



Town of Mammoth Lakes

P.O. Box 1609
Mammoth Lakes, CA, 93546
Ph: (760) 934-8989
Fax: (760) 934-8608

Town News

Week of October 31, 2011

News from the Town Manager

Town Council Meeting – November 2

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, November 2, 2011 beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z/Minaret Village Mall. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

TOT Enforcement Moving Forward

Town staff is moving into the next phase of the Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) enforcement program. We are now contacting property owners who are renting their units illegally or renting without paying TOT. A business tax certificate and transient occupancy tax certificate are both required to rent a unit within a permitted zone. If a unit is in a non-permitted zone, transient rental is not permitted, however, TOT is still due on rentals that have occurred illegally in the past.

Since mailing of the September 8, 2011 "Rental Enforcement Notice," we have been receiving about 25 contacts from concerned citizens each week through emails and our anonymous tip line (760 934-8989 ext. 275). We are also conducting online research and have established a number of enforcement cases through this research. Town staff are following up on these cases at this time.

The Town values our visitor experience and wants to make sure that visitors are accommodated if their existing rentals are cancelled. Guests may visit the Mammoth Lakes Tourism website www.visitmammoth.com which includes a section on accommodations within Mammoth and will allow guests to secure another location within town for their vacation. If you have questions about TOT please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273. If you have zoning questions or would like to know if it is legal to rent your home please contact the Community Development Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 275.

New Permanent Mammoth Ice Rink

Today the Mammoth Ice Rink takes one step closer to opening on December 2, 2011. Approximately 300 cubic yards of concrete is being poured today at the Multi-use facility / Ice Rink. This will enable a more consistent surface for skating and a year-round facility with lights for special events and athletics. Roller hockey anyone? Pricing has remained the same as last year, with the inclusion of the 5 Skate Pass (5SP) and Family Fun Pass. Please visit www.mammothicerink.com for the winter schedule, rates and more!

Now Hiring – Mammoth Ice Rink Staff

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department is accepting applications for seasonal Ice Rink Facility staff to perform a variety of operational duties. Duties include but are not limited to: reception, cashier, skate rental/maintenance, snack and beverage sales, rink attendant/host, and ice and facility maintenance. These positions are part time and are expected to be from late November 2011 through mid-March 2012. (Subject to change). The hourly rate of pay will range from \$11.24 to \$13.65, with no benefits other than those required by law.

A Town application is required. Applications may be obtained from and must be submitted to the Recreation Department, Town Administrative Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center, 437 Old Mammoth Road, Suite R; or by mail to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, attention RECREATION DEPARTMENT. For an application and a copy of the job description by mail, call (760) 934-8989, ext. 222. Applications and job descriptions are also available on the Town's website at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. The positions are open until filled, interested parties should apply immediately.

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, October 28 - Saturday, October 29 = 20%
(11% same weekend in 2010, up 9% in 2011)

Sunday, October 30 - Thursday, November 3 = 9%
(7% same midweek in 2010, up 2% in 2011)

Twitter

Follow 'TownofMammoth' daily on Twitter at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Community Development

Draft Mobility Element Released for Public Review

The Town's Draft Mobility Element has been released for public review and is available online: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=425>.

The public review period will end Friday, December 16, 2011. Comments on the Draft Element should be submitted to Jessica Morriss, Associate Transportation Planner, at Jmorriss@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us or at (760) 934-8989 ext. 225.

Community News

2011 Measure R Fall Award Application Period Now Open

The 2011 Measure R Fall award application period opened on Monday, October 24, 2011 at 8:00 a.m. and will close on Monday, November 28, 2011 at 12:00 p.m. Applicant information can be found on the Town of Mammoth Lakes home page: www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us under "Quick Links."

At the close of applications on Monday, November 28, 2011, the Recreation Commission has the responsibility as stated in Ordinance No. 08-10 to receive public input and provide recommendations to Town Council regarding the appropriate use and award of Measure R Funds. 2011 Measure R Fall funding recommendations are scheduled to be made by the Recreation Commission on Tuesday, January 10, 2012 at the regularly scheduled Recreation Commission meeting with potential adoption by Town Council on Wednesday, February 1, 2012.

All 2011 Measure R Fall Award applicants are required to meet with Town staff prior to completing the application. To schedule an appointment, please contact Recreation Manager and Public Information Officer, Stuart Brown at (760) 934-8989 ext. 210 or email: sbrown@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Please visit the Town of Mammoth Lakes website at www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us for detailed information relating to the 2011 Measure R Fall Award. Information materials include: the 2011 Measure R Spring Award Timeline, Application Form, Information Packet, and 2011 Recreation Commission Measure R "Priorities & Principles."

The Measure R or "Mammoth Lakes Recreation, Trails and Parks Investment Initiative" Ordinance adopted by the Mammoth Lakes Town Council on February 20, 2008 specifically designates the use of Measure R funds for planning, construction, operation, maintenance, programming and administration of all trails, parks and recreation facilities managed by the Town of Mammoth Lakes without supplanting existing parks and recreation facility maintenance funds. For technical assistance on completing the Measure R Fall Award Application Form, please contact John Ellis at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222. For questions relating to the 2011 Measure R Fall funding cycle, please contact Stuart Brown, Recreation Manager (760) 934-8989 ext. 210.

Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce Announces Local Job Fair – Nov. 12

The Chamber of Commerce is assisting local businesses and potential employees by hosting a Community Job Fair at the Westin Monache resort. The Mammoth Lakes Job Fair is open to all employers and business owners in Mammoth Lakes, and to all individuals looking for work or a career change. This is an opportunity to showcase your strengths, to network, and to find an employee or an employer that is a good fit for you. If you are a business owner or manager, please bring some information about your company and wear your recruiting hat. If you are looking for a job, press that interview outfit, update your resume and bring many copies with you.

DATE: Saturday, November 12, 2011
TIME: 12:00pm – 4:00pm (with seminars offered every hour on topics relevant to finding and keeping a fulfilling career)
PLACE: The Westin Monache Resort – Foxfir and Redfir Meeting Rooms
COST: \$40 for businesses or \$25 for chamber members (table and 2 chairs provided), FREE for individuals.
Refreshments will be provided.

21st Annual Mammoth Lakes Foundation Friends of the Foundation Dinner – Dec. 3

The Mammoth Lakes Foundation's 21st Annual "Friends of the Foundation Dinner" promises to be a magical evening! Beginning at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 3, 2011, festivities take place at the Cerro Coso Community College-Mammoth Campus, built through the efforts of the members and supporters of the Mammoth Lakes Foundation. The evening includes a wine and appetizer reception, dinner, music, magic, a raffle, and honoring of the Volunteer and Founder of the Year.

Food for the event will be catered by Matt Toomey with wine pairings throughout the evening courtesy of Eberly Winery, the music is courtesy of The Felici Trio and their students, and the Magic is by Arthur Trace of the world-renowned Magic Castle. An awards ceremony will recognize both the Founder and Volunteer of the Year. All proceeds from the event go directly to supporting higher education and cultural enrichment in the Eastern Sierra.

Individual dinner tickets are \$150 each and include dinner, drinks and entertainment. Table sponsorships are available for \$1,600 each and include a table for eight and 24 raffle tickets.

Raffle tickets are available at 1 for \$50 or 3 for \$100. Prizes include the chance to win an all expenses paid weekend in Las Vegas; two VIP passes to the Mammoth Food & Wine Experience; passes to the Magic Castle, and more.

Friends and supporters delighted in last year's sold-out event celebrating the opening of the Edison Theatre. Don't delay in purchasing your tickets for this magical evening celebrating friends of education and the arts and the mission of the Mammoth Lakes Foundation to support higher education and cultural enrichment in the Eastern Sierra! To purchase dinner tickets, table sponsorships or raffle tickets call (760) 934-3781 or email Maya@MammothLakesFoundation.org.

Recreation Highlights

Halloween Carnival & Haunted House in The Village

The Children's Halloween Carnival & Haunted House will take place this **Friday, October 28, 2011** from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at The Village at Mammoth. This year's festivities include carnival games such as tin can alley, hit the witch, evil clown throw, and more including the legendary haunted house staffed with zombies who like to make little children (and adults) scream in delight! All games, including the Haunted House open at 6:00 p.m. There will also be multiple cakewalks all night and trick-or-treating throughout The Village beginning at 5:00 p.m. Carnival tickets are 50 cents apiece, and all access wrist bands are only \$20. For more information or to help out on the night as a volunteer, please call John Connolly at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222.

"Hot Shots" Youth Basketball League

The 'Hot Shots' coed basketball program is a great way for 3rd – 5th grade basketball enthusiasts to improve on the sport of basketball. With parent involvement as coaches, scorekeepers, and referees, a solid program has been established from which both boys and girls can learn about dribbling, passing, shooting, and the rules of the game. The registration deadline is **Monday, October 31, 2011**. Register at the Recreation department Office located above Giovanni's in the Minaret Village Mall. The cost is \$30/child. Please call John Connolly at (760) 934-8989 ext. 234 for more information or to volunteer.

Party Yourself into Shape!

Zumba® Fitness offered by Kaysie Williams from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center, 1000 Forest Trail will return on Monday, January 9, 2012. See you next year!

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.

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!

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/PZ3JCYQ>. 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!

Recreation Events & Activities in Town...

Morrison's Bonus Fishing Derby This Weekend

\$2,000 in Cash is up for grabs at Morrison's Bonus Derby Weekend at Convict Lake. 12 Tagged Alper's Trout will be stocked for bonus derby weekend. \$2,000 in cash prizes will be associated with the tagged fish and distributed as follows: one (1) \$1,000, one (1) \$500 and ten (10) \$50. If you catch a tagged fish, you will receive payment in the amount of the associated tag number. Register on-line or at the Convict Lake General Store or call (760) 934-3800 / (800) 992-2260.

Mammoth Lakes Farmers Market Closes - Come Back Next Year!

Today marks the last day of the Mammoth Lakes Farmers Market season. Organizers would like to thank the Town of Mammoth Lakes, Eastern Sierra Farmers Market, CalTrans, Mammoth Luxury Outlets, Base Camp Café, Sittin' On the Fence musicians, and of course, all the farmers, vendors, and shoppers who participated during rain, wind, and sunshine. Although farmers were hit with crop-destroying weather in the spring, they worked hard to harvest enough produce for us to enjoy.

The market this year generated more foot traffic and vendor activity than in years past. Having access to locally grown healthy food, free entertainment, and a social gathering event makes Mammoth Lakes an even more vibrant community than it already is! Please plan on joining us next year at what is turning out to be a fun weekly social event. And if you make it, bake it, sing it, or speak it, we'd love to have you as a vendor. Don't forget to join us on Facebook (Mammoth Lakes Farmers Market) for regular updates. Have a great winter!

MMSO Annual Swap Meet – Nov. 5

Don't miss out on the great deals and fun shopping at the MMSO Annual Swap Meet on Saturday, November 5, 2011 between 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Local ski shops with rentals and discounted new equipment, clothing and accessories! \$3.00 entry fee per family. Interested in selling at the Swap Meet? Rent a table for \$50/business or \$25/family. To reserve your Table at the Swap Meet contact Connie Moyer@760 934-6554 or conmoyer@gmail.com

Big Winter Kick-Off Returns to Mammoth Mountain for Opening Weekend – Nov. 10

With opening day scheduled for Thursday, November 10, 2011, come get your winter started in style at the Big Winter Kick-Off (BWKO) during opening weekend at Mammoth Mountain. Head to Mammoth for a weekend of snowboarding and skiing, live music, film premieres, parties and more. As if riding all day and partying all night wasn't enough, Mammoth is bringing in the Black Lips and Ra Ra Riot for a concert on Saturday, November 12. This marks the first of eight scheduled music events for the Mammoth Concert Series taking place throughout the coming winter and spring. Tickets are only \$20 in advance or \$25 at the door. The concert is open to ages 21+ and tickets are available at: www.MammothMountain.com. Events subject to change.

"Second Summer" Still Going Strong!

Mammoth Lakes is experiencing terrific weather with temps in the high 60's. Perfect for enjoying the great [fishing](#), [biking](#), [hiking](#) and [fall colors](#)! From September 6 through November 15, 2011 fish for specifically tagged 2 lb Alpers Trout and fish for

your [chance at instant prizes](#) and raffle tickets for a shopping spree and even a grand prize boat, a Gregor 15' aluminum boat & motor courtesy of [Western Outdoor News](#)! Call 888 GO-MAMMOTH for additional information.

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going: Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- Sept. 6: Second Summer Fishing Derby (ends Nov. 15)
- Oct. 1: Ambush at the Lake Fall Fishing Derby begins at Convict Lake
- Oct. 9-30: Women's Only FREE Soccer Clinics
- Oct. 27-30: [Morrison's Bonus Fishing Derby Weekend](#)
- Oct. 28: Halloween Carnival & Haunted House – Village at Mammoth
- Oct. 30: Last day of 2011 Mammoth AYSO Soccer Season
- Oct. 31: Registration Deadline for 'Hot Shots' Youth Basketball League
- Nov. 5: MMSO Annual Swap Meet
- Nov. 10: Mammoth Mountain Opening Day (BWKO)

Public Service Announcements

Caltrans Alert - Watch for Deer

As the weather turns cooler in the high country, the deer population is moving to their winter feeding grounds. To reduce deer/vehicle accidents Caltrans identifies known deer migration crossings on State highways with warning signs. The vegetation along the sides of the roadway is mowed increasing the site distance of the driver. New construction and rehabilitation projects include flattening of the slopes next to the roadway and the removal of bitter brush seed from the re-vegetation mix. Biologist from Caltrans and Department of Fish & Game continue to study the habits of the deer population working to develop new technology that will improve driver safety as well as deer safety.

Ways to Prevent a Collision with a Deer:

1. Watch for the rest of the gang - Deer are pack animals, and rarely travel alone. If a deer crosses in front of you, chances are there are more nearby. Slow down and keep an eye out for more deer darting across the road.
2. Timing is everything - Deer are most active at dusk and dawn: periods when your vision is most compromised. To add to their terrible timing, deer are on the move during mating season (between October and January) when you're more likely to travel after the sun sets. Slow down and stay alert, especially after dark.
3. Wear your seatbelt - It may not prevent a collision, but if the inevitable happens a seatbelt can reduce injuries. This is especially true if you lose control and collide with something bigger, and more stationary than a deer.
4. Take a moment to reflect - First, look for the road signs. The yellow diamonds with the deer on it are placed in high-traffic areas for deer. You may also spot a deer because their eyes will brightly reflect a car's headlights, making them easier to spot.
5. Stay Center - On a multi-lane road, the center lane is your safest bet for avoiding a deer collision, as long as your local traffic laws permit it. This gives deer plenty of

space; and in case your vehicle does startle them, it gives you more time to react if one darts onto the road.

6. Stay the course - If you see a deer, brake firmly and calmly, and stay in your lane. Swerving could make you lose control of your vehicle and turn a bad situation much worse. Not to mention, deer are unpredictable, and you could swerve directly into their changed path.

7. Honk! - Some experts recommend that one long blast of the horn will scare deer out of the road. Do not rely on hood whistles or other devices designed to scare off deer — studies have shown them to be largely ineffective at minimizing accidents.

What to do if you hit a deer:

1. Pull to the side of the road as soon as it is safe to do so.
2. Turn on your hazard lights and remain in the vehicle until you are sure it is safe.
3. Call emergency services if injuries are involved or the local police for property damage.
4. Stay away from the deer. If it is still alive, it could be confused, injured and dangerous if approached. When contacting the authorities, let them know if the deer is in a dangerous spot on the road so that it can be removed.

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.

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.

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.

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).

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.

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.

Mammoth Lakes Police Department is Looking for Reserve Police Officers

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department is reactivating its Police Reserve Officer Program. Police Reserve Officers are part-time volunteers who supplement the full time officers. They can serve a variety of assignments including patrol, special events, prisoner transportation, and wildlife management. Police Chief Dan Watson reports that he and other Eastern Sierra law enforcement personnel have been working with Cerro Coso College to institute a Reserve Academy at the Bishop or Mammoth Lakes campus. In the meantime, the Mammoth Lakes Police Department is looking for any retired police officers who live in the general area who may be interested in joining the MLPD as a Reserve Officer. Anyone interested in learning more about the MLPD Police Reserve Program should contact Sergeant Marc Moscovitz at (760) 934-2011 ext. 68 or at mmoscowitz@mammothlakespd.org.

New Non-Stop Winter Flights to Mammoth Lakes

Beginning this winter, San Diego and Orange County residents will have easy access to world-class skiing and snowboarding thanks to [United Airlines'](#) new non-stop service to Mammoth Yosemite Airport. United is also expanding service from San Francisco International Airport to Mammoth Lakes with a second flight from Friday – Monday. The new flights will depart daily throughout the winter from San Diego and four days per week from Orange County (Friday - Monday). In addition, air service to and from San Francisco now includes additional Friday - Monday flight service to complement the daily flight service already in existence.

United Express regional partner SkyWest Airlines will operate the flights using 66-seat CRJ700 regional jets which include six first-class and 60 economy seats per plane. The first flights of the season are scheduled to depart Thursday, December 15, 2011 from San Francisco and San Diego and Friday, December 16, 2011 from Orange County. For more information about the new flights or to reserve a seat, call 1-800-UNITED1 or visit www.united.com. For more information about Mammoth Mountain, visit www.mammothmountain.com.

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/licenselistings_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>.

Keep Our Wildlife Wild!

The best way to KEEP WILDLIFE WILD 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.

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.