



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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Town News

Labor Day Weekend Edition

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – Sept. 7

The next regular meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, September 7, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z in the Minaret Village Mall. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting. Some of the agenda items include:

- Council presentation: Five year anniversary award to Senior Planner Sandra Moberly.
- Public Presentation: (1) Presentation from Deanna Dulen, Superintendent of the Devils Postpile National Monument, regarding the Devils Postpile General Management Plan and preliminary alternatives. (2) Presentation from Rick Phelps, High Sierra Energy Foundation.
- Consent Agenda: (1) Approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 20, 2011. (2) Cancel the Town Council regularly scheduled meeting of September 21, 2011. (3) Award contract for construction of the Mammoth Lakes Signage and Wayfinding Project 2011 Phase 3 to Playscapes Construction, Inc. (4) Approve the Resolution authorizing the application for grant funds for the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation (EEM) Program under Section 164.56 of the Streets and Highways Code for Phase 2 of the Library College Connector Path Project. (5) Approve the Resolution adding the position of a "Budget and Information Technology Manager" to the Unrepresented ("Executive") Category and authorize the salary range for the said position. (6) Approve the Resolution approving and adopting an amended Conflict of Interest Code pursuant to the Political Reform Act of 1974. (11) Accept the Register of Demands No. 12-06 in the amount of \$434,142.97 & Accept Register of Demands No. 12-07 in the amount of \$114,839.21.
- Policy Matters: (1) Appoint an applicant to the Planning Commission vacancy.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, September 2 - Sunday, September 4 = 59% Labor Day Weekend
(54% same weekend in 2010, up 5% in 2011)

Monday, September 5 - Thursday, September 8 = 29%
(28% same midweek in 2010, up 1% in 2011)

Twitter

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Community Development

Town Initiates Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Education & Enforcement Program

The Town of Mammoth Lakes is working with the Mammoth Lakes Lodging Association to implement a program to monitor and enforce transient occupancy tax (TOT) payments and rental activity within town.

"Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) collection, compliance and enforcement is a critical component to the success of a resort town like Mammoth Lakes. TOT makes up around 80% of the Town's annual budgeted revenue and pays for such vital services as snow removal, road and parks maintenance and marketing," stated John Morris, Chairman of the Mammoth Lakes Lodging Association.

TOT is the Lifeblood of our Town

Because TOT is the lifeblood of the town and provides us with so many essential services, the Town is tackling this problem through a TOT education and enforcement program. The Town and Mammoth Lakes Tourism have engaged our lodging partners and the Chamber of Commerce to help formulate a program for TOT enforcement.

"Mammoth Lakes Tourism has been doing an amazing job of driving visitors to our community, but without a strong TOT collection program the benefits of a good visitor base are futile," stated Councilor Lehman.

Town Council Takes Action

The Town Council considers TOT enforcement a high priority because of the vital services it provides as well as the fact that, in the past, unreported and illegal rental activity has cost the Town hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars.

Councilor Matthew Lehman stated that "Over the past 12 months Town Council and Town staff have made enormous strides to cut expenses in an effort to better balance our town's budget. It's now time to shift our focus on revenue generation and revenue collection. This is a component of our town finances that has received too little attention until now."

Anyone who violates the Town's Ordinance and rents their unit/home within a legally zoned area without first obtaining a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate will be subject to the 13% transient occupancy tax, penalties, interest for their rental activity and may be fined up to \$500 per day along with enforcement charges. If you're renting in a non-legally zoned area, additional fines, including possible criminal action may apply. The Town of Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code (Chapter 3.12) includes detailed rules and regulations pertaining to TOT.

TOT Hotline

A hotline has been established to report any suspicious activity or rental advertisements and 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.

TOT Provides Vital Community Services

Transient Occupancy Taxes (TOT) are the largest single revenue source for the Town of Mammoth Lakes. This visitor generating revenue provides vital services to our

community which enhances our quality of life and maintains the resort status as a great place to live and work. Vital community services include:

- Free transportation (usage and need are growing).
- Snow removal (we would not be able to get around town without it).
- Road maintenance (surfacing, routing, and safety).
- Public safety (police funding, without TOT the population increases without funding for our protection).
- Parks and pools maintenance (facilities need upgrading and maintenance without TOT this can't happen).
- Trails (TOT will help create and maintain walking, hiking and biking trails within the town of Mammoth Lakes).

Mammoth Lakes marketing (this helps all so that Mammoth Lakes can be competitive with other travel markets. Helps all businesses and allows us to live or visit Mammoth Lakes and enjoy the amenities we've come to expect).

People visit Mammoth Lakes or move here full or part time because of its vast recreational opportunities and its beauty, however to have the infrastructure to make Mammoth Lakes a place we enjoy, we must have an income source and the largest source of income to the Town of Mammoth Lakes is TOT.

Transient Occupancy Tax – the details...

You've probably heard the term TOT and wondered what it was and how it affects you. Transient Occupancy Taxes (or TOT) are the taxes that visitors pay when renting a unit or hotel room in town. In the Town of Mammoth Lakes the daily tax rate is 13 percent. This tax rate applies to all rentable units: hotels, motels, condominiums, and single family homes that are permitted to rent on a nightly basis. For comparison, the Town of Truckee's transient occupancy tax rate is 10%, and the City of Anaheim's (Disneyland) transient occupancy tax is 15%.

TOT payments were strong last year due to the high visitation and the Town has seen quarterly improvements in this year's TOT funds. Even though the Town collects an average of \$11 million dollars in TOT per year, we may be leaving more on the table. Some estimate that uncollected TOT could be up to \$400,000 per year.

According to John Morris, Chairman of the Mammoth Lakes Lodging Association "Those homeowners who do not collect and remit TOT in accordance with the Town's ordinance, or who are renting their properties illegally, are simply hurting all Mammoth residents, second homeowners and visitors by cheating them out of crucial tax dollars."

Unreported or uncollected TOT isn't just about the missing funds; it also affects local businesses in other ways. Owners who rent their units without collecting TOT drive down the rental rates for legitimate rental properties that do collect.

Depending on the situation, not collecting and remitting TOT could be a misdemeanor or even embezzlement which is a criminal charge. Quite simply - it's illegal.

If you have questions about TOT enforcement please call Pam Kobylarz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 253 or she may be reached via e-mail at pkobylarz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Thank you for your attention to this very important subject that affects our quality of life and the health of our community.

SR 203 Paving Update

Granite Construction will resume paving SR 203 on Monday, September 12, 2011. Consequently, grinding from Main Lodge to the Village will not start until Tuesday, September 13, 2011. Additional public information will follow including the notification of adjacent businesses prior to each stage of work. All work is expected to be complete by mid to late September.

Community News

Gold Wing Riders Return to Mammoth

The Gold Wing Road Riders Association (GWRRA) is the world's largest single-marque social organization for owners and riders of Honda Gold Wing/Valkyrie motorcycles - and some would say, the world's largest family. Dedicated to our motto, Friends for Fun, Safety and Knowledge, GWRRA members enjoy the freedom of belonging to a not-for-profit, non-religious and non-political organization. Over 400 riders from the California District will descend on Mammoth over Labor Day weekend. Details of the "Mammoth Mountain Stampede" can be found online at: <http://gwrca.org>.

42nd Annual Labor Day Festival of the Arts

Mono Council for the Arts invites you to our 42ND Annual Labor Day Festival of the Arts this Labor Day Weekend at Sam's Wood Site. This is the Eastern Sierra's Premier Fine Arts Festival featuring with over 100 artists traveling to Mammoth from all over the West to showcase their artwork. Come for the day and enjoy the incredible artwork in the spectacular forest setting. This event is from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Monday.

NEW Main Street Market

Organizers of the Wednesday Farmer's Market (4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in front of the Luxury Outlet Mall) are so pleased with the attendance that they have created a second weekly event in the area now known as the "Main Street Market." The Main Street Market, which will soon be a fixture on the Town Loop, featuring music, artists, food vendors, coffee, and baked goods on Saturdays from 11:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. through the end of September. On Labor Day Weekend, the Market will be in action both Saturday, September 3rd and Sunday, September 4th. All licensed bakers, food purveyors, craftspeople, and entertainers are welcome to contact Green Fox Events about having a booth space at the Main Street Market. If you grow it, make it, speak it, or sing it, you should be participating in the Mammoth Lakes Farmer's Market and the Main Street Market. For more information on supporting the markets, please contact info@greenfoxevents.com or (760) 709-6744.

Climbers and Plant Hitchhikers—an Innocent but Dangerous Match

Land managers are asking climbers to beware of hitchhikers. And by this, they mean seeds of plants that may travel on your ropes, clothes, or other gear. Land managers are most concerned about moving invasive, or non-native plants into National Park and National Forest land, and are asking climbers and other visitors for their help to stop the spread.

At Devils Postpile National Monument and in the Inyo National Forest near Mammoth, an invasive grass called cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*) has been found in the past

few years, and has shown up at the base of a remote climbing area called Bear Crag. Cheatgrass may have found its way there on the rope of an innocent climber, and for the past several years park staff and volunteers have been trying to reduce its spread in that area.

Throughout the West, cheatgrass has taken over 100 million acres of land (an area roughly the size of California), gobbles up water, displaces native plants, alters soil chemistry, and causes hotter and more catastrophic wildfires.

The seeds of cheatgrass can puncture the mouths of grazing animals, like deer, cattle, and horses, burrow into skin causing infections, and possibly migrate up their noses to their brains, leading to death. Dog owners should also be cautious to check the paws and skin of their pets after being in grassy areas—these seeds can lurk under their skin causing abscesses, infections, and in some cases, death.

Here are some things you can do to help stop the spread of invasive plants, like cheatgrass, between crags and other areas:

1. As you coil your rope after that fantastic day of climbing, look for any visible seeds and pluck them off and add them to your trash bag.
2. If you have a rope bag, tarp, or backpack, lay your rope coils on top of it. Then check that bag or tarp for seeds before you head out. This will also protect your rope from dust and grit.
3. Before leaving your climbing area, check all your gear and clothing for seeds. This includes your ropes, your clothes, and your shoes (including the soles and laces).
4. Before you leave home, check your gear, and inside your bags, for seeds or plant parts. Take a stiff brush to your shoes to clean off dirt stuck in the soles before heading out—this dirt is a great place for seeds to hitchhike.
5. Remember those directions that came with your rope? Climbing ropes can be safely washed by putting them in a mesh bag (to prevent tangling) on cold water with the option of a mild detergent. If your hands get black from belaying, it's probably time for a wash anyway. This will also help get rid of any plant seeds that took a ride on your rope.

Enjoy your climbs, and climb safe. The public and private lands that support your climbing areas thank you for your help in stopping the spread of invasive plants!

For more information, contact Devils Postpile National Monument at (760) 924-5505.

Edison Theatre Announces New Season Beginning September 8

Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre Artistic Director Shira Dubrovner announced the new 2011/12 Season at the Edison Theatre. Deciding what to produce took time, research, and listening to what past patrons had to say. Those same skills have served her well over the past five years, and this season promises to have something for everyone. In fact, it will have many things for many people!

The new season begins with laughter and promises to continue building from there. "The Odd Couple" opens the season September 8 with Neil Simon's Tony Award-winning tale of mismatched roommates Oscar and Felix re-imagined as Olive and Florence. Instead of poker the girls play Trivial Pursuit, but the laughs are just as

funny—even updated a bit, while the situation remains. “The Odd Couple” runs September 8-19

Immediately following “The Odd Couple,” for one weekend only, and back by popular demand, is “Always, Patsy Cline.” The season continues in November with a two-day return-engagement of the Spolin Players. This time around, in addition to two evening performances that are sure to “Rock the Foundation,” they will offer limited-enrollment improv workshops for both young teens and adults, for a fee, during the day. Then in December the Edison Theatre plays host to a fully-realized 1940s-style radio show production of “It’s A Wonderful Life,” the beloved holiday-season favorite. It will be read by a host of talented local actors as if for a live radio broadcast with sound effects created on stage in front of the audience. Entertaining, fun, and educational!

The season continues in January with the National Poetry Out Loud competition, sponsored by the Mammoth Lakes Foundation. Last year Mono County was represented in Sacramento by Erica Robinson of Mammoth Lakes High School. It is followed by “Lend Me a Tenor,” a rib-tickling farce about mistaken identities and opera singers that runs February 9-19; a return of the Tahoe Adventure Film Festival follows in March; then in April, a Glee-style performance by the Long Beach Community College Jazz Choir; followed in May by a production of Theatre for Young Audiences with the actual production yet to be named.

Also in the spring, the Annual “Evening with the Stars” fundraiser takes place with as yet-to-be-announced major celebrity, or two, performing a staged reading in a sure to entertain and engage evening. Call the Theatre at (760) 934-6592 for more information or to purchase your tickets.

Early Bird Pricing ends Sept. 1 for 12th Annual Mammoth Lakes Foundation Golf Classic

Registration for the Golf Classic is just \$100 for individuals and \$400 for foursomes until September 1. After September 1, 2011 individual registration is \$125 and foursome registration is \$500. All participants receive greens fees and cart, use of chipping and putting greens, lunch, tournament gift, awards party and silent auction, and the opportunity to support higher education and cultural enrichment in Mammoth.

Highlights of this year’s Golf Classic include four player scramble format, closest to the pin on all par threes, \$5,000 putting contest, hole-in-one award, raffle, and silent auction. New this year is the Super Ticket raffle with a grand prize of seven nights’ accommodations in Belize donated by Jeff and Denise Boucher. Super Tickets are just \$25 per entry, which also includes one “tee shot” mulligan and five regular raffle tickets. Only one Super Ticket will be sold per person so the odds of winning are outstanding.

Started in 2000, the Golf Classic has been an integral way for the Mammoth Lakes Foundation and its supporters to raise money for local student scholarships, the operation of South Gateway Student Apartments, support of the Mammoth Ski Museum and Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre, and planning for a proposed Mammoth Arts and Cultural Center.

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation would like to thank tournament sponsor Mr. Bob Hart. Tee sign and in-kind merchandise sponsorships are still available. Give your game some distance – play the 12th Annual Mammoth Lakes Foundation Golf

Classic! To register or find out more about the Golf Classic please call (760) 934-3781 or email Maya@MammothLakesFoundation.org.

Community Police Academy – Sept. 15

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department will be hosting its second Community Police Academy starting on September 15, 2011. The Community Police Academy is open to community members who are interested in learning more about how the Mammoth Lakes Police Department operates.

The goal of the Community Police Academy is to form and maintain partnerships between the community and the Police by educating residents about the role of law enforcement. Participants will have the opportunity to see the criminal justice system as only an insider could; learn about the day-to-day operations of the Police Department, Detectives, Narcotics Enforcement, DUI and Traffic Enforcement, police equipment, training, tactics, and much more. Participants will also tour the Mono County Superior Court in Bridgeport, the Mono County Jail and Dispatch Center, and have hands-on experience with police firearms at the Firing Range.

Participants must be 18 years of age or older and live or work in the Mammoth Lakes area. The class will be limited to a maximum of 15 students. Classes will be held every Thursday from 6 p.m. until 9:15 p.m., beginning September 15 and ending on November 10, 2011. Applications are available at the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (568 Old Mammoth Road) Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For additional information, please contact Officer David Scobie at (760) 934-2011 X55, or at dscobie@mammothlakespd.org.

Mammoth Lakes Police Community Hispanic Advisory Committee Meeting – Oct. 18

The Mammoth Lakes Police Community Hispanic Advisory Committee will be holding another Town Hall on Tuesday, October 18 at 6 p.m. at the Grand Sierra Lodge, Emerald Room. Presentations will be made by representatives from the Mexican Consulate, Child Protection Services, the Mono County District Attorney, the Mono County Superior Court, and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). There will also be an Open Forum where questions can be asked of representatives of these agencies along with the Police and Fire Departments of Mammoth Lakes and the Mono County Sheriff's Department.

Interpreters will be present and it will be possible for attendees to ask questions anonymously by way of using index cards. The Hispanic Advisory Committee was created in late 2010 in an effort to build trust and improve communications between the Police Department and the Hispanic community of Mammoth Lakes.

Recreation Highlights

Recreation Commission Meeting – Sept. 6, 2011

The Recreation Commission is meeting on Tuesday, September 6, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in Suite Z in the Minaret Village Mall. Agenda items include:

- Public Presentation: Whitmore Track Update
- Consent Agenda: (1) 2011 Recreation Commission Meeting & Events Calendar, (2) 2009 Fall – Mammoth Nordic Measure R Performance Report.
- Items for Discussion: (1) INF Campground Closures, (2) Trail System Master Plan Review, (3) Measure R – Award Process, (4) Measure U - Steering Committee Update, (5) RecStrats Prioritization.

Adult Softball League Concludes for Another Season!

The Recreation Department would like to thank all the players, teams, and fans involved with our summer Softball League. In the Coed A division "Shadow Crew" took first place, Presson Construction was second, and Clocktower in third. Our Coed B division saw "Softballz Deep" in first and "Black Tie" in second. In the Men's league, "Rockstar" swept the final evening with back-to-back wins against "Originale Guerreros" and "Greyhawk" and took first place overall. Review the final standings online: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?nid=331>.

The Recreation Department also recognizes and thanks the following components to the League: Field maintenance (the daily prep and field conditions never looked better), umpires, team managers, volunteer BBQ chefs, Clocktower Cellar for the awards party, and the Mammoth Lakes Women's Club for running the snack bar. See you all next summer!

Lap Swim Continues at Whitmore Pool

Lap Swim continues five mornings a week, Monday through Friday from 6:30 - 8:30 a.m. until September 9, 2011. Cost is only \$4/swim. Thank you for your patronage and we hope to see you next summer! For more information call the pool during open hours at (760) 935-4222.

Party Yourself into Shape!

Zumba® Fitness is offered every Monday by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail (near The Village). Zumba® Fitness is an exhilarating, effective, easy-to-follow, Latin-inspired, calorie-burning dance fitness-party™ that's moving millions of people toward joy and health. Participants don't even have to know how to dance. Just move your body and follow the instructor's lead. It's easy! Participants can purchase a 10 class punch card for \$77.50 or a 5 class punch card for only \$42.50. The Drop-In rate is \$10 per class. For more information or to register call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222. Feel the music and let loose!

Get Gymnastics Fever!

This year-round program is designed to introduce children from 3-18 years old the wonderful and exciting sport of gymnastics. Offered by Michelle DeJong, a level 8 competitive gymnast and Level 1-5 gymnastics coach, participants will learn to

tumble and more in a safe and structured environment. This program is also a recipient of Measure R funding with \$7,000 of gymnastic equipment. Three age sessions are available at the Community Center on Forest Trail.

3-5 yr olds – Saturday: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

5-8 yr olds – Saturday: 10:15 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

8-12+ yr olds – Wednesday: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. & Saturday: 11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

There is no gymnastics scheduled for September 3 or 10, 2011

Fees are only \$50/month (8 sessions) for residents and \$60/month for non-residents. Five session Punch Cards are available for \$50 and Private lessons are available upon request at \$20 for 30-45 minutes. Drop -ins are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Ned's Mammoth Rock Race – California's Highest 10K

Please join the [High Sierra Triathlon Club](#) and the Mammoth High School Cross Country Running Team for the 14th annual Mammoth Rock Race, this Sunday, September 4, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. Register in person at [Footloose Sports](#) by Saturday, September 3rd at 5:00 p.m., or online at www.active.com until Friday, September 2, 2011 at midnight. Finally, you can register in person race day between 7:30 and 8:30 a.m. All pre-registration is \$30 - Race day registration is \$40. Ned's Mammoth Rock Race is a fundraiser for the High Sierra Triathlon Club and for the Mammoth High School Cross Country Running Team. Receive \$10 toward your race entry with any BROOKS shoe purchase at FOOTLOOSE SPORTS!

4th Annual Mammoth Lakes Fall Cricket Invitational

Learn about bowling a googly, hitting a boundary or getting out for a duck at the 4th annual Mammoth Lakes Fall Cricket Invitational on Monday, September 5, 2011. The Twenty 20 match will take place on the Mammoth Elementary School field beginning at 3:00 p.m. All players are welcome, all equipment is supplied, just BYO tea and scones...kidding! Please call Dave Leonard at (760) 914-1924 to let us know if you can make it or for more information about this wonderful sport of cricket. See you on the pitch!

17th Annual High Sierra Fall Century Returns September 10

Don't miss the 17th Annual High Sierra Fall Century on Saturday, September 10, 2011. One of the best 2 or 3 rides of your life! The 100 mile course takes you along the spectacular east side of the High Sierra and into the quiet beauty of the Mono Basin with awesome views of Mono Lake and the White Mountains. The route offers 100 miles of beautiful riding with just one stop sign! If 100 miles is more than you want to take on, short course options of 30 and 45 miles will also be offered. The High Sierra Fall Century is a great target for doing your first century ride, or perhaps your best century ride in the incredible atmosphere of autumn in the Eastern High Sierra of California. On course we there are 6 feed stations and a catered lunch stop, along with 3 tech support vehicles to keep your bike running sweet. The ride includes a BBQ lunch back at Whitmore Ball Field with entertainment on hand. Enter online at www.FallCentury.Org or at Footloose Sports September between 7 – 9, 2011.

Friends of the Inyo 25th Anniversary Celebration

Join Friends of the Inyo on Saturday, September 10, 2011 for a fun evening of local food, Join Muir-inspired wine, live music, awesome prizes and amazing views at the June Mountain Chalet. Friends of the Inyo is celebrating its 25th year as an advocacy group working toward the preservation, exploration and stewardship of the Eastern Sierra's public lands. The event at June Mountain takes place on the edge of the Owens River Headwaters Wilderness, where much of Friends of the Inyo's work began. All proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the non-profit. The cost is \$60 per individual, \$100 for two, and \$250 per table of six.

The festivities begin with a chairlift ride up to the chalet, where guests can enjoy the late afternoon sun with a hike or a game of horseshoes. The reception begins at 5:00 p.m., with live music by The Littlest Birds, fine wines from Muir-Hanna vineyards, appetizers, and a no-host bar. Dinner is served around 6:00 p.m., featuring produce grown by Eastern Sierra farmers. After dinner, the celebration of the Eastern Sierra's public lands continues with a slide show, raffle prize giveaways, more music and dancing.

This summer, Friends of the Inyo is doing more to care for the Eastern Sierra's public lands than ever before. From wilderness stewardship and volunteer trail days to restoring pupfish habitat, there are projects and outings happening across the region. For more information, visit friendsoftheinyo.org.

Devils Postpile National Monument Proposals

Devils Postpile National Monument has reached another milestone in its general management planning where public input is requested. The planning process began in June 2009 with a series of public workshops where people shared their thoughts, concerns, and desires for the future of Devils Postpile. The planning team has now developed four preliminary alternatives and each alternative offers a different approach to managing the monument's resources as well as a variety of ways to meet the needs of visitors of all ages who continue to come to experience this special place.

The purpose of the general management plan is to create a vision and overall management philosophy for Devils Postpile that will guide decision-making by current and future generations for the next 15 to 20 years. The four preliminary alternatives present different management strategies for resource protection and preservation, education and interpretation, visitor use and facilities, land protection and boundaries, and long-term operations and management of Devils Postpile National Monument.

The plan for Devils Postpile also presents opportunities for additional collaboration and coordination with the Inyo National Forest to develop desired conditions for the overall visitor experience and broad resource management issues related to the larger watershed. Devils Postpile National Monument is surrounded by the Inyo National Forest and both agencies work as partners to provide integrated management within the Reds Meadow valley. The Inyo National Forest is a cooperating agency in the planning process.

A newsletter has been released containing details about the alternatives, collaboration with the Inyo National Forest, and the planning process. Copies can be obtained at the Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, the Devils Postpile Ranger Station, the White Mountain Ranger Station, and the Mono Basic Scenic Area Visitor Center, or by download at <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/depo>.

A public open house will be held at the Town of Mammoth Lakes Library on Thursday, September 15, 2011 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Anyone is welcome to come learn about the alternatives and share their ideas to help the planning team refine these preliminary proposals. To learn more about Devils Postpile National Monument visit <http://www.nps.gov/depo> and to submit comments visit the National Park Service Planning website <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/depo>.

We Want to Hear From You!

The Recreation Department would like to hear what you have to say about our products and programs. If you participated in one of our many youth and adult programs, or enjoyed one of our parks or facilities, please take the time to complete the Customer Satisfaction Survey online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/PZ3JCYO>. Customer Satisfaction Survey's are also available for collection from the Recreation office located in the Minaret Village Mall, above Giovanni's. Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for additional information. We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact Us

All the summer, fall, winter and Spring events, programs and activities are listed on www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us and in the 2011-12 Annual Mammoth Recreation Guide. Please call the Recreation Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 or visit us in the Town Offices – Minaret Village Mall (above Giovanni's) to register for a program, for additional information or to forward your comments and suggestions.

Notify Me!

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

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going: Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- On-going: Zumba Fitness at the Community Center
- On-going: Lap swim at the Whitmore Pool – last day Sept. 9
- On-going: Tennis Lessons every Tuesday/Thursday
- On-going: Main Street Farmers Market every Wednesday
- On-going: Footloose Sports Tour of Mammoth Bike Challenge
- On-going: Coed Softball League
- On-going: Men's Softball League
- Sept. 3: Mono County free Fishing Day
- Sept. 3-4: June Lake Horseshoe Tournament
- Sept. 3-5: 42nd Annual Labor Day Arts Festival
- Sept. 3-5: Mammoth Lakes Tennis Club Labor Day Doubles Tournament
- Sept. 4: Ned's Mammoth Rock Race
- Sept. 5: Mammoth Lakes Cricket Invitational
- Sept. 9: Whitmore Pool closes for the season
- Sept. 9: High Sierra Fall Century Bike Race

- Sept. 10: Mammoth AYSO Fall Soccer Season begins (ends October 2, 2011)
- Sept. 11: Summer of Stewardship Day at Convict Lake
- Sept. 11: Tioga Pass Run

Public Service Announcements

Leash Law Reminder

Mammoth residents and visitors are reminded that the Town has a leash law, and it is a violation of the ordinance to allow your dog to run loose off of your property. While budget cuts eliminated the Animal Control Officer position, the laws pertaining to controlling your pets did not change, and you can still be cited by Mammoth Lakes Police Department officers if your dog is at large. The PD is currently receiving a large number of complaints from several neighborhoods, and will be targeting patrol time in those areas when possible to apprehend loose dogs and to cite their owners. In addition to the citation fine, you could also be charged boarding fees by Mono County Animal Control if we choose to impound your dog at the Whitmore Shelter.

At-large dogs are a traffic hazard, and even the most well behaved dog can bite if provoked. If your loose animal causes a traffic collision or injures/bites someone, you would likely be liable for damages, which could add up to thousands of dollars. Please respect your neighbors, AND your pet and obey the leash law.

Carbon Monoxide Detectors Save Lives

The Town of Mammoth Lakes has launched a community outreach effort to inform community residents that on July 1, 2011 many homes will be required to install carbon monoxide detectors.

The Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that carbon monoxide kills approximately 500 people each year and injures another 20,000 people nationwide. In an effort to prevent these accidental deaths and injuries, the California legislature enacted SB 183 (Lowenthal) which mandates owners of dwelling intended for human occupancy to install carbon monoxide devices in existing dwelling units having a fossil fuel burning heater or appliance, fireplace, or attached garage.

CO devices must be installed in all specified single-family dwellings by July 1, 2011. All other specified dwelling units must have CO devices installed by January 1, 2013.

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (SFM) has developed a list of certified CO devices that meet the requirement specified within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010.

For a complete list of currently approved devices please visit the SFM's website at http://osfm.fire.ca.gov/licensinglistings/licenselisting_bml_searchcotest.php. Under the search categories provided select Carbon Monoxide Alarms and Carbon Monoxide Detectors for a complete list of devices.

Further details contained within the Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2010:

- Owners shall install CO devices in a manner consistent with building standards applicable to new construction for the relevant type of occupancy if it is technically feasible. See the 2010 California Building Code, Section 420.4, and the 2010 California Residential Code, Section R315.
- CO devices shall produce a distinct audible alarm.
- CO devices may be combined with a smoke detector, if the combination device meets all specified SFM listing and approval requirements.
- Violation of Health & Safety Code Section 17926 is an infraction punishable by a maximum fine of two-hundred dollars for each offense.
- A local enforcement agency shall provide the property owner a 30-day notice to correct.
- Local jurisdictions are authorized to adopt ordinances requiring CO devices if the ordinance is consistent with the requirement of this bill.

For a full list of this legislation's stipulations please review the Department of Housing and Community Development's Information Bulletin 2011-01 at <http://www.hcd.ca.gov/codes/shl/infobulls/IB2011-01.pdf>.

The Bears are Back!

It is time to remind all our residents and visitors that it is our responsibility to KEEP WILDLIFE WILD. The best way of doing this, and preventing bears from becoming dependent on humans for food, is to follow these common sense rules:

- Never feed any wildlife, or leave food out for bears or other wild animals.
- Securely store food and fragrant items such as shampoo and deodorant in an airtight container. When camping, use a bear-proof box.
- Don't leave food, even in a cooler, in a car, tent, or other unsecured location.
- Don't leave pet food outdoors or use a bird feeder. Bears love bird seed!
- Always deposit trash in a bear proof trash can or dumpster.
- Keep your car locked and your garage door closed.
- Close and lock ground floor windows when no one is home.

It is not unusual to see black bears wandering through town. Enjoy them, but keep your distance. If you see a bear that is misbehaving (such as trying to get into a trash dumpster, vehicle, or building) call 911 immediately. The Town's Wildlife Specialist and police officers are trained to handle situations such as this. Bears are shy and generally afraid of people. If you feel threatened by a bear, yell or bang on something to scare the bear away. If by chance a bear enters a structure looking for food while you are inside, make a lot of noise and go into another room, close the door, and call 911. The bear will most likely be more frightened than you and leave.

It is also time to remind everyone that all wildlife, including deer, are on the move. When driving, especially at dusk and dawn, be on the lookout for wild animals crossing the roadway. Striking a deer or bear can be fatal – not only to the animal, but also to people in the car.

For more information on co-existing with wildlife in Mammoth Lakes, contact the Town's Wildlife Specialist Steve Searles at (760) 937-BEAR or Lieutenant John Mair at (760) 934-2011 Extension 44.

Notify Me!

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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.