

April 28, 2020

Re: Covid-19 and Short-Term Rentals

Dear Short-term Rental Owner,

On Friday April 24, 2020, Governor Whitmer issued an amended "[Stay Home, Stay Safe](#)" Executive Order 2020 – 59, which temporarily extends the suspension of in-person business and operations that are not necessary to sustain or protect life. The order went into effect 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, April 26, 2020, and extends through 11:59 p.m. on Friday, May 15, 2020.

This Executive Order impacts vacation rentals across the state. Please find excerpts of the Order below which provide guidance on travel and short-term rentals during this time:

- Section 2: "All individuals currently living in the State of Michigan are ordered to stay at home or at their place of residence."
- Section 7.b: Individuals may also travel:
 1. To return to a home or place of residence from outside this state.
 2. To leave this state for a home or residence elsewhere
 3. Between two residences in this state, including moving to a new residence.
 4. As required by law enforcement or a court order, including the transportation of children pursuant to a custody agreement.
- **Section 7.c.: All other travel is prohibited, including all travel to vacation rentals.**
- **Section 13: No one shall rent a short-term vacation property except as necessary to assist in housing a health care professional aiding in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic or a volunteer who is aiding the same.**

If you must return to your short-term rental, you should complete a 14-day self-quarantine and monitor for symptoms related to COVID-19. Planning for a self-quarantine includes bringing enough medicine and groceries with you, or arranging for safe delivery of these items, and having a local physician available to contact.

Begin planning now for a rental season which may look very different from other seasons. The below suggested practices by the Center for Disease Control offer excellent guidance:

- Practice good hygiene by making sure your short-term rental has tissues, cleaning wipes, and trash receptacles with bagged liners, and soap at every sink.
- Stop handshaking and use other noncontact forms of greeting; limit interaction including guest-to-guest, guest-to-manager, and between cleaning and management staff.
- Create habits and reminders to avoid touching their faces, and cover coughs and sneezes.
- Frequently disinfect surfaces like doorknobs, tables, desks, and handrails.
- Increase ventilation by opening windows or getting fresh air through outdoor recreation consistent with safe distancing from others.

Protocols for [cleaning and disinfecting](#) can be found on the CDC's website, [cdc.gov](#). Information regarding disinfectant cleaning products are detailed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on their site, [epa.gov/coronavirus](#).

For additional information and updates about the Covid-19 pandemic, please refer to:

- National: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019ncov/>
- State: <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus>
- Local: gtchd.org/2231/COVID-19-Novel-Coronavirus and <https://gtcountycovid19.com/>

For questions or concerns, the Planning & Zoning Department can be reached at (231) 947-8681 or email Jake Myers at jmyers@eastbaytwp.org.

Stay well,
East Bay Charter Township
Planning & Zoning Department