



Town of Mammoth Lakes

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Town Announcements

Lauren Plum Named Customer Service Person of the Year

On November 6 at the Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce Holiday Gala and Awards Ceremony at Jimmy's Taverna, Program and Facilities Coordinator, Lauren Plum was awarded the prestigious Mammoth Lakes Chamber of Commerce *Customer Service Person of the Year*.



Lauren joined the Parks and Recreation Department in 2017 and since that time has excelled in turning our day-to-day guests into 'raving fans' of parks and recreation. Lauren's passion for recreation and desire to enhance the quality of life for both our residents and visitors to Mammoth Lakes is contagious. We love her positive 'can do' attitude and her innate ability to consistently meet and exceed our customer's expectations. Building a culture of guest service excellence is a priority for the department and Lauren makes this a fundamental and essential component of our daily operations. One of our customers said:

"Lauren Plum is an exemplary employee and Town representative. If there were more people like her in the community this would be an even better place to live. Great tournament and great facilities. Definitely hope to come back next year or for any other tournament's you have. Ran a tight ship and everyone was on top of their respective duties. Thanks!"

We invite you to meet Lauren and her contagious smile, vivacious personality and positive 'can do' attitude at the Parks and Recreation Department front counter.

Town Welcomes New Sidewalk/MUP Snow Removal Equipment

The new Parks Maintenance Department Holder Tractor arrived on Wednesday, November 28 just in time for the first big storm of the season. Parks Manager, Warren Boling tested the new tractor at the Mammoth Ice Rink and on our sidewalks. The multi-purpose Holder Tractor is designed for year-round use under extreme conditions. The S130 model meets the highest demands for operation and driving comfort, diversity, work efficiency, robustness and reliability.

Town Council recently approved funding to purchase the new unit along with a seasonal parks maintenance employee to meet the desired level of service for the Town's 12 miles of sidewalks and multi-use paths. The Parks Maintenance Department is responsible for clearing the multi-use paths and sidewalks throughout Town, including the new Main Street Sidewalks. This new Tractor now brings the Parks Maintenance fleet to three vehicles to perform snow removal services.



Town Meetings & Events

Town Council

The next regular meeting of the Mammoth Lakes Town Council has been scheduled for **Wednesday, December 19** beginning at 6:00 p.m. in Suite Z. Visit the [Streaming Media Archive](#) to review the previous meeting minutes or view the webcast Town Council meeting.

Commission/Committee Meetings

- Jan. 8 Recreation Commission Meeting, Suite Z, 9:00AM
- Jan. 9 Planning & Economic Development Commission Mtg., Ste. Z, 2:00PM

Notify Me!

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

Department Updates

PARKS AND RECREATION NEWS...

- Come skate with us this winter at The Mammoth Ice Rink! Offering [ice skating lessons](#), home to the [youth](#) and [adult](#) hockey leagues, and [curling league](#), as well as public skate, we have a variety of activities for all ages and abilities. See a complete schedules online at www.MammothIceRink.com.
- 4th Annual Mammoth Lakes Youth Hockey Outdoor Winter Classic Invitational begins with opening ceremonies on Friday, December 7 at 4:45 p.m. with the National Anthem, banner break and special guest appearances. Free and open to the public, come cheer on these youth hockey teams and give them a Mammoth sized welcome.
- Enjoy [FREE Skate Night at the Mammoth Ice Rink](#) on December 14 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. We offer monthly free skate nights through February to ensure everyone gets a chance to get out on the ice!
- Get in the holiday spirit at the Mammoth Ice Rink with our [Skate With Santa and Tea Kettle Curling Night](#) on Thursday, December 20 from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. Get your picture with Santa and skate as a family or try your hand at tea kettle curling.
- [Register for Winter Ice Skating lessons today!](#) This 6-week program is designed for Kindergarten through 8th grade of all skating levels! Adult lessons are available by request. Lessons will take place on Mondays at the Mammoth Ice Rink, grades K-1 is from 3:15 to 3:45, grades 2-5 is from 4:00 to 4:30 pm and grades 6-8 is from 4:45-5:15 p.m. Space is limited, \$50, build your confidence on the ice and [register today!](#)
- Curling is back! Adult Curling League will begin on January 6. Call your friends, coworkers, and fellow curling enthusiasts and put a team together today! A minimum of four players per team, curling 2x per week on Sundays and Tuesday evenings at 7:00 or 8:15 p.m. The league will conclude with the final playoff match on February 12. [Registration opens Saturday, December 8](#) and costs \$150/team.
- The fourth session of [Toddler Time](#) starts on January 8. Each four-week session is held on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. at the Mammoth Lakes Community Center. This program is open to all parents with children kindergarten age or younger. Each day will include circle time, songs, books, and a featured letter of the alphabet, a snack, and a craft project. Socialize with other parents and children while teaching your child about basic routines and tasks. Just \$48 with a 50% sibling discount; payment is requested at time of enrollment, drop in rates are available. Call Carole Mills at (209) 480-2699 for more information.

MAMMOTH LAKES POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS...

Winter Parking Restrictions in Effect

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department is reminding citizens that there is no street parking from November 1 through April 30. Vehicles found parked in violation of these ordinances are subject to receiving a parking citation and/or in some cases, vehicles may be impounded at the owner's expense.

10.12.100 - Winter Parking Prohibition

The parking or standing of vehicles in designated areas on the roadside of the snow stakes along any town road from November 1 through April 30 is prohibited unless the location has been designated for winter parking as specified herein.

10.12.106 - Obstructing Snow Removal

It shall be unlawful for any person to park, abandon, or otherwise leave unattended any vehicle as defined in Section 670 of the California Vehicle Code on any town right-of-way at any time or in any manner which will obstruct, hinder, delay or otherwise inconvenience any town officer, employee or town contractor during snow removal operations or which will leave the vehicle in such a position that it is subject to damage by town officers, employees or town contractors engaged in snow removal operations



10.12.110 - Towing Of Parked Vehicles

Any member of the California Highway Patrol and any designated employee of the police department of the town, may remove any vehicle parked or left standing upon any town road in violation of this article during the period of November 1 through April 30.

Please note: the Town's easement is 10 foot off the edge of pavement, so please park accordingly.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT NEWS...

Work for the Town of Mammoth Lakes

With the new year quickly approaching, the Town is pushing recruitment efforts with a number of exciting temporary and year-round employment opportunities!

- *Airport Maintenance Coordinator*
We're looking for an experienced maintenance worker who's committed to the future of Mammoth-Yosemite Airport. This year-round position is a great opportunity for anyone looking for a rewarding career in Public Works where you'll gain experience in everything from snow removal and airport security, to weather observing and firefighting!

- *Assistant Clerk*
We're looking for a dedicated administrative professional to provide support to elected and appointed officials and non-governmental organizations. This year-round position is ideal for anyone with exemplary admin skills who's looking for a career in public service.
- *Assistant Planner*
Looking to take the next step in your career as a Planner? We're looking for a journey-level Planner to be a part of our hard-working Community and Economic Development Department.
- *Crossing Guards*
Help keep our kids safe during the school season! These positions are great for anyone looking for some extra work with an attractive hourly rate. Must be available during school hours.
- *Police Officer - Lateral*
As the Mammoth Lakes Police Department continues to enhance services provided to our community, we are continuing to accept applications for the position of Police Officer. We're looking for lateral applicants dedicated to law enforcement and committed to the future direction of our department.
- *Reserve Officer*
Looking to get your foot in the door with the Mammoth Lakes Police Department? We're continuing to accept applications for Levels 1, 2, and 3 Reserve Officer.
- *Senior Planner*
We're looking for an experienced planning professional to take on a management role in our Community and Economic Development Department. Demonstrated experience in municipal land use planning is essential for this senior-level position.

The Town of Mammoth Lakes knows our employees are our most valuable assets, which is why we strive to attract and retain the best talent. If you're committed to public service and you want to be part of the changing face of local government, apply now! Visit our [career portal](#) for more information.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT NEWS...

Business Tax Certificate (BTC) Renewals

Business Tax certificates are renewed on an annual basis. We have changed procedures for Transient Occupancy Tax operators who have more than 4 properties they represent. We sent out the registration early for those properties in order to obtain detailed information on each of their rentals. The rest of the renewals will be mailed early December and full payments are due for all BTC's by January 31, 2019 to avoid penalties and interest.

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Enforcement

The goal of our Revenue Enforcement team is to ensure that all transient occupancy operators are legal businesses in the Town of Mammoth lakes, collecting and remitting TOT Tax for their guest stays. Unfortunately, some try to operate businesses without proper business licenses or in zones ineligible for nightly rental activity. The team is dedicated to tracking down these illegal rentals to bring them into compliance or stop the activity if not properly zoned.

Host Compliance is one of the tools this enforcement teams uses to track and identify online rental activity. The Town of Mammoth lakes currently has 3,622 Short Term Rental (STR) units being advertised across 5,938 advertising sites. Host Compliance tracks all rental activity in the town allowing our team to keep everyone compliant and on a level playing field.

The team also relies on tips to our hotline to identify properties being rented without using an online rental platform. 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.

Request for Qualification for Audit of Town's Gas Franchise Agreement

The Town has issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for an audit firm to audit the details of the franchise agreement with AmeriGas to utilize the underground gas pipeline infrastructure. This RFQ was published in early December and the audit is expected to be complete by March 2019.

Public Service Announcements

Leash Your Dog – It's The Law

The Mammoth Lakes Police Department would like to remind citizens that the Town of Mammoth Lakes has several ordinances to keep their animals and the public safe. The Mammoth Lakes Police Department has responded to an increasing number of dog-related incidents and may issue citations for dog owners in violation of the following ordinances:

MLTO 6.12.010 License (Required) – *If you live within the Town of Mammoth Lakes limits the owner of any dog over the age of six months shall procure a town dog license and pay thereafter an annual license fee for each dog.*

MLTO 6.12.210 Dog at large - *It is unlawful for any person owning, harboring, or having the care, custody or possession of any dog within the town limits of Mammoth Lakes to allow such dog to run at large. All such dogs shall be kept securely fastened by a chain, rope or leash unless securely confined within private property legally controlled by the person in possession of the dog. Further, any dog off the premises of its owner, or the person charged with the care, custody or possession of the dog, shall be presumed to be at large unless it is securely fastened to a rope, chain or leash not exceeding six feet in length and is under the immediate physical control of a competent person.*

Pet ownership comes with the responsibility of humane care and management of their animal, along with a legal obligation as well. A dog owner is liable for a victim's injuries if their dog bites and injures the victim. These ordinances also apply at Town parks and facilities. Additional ordinances regulating the responsibilities of pet owners can be found in the Town of Mammoth Lakes Municipal Code (https://library.municode.com/ca/mammoth_lakes /codes/code_of_ordinances).

Friendly reminder, Bears have no sense of personal space!

WHEN TO MAKE A BEAR CALL

DO NOT CALL:

- Bear walking through your property or neighborhood
- Bear in a tree

OPTIONAL NON-EMERGENCY - call Wildlife Expert Steve Searles at (760) 934-2327:

- Bear on porch or deck
- Bear in unoccupied vehicle
- Bear making regular visits to property or under deck or house

EMERGENCY - CALL 911:

- Bear inside any building or home
- Bear seen trying to open window or door of occupied dwelling
- Bear in confined space with human beings
- Bear apparently confronting human beings

Beware of Deer on the Roads

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) would like to notify motorists that deer are out and about in the Eastern Sierra. Due to the snowy conditions, deer are venturing out onto the roadways to escape from the snow. Motorists should watch for deer as they are commuting especially during the dawn and dusk times of the day. Slow down and be vigilant!

Ways to Prevent a Collision with a Deer:

1. Slow Down. Motorists should take it slow especially with the low temperatures and icy conditions.
2. 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.
3. Timing is everything. Deer are most active at dusk and dawn: periods when your vision is most compromised. Slow down and stay alert, especially after dark.
4. Wear your seatbelt. It may not prevent a collision, but if the inevitable happens a seatbelt can reduce injuries.
5. Look. First, look for the road signs. The yellow diamond shaped signs 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.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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 traffic incidents.

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.

For more deer migration information visit the Caltrans District 9 webpage: <http://www.dot.ca.gov/d9/deer.html>

Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT) Frequently Asked Questions

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

What is a transient rental?

A transient rental is any unit that is occupied for the purpose of sleeping, lodging, or similar reasons for a period of 30 consecutive days or less in exchange for a fee or similar consideration.

Can I rent my unit as a transient rental?

Only some zones within the Town of Mammoth Lakes permit transient rentals. The following zones permit transient rentals:

- RMF-2 (Residential Multi-family 2)
- CL (Commercial Lodging)
- CG Commercial General)
- R (Resort, including master plan areas)
- SP (Specific Plan, including North Village and Clearwater)

This list is intended as a guide only. Although the above zones permit transient use generally, other regulations, such as those found in master plans, CC&Rs, or project conditions of approval may prohibit transient rental within a particular development. Generally, transient rental of single family homes is prohibited. A zoning map can be found on the Town's website.

What is transient occupancy tax (TOT)?

Transient occupancy tax, or TOT, is a 13% tax that is charged "for the privilege of occupancy of any transient occupancy facility." The tax is required to be paid to the operator of the transient occupancy facility at the time the rent is paid. It is the operator's responsibility to remit the TOT to the Town.

Do I need to pay TOT?

If you are renting your unit as a transient rental, even if it is only for one weekend a year, you need to pay TOT. This includes single-family homes and other units that are not permitted to rent nightly, but may be doing so illegally. TOT shall be remitted for each night the unit is rented.

Do I need a business tax certificate?

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

Do I need a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Yes. You are required to purchase a transient occupancy certificate for each rental unit to post in your transient rental property. This is included as part of Schedule E or F in the business tax certificate application.

What is the difference between a business tax certificate and a transient occupancy tax certificate?

Business tax is an annual tax and is required for all business activity. The transient occupancy tax certificate is a one-time purchase that is non-transferable. This certificate is required to be posted in your transient rental unit.

Do I need a business tax certificate if all of my rentals are handled through a reservation company?

If all of your rentals are handled through a reservation company, most reservation companies will purchase the transient occupancy tax certificate and collect and remit the TOT to the Town. You may wish to check with your reservation company to confirm that this is being taken care of. If you rent your unit by owner in addition to renting with a property management company, you are also required to obtain a separate business tax certificate and transient occupancy tax certificate.

How do I apply for a business tax certificate?

The Town's website contains information regarding business tax certificates, including an application for a business tax certificate: <http://www.ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=182>. Transient Rentals fall under schedule F for condominium rentals and schedule E for hotels, motels, lodges, and campgrounds. This application can be mailed back to the Town, or submitted in person. The total cost for one unit is \$118.00 (\$65.00 application fee, \$5.00 planning review fee, \$25.00 fee to rent one unit, \$23.00 TOT certificate fee). Additional costs apply for additional units. Business tax certificates are required on or before the first day business commences; penalties will apply for late filings. If you have additional questions regarding this process please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273.

Do I have a business tax certificate?

To find out if you have a valid business tax certificate on file, please contact the Finance Department at (760) 934-8989 ext. 273 or your property management company.

What is illegal rental activity?

Illegal rental activity is any rental activity that is not consistent with the Town's Zoning Ordinance, or any rental activity that is not compliant with the Transient Occupancy Tax Ordinance. This can include transient rental of units located in zones that prohibit transient rentals. It can also include transient rentals in a zone where it is permitted, but when the TOT is not remitted to the Town.

How can I report illegal rental activity?

If you suspect illegal rental activity, you may submit an anonymous tip via the Town's TOT hotline at (760) 934-8989 ext. 275 or on the Town's website via the Transient Occupancy Tax information page. Please include any information that you have that would substantiate the claim, along with the property address and owner's

name if you have it. You may also email tot@ci.mammoth-lakes.ca.us. Note that emails are not anonymous, however, staff will do its best to keep your information private.

Questions & Anonymous TOT Hotline

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

Register for CodeRED

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

- Go to monosheriff.org
- Scroll down left side panel to CodeRED community notification system;
- Click on it and follow directions.

Town Outdoor Lighting Ordinance

In 2003, the Town adopted Exterior Lighting Ordinance 17.36.030 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.