca.gov/sites/default/files/fileattachments/elections/page/5167/rev_3-17argument_in_favor_-_mammoth_usd_3_10.pdf

Town of Mammoth Lakes to Host the 2016 Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular at Crowley Lake

The Town of Mammoth Lakes in partnership with Crowley Lake Fish Camp is proud to once again host the annual Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular at Crowley Lake on Monday, July 4, 2016. The Independence Day fireworks show promises to be a bright and striking display of color in the Eastern Sierra night sky. This year's "Sky Concert" will propel over 737 shells into the Eastern Sierra sky for a mesmerizing 20 minutes beginning at approximately 9:15 p.m. (weather permitting). Funding for this year's Fourth of July show was generously donated by the local community, Community Services Area 1, L.D.C. and from the Town's general fund.

Since incorporating in 1984, the Town of Mammoth Lakes has been celebrating Independence Day with a spectacular fireworks show. The Town contracts Pyro Spectaculars by Souza to light up the sky above Crowley Lake. Souza is well known for doing some of the largest and most spectacular fireworks displays in the world.

Admission to the Fourth of July Fireworks Show is once again only \$25.00 per car, RV, or truck (excludes camping), and \$5.00 per individual/bike (walking/riding).

To ensure a safe holiday experience for everyone, please observe the following:

- No personal fireworks are permitted within Mono County, including the Inyo National Forest (INF), and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands. Be smart; leave the fireworks to the professionals!
- Due to EXTREME FIRE DANGER, the Mammoth Lakes Fire Protection District, Long Valley Fire Department, Mammoth Lakes Police Department, California Highway Patrol and Mono County Sheriff will enforce a "zero tolerance" policy with respect to the possession and use of fireworks. Fireworks violations will be strictly enforced.
- Please obey road closure and no parking signs. Parking is NOT permitted along Highway 395 or Crowley Lake Drive at any time. Do not park in fire lanes.
- The Mono County Sheriff's Office will be patrolling on Crowley Lake during the fireworks show. Do not boat within 100 yards of the fireworks detonation site at Hilton Bay and proper night-time navigation lighting is required.
- Help us keep Mono County clean. Please use designated trash facilities.
- Do not drink and drive. Please use a designated driver or plan to camp at Crowley Lake Fish Camp.

Please enjoy our national holiday in a safe and responsible manner. For more information, please contact the Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222, or visit www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov.

Donate to Support the Annual Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular

The Mammoth Community Foundation, a 501c3 non-profit foundation of the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with the Town of Mammoth Lakes, is seeking donations for the 2016 Fourth of July Fireworks Spectacular at Crowley Lake. Funding for the Fourth of July show is primarily obtained from the Town's general fund, with contributions from private donors, County Service Area 1 (CSA1) and local business owners. For this year's show, a funding gap of \$3,000 exists – please consider donating to the Independence Day Fireworks Spectacular.

The Chamber of Commerce strongly believes that the annual Fourth of July fireworks display is an important entertainment event for both visitors and residents. Help us make this year's celebration one to remember! Please make your contributions to the Mammoth Community Foundation. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization, *making your contribution tax deductible*. The Federal ID Number for The Mammoth Community Foundation is 77-0549615. Mail your donations to:

Mammoth Community Foundation
P.O. Box 3268
Mammoth Lakes, Ca 93546

Or drop by the office at:

2525 Main Street
Mammoth Lakes
(Mammoth Lakes Tourism Office)

Thank you for your support.
Craig Schmidt, Director
Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce
760-934-2712 ext. 1333
Cell 760-709-0168

Mammoth Lakes Plastic Bag Ban in Effect March 1

Beginning Tuesday, March 1, 2016, Ordinance No. 15-06 went 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.

MAMMOTH LAKES POLICE DEPARTMENT - Friday Update: 5/16/16 – 5/22/16

CALLS FOR SERVICE/OFFICER OBSERVATIONS

60, including 0 business/building checks

CRIME/INCIDENT REPORTS

9 reports, including 3 arrests

TRAFFIC STOPS/CITATIONS/TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

8 stops; 1 citations; 0 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 0 collision

ANIMAL CONTROL INCIDENTS

6 incidents; 0 report

WILDLIFE

0 calls; 0 reports

Projected Average Resort Occupancy:

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Friday, May 27, 2016 | 70% |
| Saturday, May 28, 2016 | 89% |
| Sunday, May 29, 2016 | 76% |

| | |
|------------------------|-----|
| Monday, May 30, 2016 | 32% |
| Tuesday, May 31, 2016 | 34% |
| Wednesday, Jun 1, 2016 | 31% |
| Thursday, Jun 2, 2016 | 31% |
| Friday, Jun 3, 2016 | 51% |
| Saturday, Jun 4, 2016 | 44% |
| Sunday, Jun 5, 2016 | 35% |

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

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/>

Ski/Bike/Golf Challenge this memorial Weekend

Take the challenge May 27-30, for just \$99 you can ski, bike and golf all in one day. In true Mammoth spring fashion we'll be open for skiing and riding through Memorial Day weekend, the lower mountain bike park trails will be ready to ride and the Sierra Star greens in pristine condition. Call 800. MAMMOTH to get your ticket.

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.

Friends of the Library Used Book Sale – May 28

Good selection of gently used books, CDs, DVDs and audiobooks for sale at Book Chalet on Saturday, May 28 and Sunday May 29, 2016, from 9:30am to 5:00pm each day. For each \$5 you spend, you'll get \$1 off. We're also offering a bag sale - buy a bag and fill it with a special selection of fiction and non-fiction hardbacks. 645 Old Mammoth Rd. All proceeds benefit the Mammoth Lakes Branch Library.

MES Book Fair – June 2

The Annual Scholastic Book Fair sponsored by the Mammoth Elementary School PTO is scheduled on Thursday, June 2 from 8:00am-7:00pm in the Mammoth Elementary School Library. This event is open to the public.

Disabled Sports Eastern Sierra Presents The Dick Noles Wounded Warrior Pathway

Join Eastern Sierra Disabled Sports and keynote speaker General Ted Banta for the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Dick Noles Wounded Warrior Pathway. The event will be held on the June Lake Beach on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 at 9:30am.

Crowley Lake Community Yard Sale – June 4

Mono County Service Area 1 will be hosting a community yard sale to benefit the new Crowley Lake Skate Park. All proceeds from the yard sale will go to funding the new park. The event will be held on June 4, 2016 from 8am to 2pm at the Crowley Lake Community Center. The cost to reserve a space in the parking lot to sell items is \$10. A BBQ will be provided for vendors and shoppers from 11:30am to 1:30pm. Advertising is done for you, just show up and sell, sell, sell!! Reserve your space by contacting Denise Perpall at dewey@schat.net or call 760-914-0977.

Mammoth Lakes Trail System - Summer 2016 Efforts

The snow is melting and the Mammoth Lakes Trail System (MLTS) team is preparing for a productive season of trail work. Thanks to the support of the community, its leadership, and strong partnerships, we have the resources to make a real difference out on the ground in 2016. Our team will be working hard to improve trail facilities with a focus on soft surface trail maintenance and installing new USFS standard signs throughout the trail system.

The Mammoth Lakes Trail System Soft Surface Trail Maintenance Program will include the use of seasonal maintenance crews and three Summer of Stewardship Trail Days volunteer events. The maintenance crews will focus on substantial rock and dirt work within the municipal boundary of the Town. Our goal for this effort is to set the groundwork for a sustainable trail system which will minimize potential erosion by sculpting the existing trails, creating opportunities for water to sheet off of the trail tread instead of focusing into channels and causing problems. Our crews will use USFS standardized maintenance protocol documents, be well trained, and have leadership on the ground.

There will be three MLTS Summer of Stewardship: Trail Days events for volunteers to participate in this season.

- **June 4** (National Trails Day), will focus on installing soft surface trail directional signs in the Panorama Dome area. The new signs are made using the Sign and Poster Guidelines for the Forest Service document and we will

follow the USFS Sign Installation Guide document for placement direction. We will also do some light trail maintenance and clean up litter wherever we find it.

- **August 13**, will focus on installing soft surface trail directional signs on the Mountain View, Uptown and Downtown trails. We will also plan to clean up around the Earthquake Fault Interpretive Area.
- **September 17**, will celebrate and coordinate with the Great Sierra River Clean Up by picking up litter and cleaning up the Lakes Basin area. The Great Sierra River Cleanup is the premier State of California volunteer event focused on removing trash and restoring the health of waterways throughout the Sierra Nevada Region. This cleanup is an annual event coordinated by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy and held in conjunction with California Coastal Cleanup Day.

We look forward to seeing you out on the trails this summer! - The Mammoth Lakes Trail System Team. For more information, contact Trails Coordinator Joel Rathje at jrathje@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov - (760) 914-1769

Monster Energy Mammoth Motocross - June 17-26

Seven days of thrilling competitions at the infamous Mammoth Motocross "track", this event cannot be missed. Riders have ventured to six qualifying locations around California on their Road to Mammoth. Spectator tickets available at the front gate on races days.

Fred Hall Father's Day Fishing Tournament – June 18

Be part of the Fred Hall tradition by participating in the Father's Day Derby. Fish in the Mammoth Lakes Basin, then weigh your catch at Rick's Sports Center in Mammoth Lakes for a chance at winning an awesome prize package.

<http://www.monocounty.org/static/index.cfm?contentid=738>

Summer Solstice Tennis Tournament – June 18

Come out to Snowcreek Athletic Club for a tennis tournament to celebrate the Summer Solstice on June 18, 2016.

Mammoth Half Marathon & 5k - June 19

This is a world-class event with a breathtaking route from the Lakes Basin and finishing in downtown Mammoth Lakes. Special lodging discounts available at Mammoth Lodging Collection properties. Go online to register or booking your stay.

Monster Energy Mammoth Motocross Village Bash – June 25

Monster Energy and Team No Limit stunt rider Jason Britton and teammate Ian Gaines will put on a street show on Canyon Blvd in The Village. In between stunt shows the riders and sponsors from the Mammoth Motocross track will get in on a little friendly trike drifting competition. We'll cap off the evening with live music on The Plaza Stage in The Village. Don't miss this night of entertainment and jaw-dropping action.

Trout Fest – June 25

Experience Trout Fest - a hands-on, educational experience that introduces kids and families to the basics of trout fishing: from catching to cleaning to cooking. All activities are free and all equipment is provided. Enjoy instructions and demos on fishing pole rigging and knot tying, casting, dissection, fly tying, trout cleaning and more.

May - Range of Light Group Outings/Meetings

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

New Senior Programs at The Community Center

Starting June 8 and offered through August 24, 2016 the Parks and Recreation Department has scheduled FREE Senior Programs on Wednesday and Thursday at the Community Center (corner of Minaret and Forest Trail). The schedule is as follows:

Wednesday:

- 11am – 12pm: Chair Yoga with Angela
- 12pm – 1 pm: Luncheon (food will be provided)
- 1pm – 2pm: TBA Parks & Recreation activity

Thursday:

- 5:15pm – 6:15pm: Fitness with Dre (plan to wear comfortable clothing and shoes)

For additional information please contact (760) 934-8989 ext. 222. Additionally, a cancer support group is now forming. For more information please e-mail: annakate.moore@mammothhospital.com.

Summer is Almost Here!

The Parks and Recreation Department is currently taking registrations for our summer camps and programs. While some camps have already filled, there are still spaces available in many of our fun and exciting camps. Visit <https://apm.activecommunities.com/mammothrecreation/Home> to see our summer listings or contact (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information.

Lap Swim Underway at Whitmore Pool

Lap Swim at Whitmore Pool (Benton Crossing Road) began on Monday, May 9. While public swim will not start until June 18, Lap Swim is offered 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

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.

SR 120 Tioga Road In Yosemite National Park Now Open

The Tioga Road in Yosemite National Park opened for all vehicular traffic on Wednesday, May 18, 2016. The Tioga Road, bounded on both sides by State Highway 120, is the popular east-west crossing of the Sierra Nevada.

"We would like to thank all of our road crews, as well as our partners in Mono County and Caltrans, for all of their hard work in clearing the road for the opening

tomorrow,” stated Don Neubacher, Superintendent.” Visitors are urged to travel with caution, as there will be ongoing roadwork and the possibility of ice in some places, especially in the early morning hours.”

Snow and icy conditions may still exist on hiking trails at the higher elevations. Visitors are urged to be prepared for snowy conditions and possible treacherous stream crossings while hiking the backcountry in the early season. Vault toilets are available in several locations along the road. Limited visitor services will be available over the next several weeks. Additionally, late spring storms may change the status of the road and cause temporary closures. For updated, 24-hour road conditions, please call 209-372-0200 and follow the prompts.

All campgrounds along the Tioga Road remain closed. All commercial services, including the Tuolumne Store, and Village Grill, are also closed. There are no anticipated opening dates for any of these facilities at this time. The gas station in Tuolumne Meadows is permanently closed and the nearest gas stations are Crane Flat to the west and Lee Vining to the east.

Yosemite National Park celebrated its 125th Anniversary last year and is currently celebrating its Centennial Anniversary with the National Park Service. The park welcomes over four million visitors from all over the world each year and serves as a strong economic engine for the region and local communities. Yosemite National Park generates \$535 million in economic benefit to the local region and directly supports 6,261 jobs. The park is home to Yosemite Falls, the tallest waterfall in North America, and iconic rock formations such as Half Dome and El Capitan. The park also features approximately 90 different species of mammals and over 1500 species of plants.

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.

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

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.