



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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

Town News

Week of July 9, 2012

News from the Town Manager

Special Meeting of the Town Council – July 11

A special meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, July 11, 2012 beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a workshop with the Measure U Application Committee regarding the Measure U 2012 fall Air Service Subsidy Application. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Town Council Meeting – July 18

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Wednesday, July 18, 2012 beginning at 6:00 p.m. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Town Of Mammoth Lakes Files For Chapter 9 Bankruptcy Protection

At a special meeting on Monday, July 2, 2012, the Mammoth Lakes Town Council voted unanimously to authorize the filing of a petition for relief under Chapter 9 of the Bankruptcy Code in U.S. federal court. Bankruptcy, unfortunately, is the only option that the Town is left with, after its largest creditor, Mammoth Lakes Land Acquisition (MLLA) repeatedly refused to mediate its \$43 million judgment against the Town, and obtained a State court order requiring payment of the full judgment by June 30, 2012.

In the past few months, Mammoth Lakes has struggled with two problems:

One - a lack of sufficient revenue to pay its current and anticipated obligations, as evidenced by a \$2.7 million initial shortfall in its 2011-2012 fiscal year budget, balanced through painful measures in June 2011, an additional unanticipated shortfall of \$0.9 million in the same 2011-2012 fiscal year that forced the Town to reduce its already low available cash, and a projected \$2.8 million budget shortfall in its 2012-2013 fiscal year.

Two - a Writ of Mandate issued by a State Court ordering the Town pay a \$43 million judgment owed to MLLA by June 30, 2012.

The Town has attempted to deal with both of these problems in a responsible fashion, cutting many services and asking its employees and the majority of its creditors and other parties in interest to take substantial cuts in payment. These negotiations took place in the context of the neutral evaluation process established by the California Government Code (the AB 506 mediation), and concluded on June

29, 2012. The neutral evaluation was conducted by the Hon. David Coar (Ret.), a very experienced and respected former Bankruptcy and U.S. District Court Judge selected by the participants.

The Town has already implemented the cuts it proposed during mediation, in effect breaching many existing contracts. However, based on agreements reached with many of its creditors, these contract breaches will be cured in new agreements, contingent upon either (a) a settlement with MLLA or (b) a Chapter 9 plan confirmation. The Town's creditors and employees were willing to make their concessions as part of a global resolution of the Town's financial challenges; their agreements were not made without reservations, their concessions are part of a global resolution that would allow the Town to move forward in a fiscally responsible manner.

As the Town acts in keeping with these agreements and as they are ultimately consummated, the Town will be able not only to overcome its structural fiscal issues, reflected in the annual budget shortfall, but also free up approximately \$500,000 a year that can be used to pay its creditors, including MLLA, over the next 10 years, or to obtain a bond supported by that same payment stream, the proceeds of which will be paid to creditors, including MLLA.

Although invited on multiple occasions, MLLA refused to participate in the AB 506 mediation to discuss settlement or demonstrate to the mediator and the participating creditors that the Town can afford to pay more. As a result, a mediation that might have succeeded in avoiding a Chapter 9 case failed because a crucial party simply refused even to attend and discuss any issues it might have.

The Town will ask the bankruptcy court to process its Chapter 9 case efficiently and quickly. The Town has limited financial resources and cannot afford a long drawn-out case. If the case lasts too long, it will significantly reduce the Town's available funds, necessarily reducing recoveries to the Town's unsecured creditors.

While the Town proceeds with its Chapter 9 bankruptcy case, it will remain open for business as expected, with the support from other governmental agencies:

- The Police and Fire Departments, along with other safety partners such as paramedics and Sheriff's office, will provide high levels of response and care;
- Road, parks, and airport maintenance services will continue as scheduled;
- Town Office business hours and service deliver will continue as usual without interruption of services;
- Community services and providers such as Mammoth Hospital, Mammoth Community Water District, and Mono County are separate from the Town and are not impacted.

Please direct all media inquiries to the Town Manager's Office at (760) 934-8989, extension 223.

Notice Of Vacancies Airport Commission And Mobility Commission

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that three terms of office will become vacant on the Airport Commission, and four terms will become vacant on the Mobility Commission. These terms of appointment are for four years and expire on July 31, 2016. One

vacancy on the Mobility Commission is for an unexpired term, and that one appointment will expire on July 31, 2014.

The Airport Commission meets on the fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:00 p.m. The Mobility Commission meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 4:00 p.m. Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, July 9, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms may be obtained from the Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; or by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; by phoning 934-8989, extension 267; or by emailing the Town Clerk at jgray@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. The form can also be found on the Town's website, www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Notice Of Extension For Vacancies Planning Commission

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that three terms of office will expire on the Mammoth Lakes Planning Commission. The terms are for four years and expire on July 31, 2016. The Planning Commission is appointed by the Town Council and is charged with shaping the future character of the community. A new focus of the Commission is to lead community efforts on economic recovery and achieving long-term economic sustainability.

Over the last few years, the Planning Commission has delivered innovative community-based solutions to the Town Council. The Town is looking for community members who are willing to engage with the community, work collaboratively with a team, and continue to achieve results for Mammoth Lakes.

Interested parties should file an application with the Town Clerk on or before Monday, July 16, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. Application forms may be obtained from the Town Clerk at the Town Offices, Minaret Village Shopping Center; or by writing to P.O. Box 1609, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546, Attention: Town Clerk; or by phoning 934-8989, extension 267. The form can also be found on the Town's website: www.ci.mammothlakes.

Calls for Service/Officer Observations

196, including 1 business/building check

Crime Incident Reports

27 reports, including 6 arrests

Traffic Stop/Citations/Traffic Collisions

49 stops; 6 citations; 0 parking citations; 0 skate park citations; 0 collisions

Animal Control Incidents

4 incidents; 0 reports

Wildlife

4 calls; 4 reports

Projected Average Resort Occupancy

Friday, July 06, 2012 - Saturday, July 07, 2012 = 63%
(52% same weekend in 2011, up 11% in 2012)

Sunday, July 8, 2012 - Thursday, July 12, 2012 = 47%
(42% same midweek in 2011, up 5% in 2012)

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

Community News

Caltrans Awards \$48.5 Million for Safe Routes to School to Increase Safety and Health

Caltrans today awarded \$48.5 million of state Safe Routes to School Program funds for 139 projects to increase safety and help reduce injuries and fatalities among children in grades K-12 who walk and bicycle to school. Among the state-funded projects are new sidewalks, bicycle lanes, and other safety improvements. Caltrans chose each project based upon need, effectiveness, and how quickly it could be delivered. By improving safety, more kids are encouraged to walk and bicycle to school, resulting in healthier children while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and vehicle congestion.

More than \$7 million of the funds were awarded to critical safety projects in rural counties. In addition, 82 projects totaling \$28 million will create jobs and benefit at least one low-income school within each project.

Some of the notable local projects that received funding include:

- California City - \$373,500 to install crosswalks and construct a multi-use path on Poppy Blvd, between Rusche Blvd, and North Loop Blvd.; North Loop Blvd. between California City Blvd. and Hacienda Blvd..
- Town of Mammoth Lakes- \$450,000 to install sidewalks on Sierra Park Rd./ Meridian Blvd. and Old Mammoth Rd./ Sierra Nevada Rd. and to construct a multi-use path between Mammoth Elementary School and Mammoth Middle School.
- City of Tehachapi - \$405,000 to construct sidewalks, curb ramps and install crosswalks on Curry St. between Spruce St. and Sunrise Way at Pinon St.

To date, the state and federal Safe Routes to School programs have awarded \$472 million for safety projects around California's schools.

High Point Curve Realignment Project

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) continues construction on US Highway 395 in Mono County near Topaz Lake, 0.6 miles south of the Nevada State line as part of a \$17.2 million road realignment and retaining wall project.

Currently, one way traffic control is in effect which includes up to 20 minute delays. Temporary paving and striping is scheduled to begin on June 25th and will last several days. For the safety of the construction crew and motorists, please be attentive to closures, slow for the cone zone, and move over one lane where possible.

This project has been designed to improve the safety along 1 mile of US 395 by realigning horizontal and vertical curves, expanding the shoulder width from 2 to 8 feet, and reducing the rockfall onto the highway. The location of the project is adjacent to Topaz Lake, between the highway's junction with State Route 89 and the California-Nevada border, post mile 118.7 to 119.6. This \$17.2 million project, which will be completed in October 2012, will provide a safer travel experience for motorists. The contractor is Disney Construction, Inc of Burlingame, CA.

Warm Springs Shoulder Widening

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has begun a project to widen the paved shoulders on U.S. Highway 395, 1.8 miles south of Bishop. Work hours are from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday. Drivers should anticipate lane closures without delays. Roadwork is expected to be completed by August 2012.

The contractor for this \$65,770 project is Robert J Frank Construction, Inc. of Redding. For the safety of the construction crew and motorists, please be attentive to closures, slow for the cone zone, and move over one lane where possible.

Celebrate The First 50 Days of Fishing Season!

Trout season is in full swing and is starting strong with warm temperatures and big hungry fish. It's the "50 Days of Fishmas" in Mammoth Lakes until Monday, June 18, 2012. Don't forget to purchase your tickets for a chance to win a 14 foot Klamath Deluxe S Boat, Honda 8 marine HP motor, and an EZ Loader trailer. Visit EasternSierraFishing.org for all the details.

Recreation Highlights

Adult & Coed Softball League Begins July 9

Adult Softball Season begins on **July 9, 2012 for Men's league** and **July 10, 2012 for Co-Ed**. Copies of the summer schedule are available at the Recreation Department office. See you on the softball fields!

Whitmore Pool Now Open

The Whitmore Pool opened for recreation swim on June 23, 2012. Lap swim is available on select mornings and afternoons, and lessons have also begun and are offered Monday – Friday at 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Admission fees are \$4.50 for adults, \$2.75 for seniors/military and youth, and only \$1.50 for children (1-6 yr. olds). Ask about our Five Swim Pass – every 6th swim is FREE! Call (760) 935-4222 for hours of operation and additional information.

FREE SKATE DAY at the Mammoth Roller Rink – July 14

Get over to the Mammoth Roller Rink on Saturday, July 14 from 3:00-8:30PM for FREE Skate Day. Experience one of Mammoth's new recreation hotspots with FREE skating, FREE skate rental, win a Season Skate pass, and bring a few dollars for food and drink specials. The facility is located at 416 Sierra Park Road adjacent to the Mammoth Lakes Library and opposite Mammoth High School.

The Mammoth Roller Rink (www.MammothRollerRink.com) offers summer recreational roller and inline skating, youth/adult roller hockey, arena soccer, broomball, basketball, mini-ramps, and table tennis/golf. The Mammoth Roller Rink is also a fun and unique venue for your next birthday party 'on wheels' or special event.

Recreational skating/hockey and Multi-Use Facility admission fees have been set to encourage participation from all socio-demographics. In particular, the \$2.00 MUSD/MCOE fee for students makes it one of the most affordable recreation activities in Mammoth Lakes. For the 2012 summer season, adults skate for only \$7.50 with skate rentals (\$5.00 with skates), youth (5-15 yrs. old) for \$6.50 with skate rentals (\$4.00 with skates), and kids 4 and under skate free with a paid adult.

This summer get your 6th Skate FREE with the Five Skate Pass (5SP), skate mid-week (Monday-Thursday) for only \$4.00 per person/session (excludes skate rental), and pay only \$2.00/person to upgrade to the next session.

Roller hockey has been programmed from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. for youth on Monday and Wednesday, and for adults on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Drop-in roller hockey is also available on Saturday between 9:00 – 11:30 a.m., and on Sunday from 6:00 – 8:30 p.m.

For all those soccer enthusiasts, youth arena soccer is programmed every Sunday between 3:00 and 5:30 p.m. for only \$4.00/session.

Rent the Mammoth Roller Rink for your next party! All-inclusive birthday party packages are available from as low as \$75 per 10 children, and up to \$15 per child for your personal party coordinator, cake, pizza, drinks and skate rental.

When visiting the Mammoth Roller Rink, please consider taking the Trolley: Village – Snowcreek Shuttle (Red Line), Mid-Town LIFT (Purple Line) or Old Mammoth LIFT (Grey line) as parking is limited.

The Mammoth Roller Rink is owned and operated by the Town of Mammoth Lakes through a partnership with Mammoth Unified School District and Mono County Office of Education. The facility is drug-free, smoke-free and pet-free. Roller/inline skates, scooters, skate boards are allowed on the surface. Bikes are not allowed at any time. Helmets and appropriate safety equipment are recommended.

For the complete summer schedule, rates and special promotions visit www.mammothrollerrink.com, see our rack card in all Certified Racks located throughout Mammoth Lakes and along HWY 395, or call the Mammoth Roller Rink at (760) 934-2505, or Recreation Department office at (760) 934-8989 ext. 222.

Never Have A Slow Day In Mammoth Again!

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Recreation Department is proud to present the new 2012 Summer/Fall Recreation Guide. The guide is the definitive source for recreation in Mammoth Lakes packed-full of programs, events and activities for kids of all ages. Pick up your copy from any Certified Rack located throughout Mammoth Lakes, visit the Town Offices, Mammoth Lakes Welcome Center, or log onto www.MammothRecreation.com. Whether you're looking for family fun at our many parks, challenging your endurance on our many trails or replenishing your spirit in the great outdoors, we hope you'll take advantage of what our team has created, and what awaits you in Mammoth Lakes...Your recreation Nirvana!

New 2012 Summer Fees

For 2012, the Recreation Department has replaced resident and non-resident fees with "Early Bird" (EB) fees or "Regular" (Reg.) fees. Early Bird fees provide a 20% discount on camp programs if purchased 10-days in advance. This discount does not apply to the daily drop-in rate or facility rental fees. A \$5.00 family discount per child is also offered after the first family member has paid the EB or Reg. camp price.

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!

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 programs are available:

- 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.
- 8-12+ yr. olds – Tuesday: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. – Invitation only.

NO GYMNASTICS ON 7/24, 25, & 28.

Five session Punch Cards are available for \$60 for the first family member and \$55 for each additional family member. Private lessons are available upon request, please inquire with the instructor. Drop-ins cost \$15 per session are welcome and encouraged - First one is FREE! Please call (760) 934-8989 ext. 222 for more information or to register your aspiring Gymnast!

Zumba Fitness

Party yourself into shape with 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. Cost: 10 punch-\$77.50; 5 punch-\$42.50; Drop-In rate \$10 per class and your first class is only \$5!

NO ZUMBA ON JULY 9, YES ON JULY 16 AND THEN NO MORE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 10.

Sports & Recreation Calendar

- On-going Gymnastics/Tumbling Program at the Community Center
- On-going Zumba Fitness at the Community Center
- On-going Whitmore Pool OPEN
- On-going Mammoth Roller Rink OPEN
- OPEN Reds Meadow, Tioga, Sonora and the Lakes Basin
- July 4-7 Mammoth Celebrates the Arts
- July 6-7 Mammoth Food & Wine Experience
- July 7 June Lake Triathlon
- July 9-13 Wilderness Camp 1 –LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!
- July 9 Men’s Softball League Begins
- July 10 Co-ed Softball League Begins
- July 10 Recreation Commission Meeting
- July 11-15 Mammoth Lakes Jazz Jubilee
- July 16-20 Challenger Sports British Soccer Camp
- July 16-20 Sports Camp
- July 18 Mammoth Lakes Music Festival
- July 20-22 Youth Gymnastics Camp II
- July 21-22 Men’s D Adult Softball Tournament
- July 23-27 Next Level High Altitude Basketball Academy I
- July 23-24 Youth Climbing Camp I
- July 25-27 Grom Mania Skate Camp II
- July 28-29 Coed D Adult Softball Tournament
- July 29-29 MLFD Canoe Races and Picnic
- Jly. 30 –Ag. 3 UK International Soccer Camp II
- Jly. 30 –Ag. 3 Wilderness Camp II
- Aug. 3-5 Youth Gymnastics Camp III
- Aug. 5 Mammoth High School Football Annual Golf Tournament at Sierra Star
- Aug. 8-10 Wave Rave Concrete Kommandos
- Aug. 13-17 AYSO Advanced Training Soccer Camp
- Aug. 13-25 Next Level High Altitude Basketball Academy II
- Aug. 13-17 Wilderness Camp III
- Aug. 20-21 Youth Climbing Camp III

Public Service Announcements

Mammoth Lakes Police Department is Recruiting Reserve Officers

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department (MLPD) is recruiting qualified individuals interested in serving their community as Reserve Police Officers. This recruitment effort coincides with a Level 3 Reserve Academy being presented by Cerro Coso College in the Fall.

The Basic Peace Officer Level 3 Academy will be offered through the Administration of Justice Program at the Bishop campus. The Academy will be held every Tuesday and Thursday evening from 6 pm until 10 pm starting on August 28 and finishing on November 15. Tuition for the Academy is \$230.

Level 3 Reserve Officers may perform limited support functions while under the supervision of a regular Police Officer. This includes transporting arrestees without supervision.

You do not have to be affiliated with a Police Department to attend the Reserve Academy. However, the MLPD is accepting applications for Reserve Officer and, if selected in time, the MLPD will sponsor the tuition. The standards for being a

Reserve Officer are the same as a regular Officer and the selection process includes medical and psychological exams and a thorough background investigation.

Anyone interested in applying for a position as a Reserve Police Officer with the MLPD should contact Sergeant Marc Moscovitz at (760) 934-2011 or by e-mail at mmoscovitz@mammothlakespd.org.

Anyone interested in obtaining more information about the Reserve Academy can visit Cerro Coso's website at www.cerrocoso.edu or call the local offices at (760) 934-2875 or (760) 872-1565.

Mammoth Mountain Announces Closure of June Mountain

Rusty Gregory, Mammoth Mountain Ski Area Chairman and CEO, announced today the company will not operate June Mountain this summer and for the upcoming 2012-13 winter season. "June has operated at an annual deficit each year since its purchase in 1986," said Gregory. "It is time to invest some of this subsidy into the analysis and planning required to position the resort for a sustainable future, then secure the approvals and financing required to create it."

Mammoth purchased June Mountain in 1986 with the idea of significantly increasing the size of the resort by building new facilities, extending new runs to the June Lake Village, and fostering additional developed ski areas along the San Joaquin Ridge, resulting in a connection between Mammoth and June Mountains. For a number of reasons, these plans were never realized and June Mountain has, in turn, suffered from an identity crisis that has both stifled its ability to achieve its full potential and required substantial financial subsidy from Mammoth on an annual basis. Cessation of operations will help the company dedicate its focus to a new future for June Mountain. Mammoth will be working with its partner the U.S. Forest Service to reach the best possible result in this endeavor.

In the weeks to come, Mammoth will be working to determine if and to what extent it can absorb June's year round workforce. Mammoth Mountain will continue to offer world-class skiing, snowboarding and summer activities for locals and visitors to the region.

Protect Your Home!

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. A well-maintained landscape enhances the beauty and value of any property— it can also serve 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 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. MLFD will have an inspector issuing citations this summer for improper wood storage.
- Water plants and trees regularly 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.

1st Inspection:

The first inspection is done by MLFD, beginning shortly after the snow melts and continues until the first snow in the fall. Parcels found to be non-compliant are issued an inspection form detailing the problems. The homeowner is given a year to correct the identified issues.

2nd Inspection:

If the property is then found to be in compliance, the owner will receive a maintenance letter. Thereafter, routine inspections will be conducted periodically by MLFD.

If the property is not in compliance, the owner will be notified in person or via certified mail and the property owner will be given a citation notice. The citation will provide the owner with a time period to correct the identified problems or the individual will be assessed the fine amount. If the problems are left unaddressed,

the owner will be subject to a misdemeanor.

Failure to clear your property in accordance with regulations 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.

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 ParcelViewer today at <http://gis.mono.ca.gov/parcelviewer/>

California Mandates Recycling for Business and Multi-Family Residential Locations

A new State of California Bill (AB 341) directed by CalRecycle mandating commercial recycling in California goes into effect July 1, 2012. The Town of Mammoth Lakes will be providing education and outreach to help the community comply with the new regulations.

The goal of AB 341 is to increase the statewide recycling rates to 75% by 2020. Starting July 1 2012, businesses and public entities that generate four cubic yards or more of waste per week, including multi-family units of five or more will be required to recycle. The purpose of this new law is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by diverting commercial solid waste to recycling efforts while expanding opportunities for additional recycling services and recycling manufacturing facilities in California.

Please use the following link for additional information provided by CalRecycle that addresses the "Frequently Asked Questions:"
<http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/climate/Recycling/FAQ.htm>.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes (TOML), Sierra Conservation Project (SCP) and Mammoth Disposal (MD) are taking active steps to assist businesses and multi-family residences to comply with the new regulations.

Brian Robinette, owner of Sierra Conservation Project commented, "This is a big step in the right direction for recycling and diverting recyclables from our local landfills. The new regulation will give the extra incentive needed to make recycling programs a reality at all Mammoth Lakes business and residential locations."

The TOML, SCP and MD have been working together for several years to develop and grow recycling programs here in the Town of Mammoth Lakes.

Johnny Goetz, Town of Mammoth Lakes Senior Building Inspector states, "Now is a great time for local businesses to take advantage of the numerous recycling

opportunities we have available in Town. Condominium complexes can also take advantage of the TOML and SCP's recycling programs which are currently providing start-up infrastructure to the complex at no cost - while supplies last."

The TOML and SCP have applied for additional grant money to continue to offset the start-up cost for multi-family and businesses here in town. Bear proof recycling containers are provided to participating condo complexes, and are serviced by SCP.

Pat Fenton, General Manager of Mammoth Disposal added, "Recycling is at the core of the company's goal of sustainability, and it's the core of our commitment to business owners and the Town of Mammoth Lakes to meet this mandate."

The following recycling programs are currently available within the Town of Mammoth Lakes:

- Commercial cardboard recycling
- Restaurant and bar programs
- Lodging and hospitality programs
- Business recycling
- Office recycling
- Residential recycling
- Aluminum, plastic, and glass
- E-Waste
- Used oil and batteries

Some of the benefits of recycling identified by CalRecycle are creating jobs in California, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, keeping valuable materials out of landfills, and creating a healthy environment for the community and future generations by recovering natural resources.

For more information regarding recycling programs and opportunities within the Town of Mammoth Lakes, contact Johnny Goetz at (760) 934-8989 ext. 244 or jgoetz@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Town & MLFD Identify Potential Safety Issue

The Town of Mammoth Lakes Community Development Department (Town) and Mammoth Lakes Fire Department (Fire District) have identified an issue with inserted wood burning fireplace installations in town. If you have either a pellet/gas insert installation or a masonry flue/chase, these types of appliances or installations are not an issue. The issue is that wood burning inserts placed into zero clearance fireplace boxes (fireplace) with factory built metal flue pipes and wooden chases may not have adequate clearance to combustible materials (wood, plywood, and/or sheetrock behind the rock, brick, metal and/or wooden material that doesn't allow you to see on the interior surface of the fireplace façade). This issue can exist in all types of residential occupancies, from single family to multi-family projects. As a result of the clearances that may not have been met, combustible materials are igniting and several fires have resulted around town. Thus far there have been no injuries, but both the Town and Fire District feel that we cannot wait until something tragic occurs before we take necessary action. At this point both agencies are hoping to educate the town population to the concern.

The original fireplace contained fires that never obtained very high burning temperatures, due to the amount of heat that went up the flue. Once the insert was installed, the appliance burned much more efficiently causing the combustibles surrounding the original installation to be exposed to significantly greater heat levels.

Another factor is the amount of use the insert is experiencing. The issue is occurring throughout town; no certain complex, no certain installer, no certain type of product, nor any other common characteristic that allows the agencies to narrow down the likely installations of concern. One complex in town had 23 of 60 units show some sign of heat damage to combustibles.

Permitted installations during the last 18 to 24 months that followed the manufacturer's installation instructions have been installed correctly. The Town and Fire District do not mean to alarm anyone, but strongly believe that this situation is serious enough to inform the public on the use and installation of these types of wood burning installations. If you need any further assistance or have any questions, please contact the Fire District at (760) 934-2300 or Town at (760) 934-8989, ex 244. For more information: <http://mammothlakesfd.intuitwebsites.com>

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

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

1. 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.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. Do I need a business tax certificate?

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

6. 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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 x245.

10. 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 x245 or your property management company.

11. 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.

12. 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 x275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's name if you have it. You may also email tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

13. Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline

If you have questions about TOT enforcement, or if you would like to report suspicious activity or rental advertisements please contact our anonymous hotline. The Town will follow-up on any reports submitted. The Hot Line Number is (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or email your information to: TOT@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us.

Register for CodeRED

Residents of Mono County can register their cell phones to receive emergency CodeRED (reverse 911) alerts from Mono County. This is a county public service available to all Mono County residents so please tell your friends and neighbors in Mono County that they can register for this service. CodeRED announcements are for personal notification and will not replace CERT CAHAN notification. Here is how to sign register/sign up using the INTERNET:

1. Go to monosheriff.org
2. scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
3. click on it and follow directions.

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>.

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.