



**Town of Mammoth Lakes**  
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Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546  
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## **Town News**

### **Town e-News: Week of September 21, 2015**

#### **News from the Town Manager**

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##### **Town Council Meeting – October 7, 2015**

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 7, 2015 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.

##### **Town Council Approves Quality of Life Ordinance**

As a part of the single family transient rental work program, the Town Council directed staff to prepare a quality of life ordinance to include operational standards for transient rentals. The Council direction was in response to complaints regarding transient rentals and their impacts on adjacent properties due to issues with noise, trash, parking, and safety. The Ordinance applies to all transient rentals within residential structures (i.e. condos, townhomes, single family homes) in town. The Ordinance does not propose to change any of the locations where transient rental is permitted; rather, it provides a set of standards with which all transient rentals must comply. A majority of these standards are already required by a variety of different codes (California Building Code, California Residential Code, Noise Ordinance, Solid Waste Ordinance, etc.), but this Ordinance consolidates operational requirements for transient rentals into one ordinance. The Town Council approved the Ordinance on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> and the Ordinance will go into effect on October 16, 2015.

The final Quality of Life Ordinance is available on the Town's website. Please contact Sandra Moberly at (760) 934-8989 ext. 251 or at [smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:smoberly@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov) if you have any questions.

##### **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.

### **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](http://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](http://www.townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

## **MLPD Friday Update**

### **CALLS FOR SERVICE/OFFICER OBSERVATIONS**

- 109, including 0 business/building checks

### **CRIME/INCIDENT REPORTS**

- 16 reports, including 3 arrests

### **TRAFFIC STOPS/CITATIONS/TRAFFIC COLLISIONS**

- 30 stops; 7 citations; 0 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 3 collisions

### **ANIMAL CONTROL INCIDENTS**

- 0 incidents; 0 report

### **WILDLIFE**

- 0 calls; 0 reports

## **Projected Average Resort Occupancy**

Total Average Reported Projected Occupancies are as follows:

- Friday, September 18, 2015 = 36%
- Saturday, September 19, 2015 = 37%

(64% same weekend in 2014, down in 2015. Kamikaze Bike Games)

- Sunday, September 20, 2015 = 32%
- Monday, September 21, 2015 = 23%
- Tuesday, September 22, 2015 = 24%
- Wednesday, September 23, 2015 = 27%
- Thursday, September 24, 2015 = 34%

(34% same midweek in 2014, down in 2015)

Hotels/Motels/B&B:

- Friday-Saturday = 70%
- Sunday-Thursday = 47%

Condos:

- Friday-Saturday = 22%
- Sunday-Thursday = 20%

Outlook for the following weekend:

- Friday, September 18, 2015 = 38%
- Saturday, September 19, 2015 = 38%

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**

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### **CHP and MLPD to Conduct Sobriety Checkpoint – Sept. 18**

The California Highway Patrol (CHP) Bridgeport Area and the Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) have collectively scheduled a sobriety checkpoint for Friday, September 18, 2015, in Mono County. Funding for this program was provided by a grant from the California Office of Traffic Safety, through the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The purpose of a sobriety checkpoint is to deter impaired driving, remove impaired drivers from the roadway and educate the public regarding the dangers of impaired driving.

Unfortunately, impaired driving remains a major traffic safety issue. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) Website, in 2012 more than 10,000 people were killed nationally in alcohol-impaired traffic collisions. NHTSA estimates alcohol-impaired traffic collisions cost an estimated "37 billion dollars annually".

Unfortunately, what cannot be captured in the statistics is the lasting impact an impaired driving event has on those involved. Lieutenant Jeff Holt, Commander of the CHP Bridgeport Area, wanted to remind residents, "Impaired drivers, either drunk and/or drugged, create a life threatening danger to our communities. A sobriety checkpoint has a deterrent effect which ultimately makes Mono County safer. This year alone, DUI related traffic collisions in Mono County are up 60 percent from 2014. This is a trend that cannot continue. With cooperation from the public and a collaborative effort towards traffic safety from our law enforcement partners, we can reduce DUI related collisions."

In an effort to reduce impaired driving, the CHP employs sobriety checkpoints to raise awareness and remove impaired drivers from the roadway. Please, don't become a statistic. Always plan ahead and designate a sober driver.

Note: The sobriety checkpoint will be operated from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The media may contact the CHP Bishop Communications Center at (760) 872-5900 on September 18, 2015, between 3:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. for the specific checkpoint.

### **Smoothie Fundraiser at Shady Rest Park – Sept. 19**

Donate to the Mammoth Elementary 4th Grade Class Trip this Saturday, Sept. 19th at Shady Rest Park to raise money for the 4th grade class trip to Sacramento. Buy a smoothie for only \$4 (small) or \$6 (large). The kids will be selling Smoothies near

the pavilion by the playground and U19 field. We encourage everyone to not only support the Women's Club at the snack shack, but to also enjoy a wonderful smoothie and support the fourth graders! The smoothies are delicious!! Thank you so much for supporting us and please spread the word!

**Mono County District Attorney's Office Is Taking Back Unwanted Prescription Drugs September 26, 2015 At The Following Locations:**

Walker General Store - Bridgeport Fire Department - June Lake Fire Department  
Vons, Mammoth Lakes - Crowley Community Center

On September 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Mono County District Attorney's Office and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) will give the public its tenth opportunity in five years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to any of the sites listed above. (The District Attorney cannot accept liquids, needles or sharp objects, only pills or patches.) The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last September, Americans turned in 309 tons (over 617,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at nearly 5,500 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,000 of its state and local law enforcement partners. When those results are combined with what was collected in its eight previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 4.8 million pounds, more than 2,400 tons of pills. Last year alone, the Mono County District Attorney collected a total of 32 pounds of unwanted prescription drugs at its various locations throughout Mono County. These were prescription drugs that could potentially make their way into our community and schools.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines—flushing them down the toilet or throwing them in the trash—both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the September 26 Take Back Day event, go to the DEA Office of Diversion Control site or call the Mono County District Attorney.

**State Route 108 Delineator Project – Sept. 14**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) will begin the State Route 108 Delineator project on September 14, 2015. The location of the work is on State Route 108 in Mono County, from the Tuolumne County line to the junction of US Hwy 395. This project will replace the delineators which are reflectors on poles on the right side of the road that tell motorists which way to go.

Drivers should anticipate intermittent one way traffic control on SR 108 during the daylight hours. The traveling public can expect no more than 20 minute delays.

This project is scheduled to be completed by the end of October 2015.

The contractor for this \$108,000 project is Myers & Sons Hi-Way Safety, Inc. of Chino, California.

### **Free Car Seat Check-Up – Sept. 19**

Is your child's car seat installed correctly? Come to our free Car Seat Check-Up and find out at the Mammoth Lakes Police Department on Saturday, September 19 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. Your answer when you leave will be "YES" and that could save your child's life in an auto crash.

Why YOU should attend:

- Your child's car seat will be inspected by a trained technician.
- You will receive information about new child car seat laws.
- You will learn how to install your child's seat correctly.
- If you qualify, you may receive a free car seat replacement.

### **Final Summer of Stewardship Trail Day – Sept. 19**

As a beautiful late summer weekend beckons, please join our friends and partners for the final event of the 2015 Mammoth Lakes Trail System "Summer of Stewardship: Trail Days" for 2015. Our three co-hosts - Sierra Conservation Project, the Great Sierra River Clean Up, and CalTrout - will be gathering at the Horseshoe Lake Picnic Area at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 19 to clean up the Mammoth Lakes Basin. Our Trail Days events are made possible by the Town of Mammoth Lakes, the Inyo National Forest, and Mammoth's own Measure R. Our series sponsors for the entire summer include Old New York Deli and Bagel Company, Bleu Handcrafted Foods, Mammoth Sunrise Rotary, Friends of the Inyo, and MLTPA.

When the clean up work is complete and the total trash tonnage is tallied, we'll gather at 12:30 for a free gourmet sandwich lunch brought to you by Sunrise Rotary and Bleu Handcrafted Foods followed by raffle prizes and lots of free giveaways. Close-toed shoes and long pants are required; please carpool if you can. I'm looking forward to meeting those of you may be interested in becoming regular members of the Mammoth Lakes Trail System stewardship team.

All ages and abilities are welcome, and families and clubs are part of the fun. Please arrive dressed for trail work (long pants, sun protection, sturdy close-toed shoes), and don't worry if you can't make it quite at 8:30; we can check you in and send you off to a task in progress just about anytime before 10:30 a.m. Visit [mltpa.org](http://mltpa.org) or [friendsoftheinyo.org](http://friendsoftheinyo.org) for more information; call (760) 873-6500 or (760) 934 3154; or e-mail [casey@friendsoftheinyo](mailto:casey@friendsoftheinyo).

### **September Business After Hours – Sept. 22**

Join the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce for "Business After Hours" at Pokonobe on Tuesday, September 22 from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Come to the monthly, premier, networking opportunity at Pokonobe and enjoy catering by Bleu Handcrafted Foods. We want businesses to learn what's going on in the community and meet new, potential clients in a relaxed setting.

### **Kamikaze Bike Games – Sept. 24 – 27**

All things biking wrapped up in a fun, festival-style celebration. Featuring Cross Country, Two Stage Cyclocross, Pro GRT DH, Legend races, Kamikaze, Dual Slalom,

Freeride and even races for the kids. Contact 800.MAMMOTH or visit MAMMOTHMOUNTAIN.COM for details.

### **Get Wrenched At Edison Theatre – Sept 26**

The Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre welcomes the documentary feature film WRENCHED on Saturday, Sept. 26 at 7 pm at the Edison Theatre. The Breckenridge Film Festival called it, "Part history, part documentary, and a call to action, WRENCHED is a must-see for any lover of the American Southwest and those who fight to save its beautiful wildness."

Filmmaker ML Lincoln's documentary WRENCHED reveals how Edward Abbey's anarchistic spirit and riotous novels influenced and helped guide the nascent environmental movement of the 1970s and 80s. Through interviews, archival footage and re-enactments, Lincoln captures the outrage of Abbey's friends who were the original eco-warriors.

"We are thrilled to be able to share this exciting film with the community," said Shira Dubrovner, Artistic Director of the Mammoth Lakes Repertory Theatre. "Providing diverse programming is so essential to appeal to all audiences and all ages.

"Sometimes suggestions for programming come from our patrons," Dubrovner added. "I got a call from David Page who suggested this would do well in Mammoth. When I went to the website and saw what it was about, it reminded me of my friends in the 80s that were hard core environmentalists, that were in Earth First!, who I haven't talked with in years. This film captures the passing of the monkey wrench from the pioneers of eco-activism to the new generation that will carry Edward Abbey's legacy into the 21st century."

The film reveals the roots of the fight to sustain the last bastion of the American wilderness that continues in the West. In defense of wilderness, these early activists pioneered "monkeywrenching" - a radical blueprint for "wrenching the system." Exemplified by Earth First! in the early 80s, direct action and civil disobedience grew in popularity. With tree-spiking, forest occupation and high-profile publicity stunts such as the cracking at Glen Canyon Dam, this group became the eventual target of FBI infiltrators, leading to the arrest of various members.

Abbey's message has lived on. Young activists are carrying the monkeywrenching torch, using his books as a source of inspiration. WRENCHED captures a new generation as personified in Tim DeChristopher, who single-handedly stopped the sale of 100,000+ acres of public trust lands in southeastern Utah. He was sentenced to federal prison for his actions. WRENCHED, following in Abbey's footsteps, asks the question, how far are we willing to go in defense of wilderness?

WRENCHED screens Saturday, Sept. 26, at 7 pm at the Edison Theatre. Tickets are \$10 per person online and \$12 at the door. For more information about WRENCHED the movie, visit [wrenched-themovie.com](http://wrenched-themovie.com). To buy tickets online for screening at Edison Theatre, visit [www.MammothLakesRepertoryTheatre.org](http://www.MammothLakesRepertoryTheatre.org).

#### FACT SHEET:

What: WRENCHED – the movie  
When: Sept. 26, 2015, Sat. 7 pm  
Where: Edison Theatre, 100 College Parkway (Off Meridian Blvd.), Mammoth Lakes  
Cost: \$10 online / \$12 at the door

Buy: [www.MammothLakesRepertoryTheatre.org](http://www.MammothLakesRepertoryTheatre.org)  
More info: 760-934-6592

### **Forest Thinning Project on Mountain Bike Trails – Sept. 28**

Starting on September 28th, the Uptown, Downtown, and Shotgun mountain bike trails will be closed as part of the continued thinning projects occurring on the Inyo National Forest this fall. This project is located between the Forest Trail/ Minarets Road junction along the south side of the Minarets Road to the Chair 4 Parking Lot of Mammoth Mountain Ski Area.

The closure is expected to last one to two weeks while crews conduct the thinning project and is in place to ensure the safety of the workers and the public. The trails will be signed and your cooperation is appreciated while this necessary work is completed.

The project is being conducted in the fall to reduce impacts to recreational users.

Thinning reduces wildfire spread and intensity by removing surface and ladder fuels that crews will pile to be safely burned in the winter months. This creates an environment where firefighters can more safely respond to fire events.

Thinning also promotes forest health by increasing resiliency to insects and disease by reducing competition for water, nutrients, and sunlight. This is especially important during California's extended drought where numerous trees are dying from insect infestations or water stress.

### **Mammoth Lakes Job Fair – Oct. 3**

With winter approaching, MLCC wants to match potential employees with local Mammoth Lakes' employers at the annual Mammoth Lakes Job Fair.

Currently Mammoth Mountain Ski Area, Black Tie Ski Rentals, The Westin Mammoth Resort, Mammoth Fun Shop, Mammoth Mountain Chalets, High Sierra Best Western, Stellar Brew, Mammoth Community Water District, 1849 Condos, Sierra Unemployment, among others, have all signed up for a booth at the Fair and will be looking for employees.

If your business is interested in attending, please call Edina Ingram at (760) 934-2712 ext. 1220 or by email at [eingram@visitmammoth.com](mailto:eingram@visitmammoth.com).

Booth space is FREE to Mammoth Lakes Chamber Members and \$30 for non-Chamber members.

### **National Public Lands Day Volunteer Event – Oct. 3**

Come join volunteers for a National Public Lands Day event on the Inyo National Forest. National Public Lands Day brings volunteers to improve and restore the lands and facilities that Americans use for recreation, education, exercise and relaxation.

The Inyo National Forest, Eastern Sierra Four Wheel Drive Club, Friends of the Inyo, and the Sierra Club have selected this project to honor the late James Wilson, who was an active steward of the Eastern Sierra and was passionately involved with collaboration efforts to help diverse users find consensus on land management issues.



The Horton Lakes Road and Trailhead Project starts at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 3, and is expected to last until around 1:00 p.m. Those who wish to may stay a little longer to get more work completed on the Horton Lakes Trail. Please meet at the Highway 168/ Buttermilk Road junction and be prepared to carpool. If you have a four wheel drive vehicle and are willing to have extra passengers, this will help prevent congestion on the narrow 4x4 road.

Volunteers will improve sections of the Horton Lakes Road (removing rocks, obstacles, and ruts, improving drainage, and adding directional signs), and perform basic trail maintenance (brushing, rock removal, improve drainage) along the Horton Lakes Trail.

If you plan to attend, please bring comfortable work gloves, wear sturdy boots, bring snacks, water, and sunblock and be ready to get dirty. Necessary tools will be provided.

If you plan on attending, please RSVP so that we can better plan the day's activities. For more information or to RSVP, contact Casey@friendsoftheinyo.org or call 760-873-6500.

### **Inyo National Forest Advisory: Increase in Plague Activity in the Sierra Nevada**

Based upon recent incidents of rodents with plague and a handful of cases where plague was contracted by people visiting nearby federal lands, the Inyo National Forest would like to advise recreationalists and residents to take the following steps as a matter of caution while visiting the Inyo National Forest.

- Never feed squirrels, chipmunks or other rodents and never touch sick or dead rodents.
- Avoid walking or camping near rodent burrows.
- Wear long pants tucked into socks or boot tops to reduce exposure to fleas.
- Spray insect repellent containing DEET on skin and clothing, especially socks and pant cuffs to reduce exposure to fleas.
- Keep wild rodents out of homes, trailers, and outbuildings and away from pets.

If you notice dead rodents without obvious signs of injury while recreating, please contact your local health department (Mono County: 760-924-1830; Inyo County: 760-873-7868) or the California Department of Public Health's Vector-Borne Disease Section at 916-552-9730. If possible, note the type of rodent (i.e. mouse, chipmunk, squirrel, etc.), location and date seen. If you are in a campground, please notify the campground host in addition to the health department.

Early symptoms of plague may include high fever, chills, nausea, weakness and swollen lymph nodes in the neck, armpit or groin. People who develop these symptoms should seek immediate medical attention and notify their health care provider that they have been camping or out in the wilderness and have been exposed to rodents and fleas.

Although the presence of plague has been confirmed in wild rodents over the past few weeks in nearby areas, the risk to human health remains low. In California, plague-infected animals are most likely to be found in the foothills and mountains.

The California Department of Public Health has plague information, including precautions people can take to minimize their risk.

## **Yost/Fern Lake Trailhead Closure Extended**

As part of numerous mechanical thinning projects for community protection and forest health through the summer and fall, the Inyo National Forest announces the Yost/ Fern Lake Trailhead will remain closed through September 11, 2015.

An additional four acres are being treated as part of the Yost/Fern Creek Trailhead Thinning and Aspen Restoration Project. This popular trailhead is located on the June Lake Loop between the Down Canyon Fire Station and the Double Eagle Lodge/Inn. The trailhead parking lot is closed along with road side parking on the south side of the loop. Alternative access to this trail will be via the Yost Meadow Trailhead, which is across from the June Lake Fire Department.

An additional thinning project between the Peterson Tract and June Mountain Ski Area will be started following the completion of the Yost/ Fern Project. Trails in the project area will be closed while this project is completed; all trails will be signed. Please observe the closures for your own safety--mechanized harvesting equipment will be in operation.

These projects are designed to reduce fuels within Wildland Urban Interface (WUI). Thinning reduces wildfire spread and intensity by removing surface and ladder fuels, thus decreasing the risk of stand-replacing wildfire. This also creates an environment where firefighters can more safely respond to fire events.

Thinning also promotes forest health by increasing resiliency to insects and disease by reducing competition for water, nutrients, and sunlight. This is especially important during California's extended drought where numerous trees are dying from insect infestations or water stress. Where applicable, restoration work will be completed to enhance aspen habitat. For specific questions about the projects, please call Andrew Weinhart at (760) 924-5550.

## **September Sierra Club Activities**

**Sierra Club Program Tuesday September 15:** Program 7:00 pm: "Solutions through Geothermal Energy – Omat's Story." Mmaoth Lakes Library. Social and announcements at 6:30. No pot-luck. Info Mary [marymikeshore@gmail.com](mailto:marymikeshore@gmail.com)

**Sierra Club Evening Stroll Thursday September 17 Barrett Lakes:** 4mi RT, well-behaved dogs ok. Meet 4:30pm, Mammoth Lakes Union Bank parking lot. Info Sally [sges4d@gmail.com](mailto:sges4d@gmail.com)

**Sierra Club Outing Sunday September 20 FRESNO FLATS TRAIL:** Join historian Robert Joki, president of Mammoth Museum, as he retraces the path of the 1878 J. S. French (Fresno Flats) Trail. Easy to moderate x-country 5 mi RT. Meet 10 am The Gallery at Twin Lakes 2749 Lake Mary Road, Mammoth. Info Robert [Proprietors@TheGalleryAtTwinLakes.com](mailto:Proprietors@TheGalleryAtTwinLakes.com)

**Sierra Club Evening Stroll Thursday September 24 MAMMOTH CREEK:** A quiet walk in the heart of Mammoth Lakes. Well-behaved dogs ok. Meet 4:30 pm Mammoth Lakes Union Bank parking. Info Sally [sges4d@gmail.com](mailto:sges4d@gmail.com)

**Sierra Club Outing Sunday September 27 BUDD LAKE:** Moderate 6 mi RT in Tuolumne Meadows. No dogs in park. Meet 8:00 am Mammoth Lakes Union Bank parking or 8:45am Lee Vining Ranger Station on Tioga Road. Info Maurica [Maurica\\_And@yahoo.com](mailto:Maurica_And@yahoo.com)

**Sierra Club Back Pack Monday-Thursday September 28-October 1** MATTERHORN CANYON: Strenuous, 12mi longest day, maximum gain/loss 3000'/day. 50mi backpack with optional ascent of Matterhorn Peak (12,263') Advanced sign-up required. Contact Rob 760-937-0446  
[robertbaum99@gmail.com](mailto:robertbaum99@gmail.com)

## Recreation Department Highlights

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### **All Recreation – All The Time!**

Recreation is an essential component of a healthy and vibrant community. Our community relies on the Parks & Recreation Department for the many diverse and affordable programs, community events and seasonal activities. Whether you're looking for family fun at our many parks, challenging your endurance on our many trails or participating in one of our many signature youth summer camps or valued adult programs, the Parks & Recreation Department delivers!

Following is a sample of the many programs, events and promotions scheduled this September in Mammoth Lakes. Visit [www.MammothRecreation.com](http://www.MammothRecreation.com) or call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 to register or for additional information.

#### **Women's Drop-in Soccer at Shady Rest Park**

Join us for drop-in soccer for women only every Sunday morning from 10am-12pm at Shady Rest Park. Meet at Softball Field #12 (U12 field) for skills, drills and pick-up games. Cost is only \$4/session. Pay at the park.

#### **Community Tennis Sessions**

Improve your strokes with Tennis Pro Kyle Osland every Tuesday and Thursday afternoon at the Community Tennis Courts on Forest Trail. Purchase a \$65 Punch/Private Pass that includes 5 2-hour drop-in sessions plus a 15-minute private with the pro! Sessions are offered through October 8 don't forget to join the Sunday socials!

#### **Sunday Tennis Social**

Join us this fall for doubles every Sunday morning until it snows. We meet at the community courts on Forest Trail, from 9:30 till noon. Players of all ability are welcome! Refreshments provided by Mammoth Tennis Club.

#### **Mammoth RecZone**

The Mammoth RecZone is the coolest place to hang out this summer (fall)! The facility is an outdoor venue (with shade, lights, and concessions) located in the heart of Mammoth Lakes offering fun on skates, blades, boards, nets, hoops and on ramps. Come on over and enjoy these themed nights through September 20, 2015.

- **THURSDAY - Mammoth Youth Hockey and Friends Night**  
Mammoth Youth Hockey is getting ready for the winter season playing street hockey. Drop-ins and new players welcome! Games are scheduled from 5:30-8:00pm. Cost is only \$3.00/skater (not scheduled for 8/6/15)
- **FRIDAY – Kids Night!**  
Play volleyball, basketball, badminton, horseshoes, bean bag toss, blongoball and more! Roller/inline skates available for rental. Bring your RC cars! Free

Hot dogs between 6:00-7:00pm (bring your meat to BBQ...) and only \$1.00 for ice cream floats. Drop-offs 10 years and older welcome! Festivities begin at 3:00pm. Cost is \$2 for local students and youth under 15.

- **SATURDAY – Roller Skate Party!**  
Join us every Saturday night from 6:00-9:00pm and get your groove on at our jumpin’ Skate Party – skate rental is FREE! Cost is only \$2 Youth / \$3 Adults.
- **SUNDAY – Open Skate & Drop-in Street Hockey**  
The RecZone is programmed for open skate from 3:00-5:00 pm, Youth street hockey from 5:00-7:00pm and adult street hockey from 7:00-9:00. Normal fees apply.

Visit [www.MammothRecreation.com](http://www.MammothRecreation.com) or call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 to register or for additional information.

Never have a slow day in Mammoth again!

## Public Service Announcements

### **Fall Season Trolley Service Begins Sept. 8**

The Town Trolley will commence its fall, shoulder season schedule effective Tuesday, September 8, 2015. The shoulder season schedule will operate from 9:00am until 10:00pm, with service approximately every 30 minutes. The Lakes Basin Trolley will continue daily operations through Sunday, September 27, 2015. For further information, please contact Eastern Sierra Transit at (760) 924-3184 or visit ESTA’s website at [www.estransit.com](http://www.estransit.com).

### **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](http://www.estransit.com)

**Reduction of Wildland Fire Fuels**

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

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

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

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

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

- Areas around and above propane tanks need to be kept clear of vegetation for 10 feet.

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

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

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

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

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

**Local Woodstove Replacement Program A Great Success - Limited Funds Remain**

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

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

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

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

And while the Town's Woodstove Replacement Program is closed, Mono County still has a small amount of public benefit funds remaining, or enough to provide for

several more installations across the County. All funds are committed on a 'first come, first served' basis, and interested property owners are encouraged to immediately contact a participating woodstove retailer. Shared costs will be required.

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

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

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

#### **Update - Lee Vining Rockfall Safety Project Begins May 4**

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) is preparing for construction on the Lee Vining Rockfall Safety Project. The project's purpose is to improve safety for the traveling public by minimizing rocks falling from the steep adjacent slopes onto US Hwy 395 in Mono County, north of Lee Vining near Mono Lake, from postmile 52.3 to 53.7. The project also includes a plant establishment program on the six slopes involved to reduce erosion, establish healthy soil, and promote successful revegetation.

Construction is scheduled to begin on May 4, 2015 with the installation of stormwater protection and construction signage. A temporary traffic signal will be installed on May 6th, and traffic will be reduced to one lane with a 24 hour / 7 days a week reversing traffic pattern. This signal system uses video detection to reduce traffic delays to the extent possible.

The traveling public should be prepared for daily lane closures with delays no longer than 20 minutes.

As of May 12th, one hour delays could occur Monday thru Thursday from 6:00 am to 7:00 am. Notices will be posted when exact dates become available for the one hour closures. The contractor awarded the project is Papich Construction Co. Inc. from Pismo Beach, CA. on March 26, 2015. The contract bid amount was \$5,799,999. Construction is scheduled to be completed by the fall of 2015 or spring of 2016. Six portable changeable message signs will be used for public notices related to the project

#### **Cycling Etiquette and The New Three Feet For Safety Act**

The Town will be actively communicating proper cycling etiquette and the rules of the road to both motorists and cyclists when the new "Three Feet for Safety Act" goes into effect September 16, 2014.

Known as the "Three Feet for Safety Act," new state vehicle code section (21760) requires that a driver of a motor vehicle shall not overtake or pass a bicycle proceeding in the same direction on a highway at a distance of less than three feet between any part of the motor vehicle and any part of the bicycle or its operator.

Police Chief Dan Watson is urging all drivers in Mammoth Lakes to comply with the new law. "This law includes public streets and even if three feet is not possible, the motor vehicle must slow to a reasonable and prudent speed and only pass when no danger is present to the bicyclist. Failing to do so can incur a fine, regardless of a collision or not."

Chief Watson also urges all bicyclists to comply with the rules of the road, including stopping for stop signs and pedestrians, riding as far to the right as practicable, and riding in single file. Bicyclists are also encouraged to use the Town's extensive system of bike paths when possible. The Town will not be pursuing a local ordinance to implement the new law as the definition applied is very broad and includes all public streets. It should also be noted that currently the Town of Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code does not prohibit bikes on sidewalks.

Additional information about the "Three Feet for Safety Act," including violations; can be viewed online at: <http://www.dmv.ca.gov/pubs/vctop/d11/vc21760.htm>.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS) that details the factors behind traffic fatalities on our roads, in California (2011), the statewide percentage of bicyclist fatalities was 4.1% of all fatalities, which is nearly twice the national average of 2.1%.

FARS also identified that between 2009 and 2011, collisions between bicycles and motor vehicles are more likely to occur on local roadways than the State Highway System, and 85% of fatalities involving bicycles and 89% of severe injuries involving bicycles occurred on a local road compared to 57% of fatalities overall and 64% of severe injuries overall.

Supporting the passage of AB 1371 (Bradford) was the California Association of Bicycling Organizations (CABO). From the CABO President's point of view, "I support this bill because of my expectation, well hope, that incidences of antagonistic or clueless "buzz-backs"/scary close passing and hit from behind crashes will subside as people learn about the Three Feet for Safety Act."

Local cycling advocate and Eastside Velo (ESV) President John Armstrong hopes that someday a sign will be erected upon entering Mono County that says "We Respect People on Bikes."

ESV has over 200 active members who ride regularly throughout the Eastern Sierra. As an organization, they actively promote proper cycling etiquette and even have a short video on their website that promotes safe and responsible riding practices. Their Top 3 "Rules to Ride by..." are as follows:

1. Be courteous and share the road. Being courteous gains respect and helps make the roads safer for all cyclists.
2. Signal your intentions if you can safely do so. If you are turning, point in the direction you plan on going. If you are slowing, put your hand out behind you.
3. Be friendly. If someone is courteous to you and does the right thing, wave and smile. Everyone likes to be acknowledged for doing the right thing.



Please visit the ESV website ([www.eastsidelo.org](http://www.eastsidelo.org)) to review the complete list of "Rules to Ride by."

Armstrong hopes that common sense will prevail regarding the new "Three Feet for Safety Act," but understands that the best strategy for cyclist's safety is educating our motoring public.

"Many times on my bike I have been in a situation where a motorist does not slow down. The motorist powers onwards and forces a squeeze play with another vehicle and me, and guess who comes off the worst? Oftentimes I end up in the dirt or on the sidewalk."

To facilitate effective education, Armstrong recommends cyclists and motorists pick up a copy of the new "Quick Guide to Smart Cycling" distributed by the League of American Bicyclists that will be available locally this fall. This full-color, 24-page Quick Guide covers just about everything you need to know to ride a bike safely and confidently, providing an easy-to-understand resource that appeals to all demographics: prospective bicyclists, novice riders, and even seasoned pros.

To read the Smart Cycling Quick Guide online, visit this link: <http://bikeleague.org/quickguide>.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department Reserve Officer Mike Braun will be actively communicating proper cycling etiquette and the rules of the road to both motorists and cyclists within Mammoth Lakes this fall.

"Cyclists have the same rights and duties as drivers. They need to obey traffic signals and stop signs, and most importantly, need to ride with traffic, and use the rightmost lane headed in the direction they are going," stated Braun.

Officer Braun also encourages cyclists to be predictable by making their intentions clear to everyone on the road. "Signal turns and check behind you well before making a turn or changing lanes."

Above all, stay safe, stay visible and ride on the right!

For additional information regarding the new "Three Feet for Safety Act" and proper cycling etiquette, please call the Mammoth Lakes Police Department at (760) 934-2011 or contact Officer Braun at [mbraun@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](mailto:mbraun@townofmammothlakes.ca.gov).

### **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 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](http://www.recyclesierra.com) or [www.Townofmammothlakes.ca.gov](http://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](mailto: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.

### **Governor Brown Declares Drought State of Emergency**

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.crlaction.org).