

North Star Township, Minnesota
SHORT TERM RENTAL
Shoreland and Nonshoreland

DEFINITION: Short term rental is defined as any home, cabin, or similar building represented to the public as a place where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public on a nightly or weekly and less than thirty day basis for compensation.

PURPOSE: To provide the township with reasonable regulation for short term rental properties that address environmental protection, public health, safety of residents and property, as well as protecting and maintaining lifestyle standards enjoyed by the residents of North Star Township.

PERMITTING: A permit application can be found on North Star Township's website. Prospective short term rental operators shall apply for a permit, supply required documentation and submit to the North Star Town Board for approval.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL: Short term rental applications, with all required documentation, should be sent to North Star Township at 7700 Pequaywan Lake Rd, Duluth MN 55803. Applications will be reviewed by the town board or its appointee within 30 days and before the next monthly board meeting, to determine the following:

1. The use conforms to the regulations of the St. Louis County Short Term Rental standards in addition to those established by ordinance in North Star Township.
2. A current certificate of compliance for the property's septic system shall accompany the application.
3. Minnesota Department of Health lodging license shall be submitted to township prior to operation of rental.
4. General liability insurance covering the property, including its use as a short term rental. Evidence of such insurance must be demonstrated by a certificate of insurance, listing St. Louis County and North Star Township as certificate holders, with a 30-day notice of cancellation or non-renewal; a copy of the insurance policy and certificate of insurance shall be provided to the Township.
5. Application fees shall be paid in full.
6. A site visit of the property shall be completed by the town board or its appointee.
7. The applicant is listed in the St. Louis County property tax records as having a homestead property located within North Star Township and the applicant is listed as the owner and tax payer of the proposed short term rental property.

PROCESS: Short term rental applications will be processed by the town board or its appointee. If the maximum number of permits in the township have not been reached, then consideration will be given to the applicant. Reviewing permit may include a visit to site to verify application information. Owner shall make reasonable accommodations for a site visit. The town clerk will keep on file all short term rental permits and associated required documents. Permits are renewed on a 3 year basis with no grace period. It is up to the applicant to apply for renewal.

ENFORCEMENT AND TERMINATION OF SHORT TERM RENTAL PERMIT: A short term rental permit will terminate and become void upon the occurrence of any of the following events:

1. The termination date stated in the permit is reached.
2. A change in the applicable zoning regulations which no longer allows the use.
3. The original applicant listed on the permit, or the use, changes.
4. In the event of a violation or complaint, the permittee or its designated manager will be contacted and expected to resolve complaints in short order. If issues continue, or if complaints are not resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant, the next step in an emergent situation would be to contact the local sheriff. In a non-emergent situation, complaints will be dealt with by the North Star Town board and its designated Short Term Rental Committee. First offenses shall result in a verbal and written warning, second offenses may result in a temporary suspension of the Short Term Rental Permit for up to 6 months and a third offense may result in a permanent suspension of the permit.

REQUIRED STANDARDS:

1. Rental dwelling units must be located on a conforming lot or an existing lot of record.
2. No more than one rental dwelling unit per parcel may be rented. Additional occupancy, other than by the owners of the property, by use of recreational vehicles, tents, accessory structures, garages, boathouses, pole barn, shed, fish houses or similar structure is not allowed. Accessory dwellings shall not be rented as per Zoning Ordinance 62, Article VI, Section 6.11 (i.e. accessory dwellings cannot be rented unless a permit for short term rental is applied for and on file as part of the overall property for rent).
3. More than one rental dwelling unit on the same parcel or single units on contiguous parcels under common ownership are prohibited. Rental operators may accommodate only one rental party at any given time.
4. Sewage treatment must comply with St. Louis County Subsurface Sewage Treatment System Ordinance.
5. Disposal of solid waste must comply with St. Louis County Solid Waste Ordinance. Permittees should provide animal-proof waste and recycling receptacles for guest use and encourage recycling. Should an animal get into and distribute waste, the property owner is responsible for cleaning up all garbage both on and off of the property.
6. The site shall provide on-site parking sufficient to accommodate the occupants of the rental dwelling unit. No motor vehicle shall be located within the limits of any road or road right-of-way.
7. The permittee/owner/operator shall provide a visual demarcation of the property lines.
8. All local, state and federal requirements shall be followed for taxing, licensing, permitting and other applicable requirements.
9. If a property is used primarily for rental purposes, then it shall be deemed a Commercial Use-Class II as a commercial short term rental and subject to ordinance requirements.
10. A permit for a short term rental use shall not be transferable upon new ownership of a property where a permit was issued.
11. Any violation of this ordinance shall deem a short term rental permit null and void.
12. North Star Township shall be limited to one Short Term Rental permit per lake and one additional permit in township in other areas that do not have lakeshore or river frontage.
13. Quiet hours are defined as having no loud music, yelling(or similar), no loud motors or anything that is louder than normal indoor talking volume. Quiet hours will be from 9pm to

9am. Sound that is audible beyond the property boundaries during non-quiet hours shall not be more excessive than would be otherwise associated with a residential area.

14. Number of guests allowed is two per bedroom on the property plus two. Daytime guests (not overnight) not to exceed 50% of overnight guests.
15. No events or parties are allowed such as “bachelor” or “bachelorette” parties, wedding receptions, class reunions, or similar that might exceed the maximum number of people allowed on site or otherwise be reasonably expected to become disruptive in any way.
16. No motorized watercraft is allowed to be launched into lake, or stored at dock or beach on property site.
17. No campers, tents or other structures may be placed on permittees property.
18. In the event that renter negligence causes an emergency call to the local Fire & EMS department that requires a response to the property, the fire chief may assess the property owner for the call.
20. The permittee (property owner) shall provide the township with 24/7 contact information which will be shared with neighbors.
21. Permits shall be issued for a period of three years and are non-transferable.
22. Outside watercraft are strictly prohibited. Regardless, all invasive species rules shall be posted on site and followed.
23. Follow current DNR burning regulations. All campfires must be a maximum size of 3x3 feet, have water readily available, and distinguish fire when not attending it.
24. Pets must be secured, on leash when off property and continual nuisance barking is prohibited.
25. While some fireworks are legal for sale in Minnesota, per the Short Term Rental ordinance, fireworks usage of all kinds are strictly prohibited by guests at short term rental properties.
26. Guests are not allowed to cross any private property to access any local trails.
27. No additional signing can be installed other than address number visible from the roadway.
28. Be respectful of neighbors and across the lakes when lighting outside areas with spotlights, directional lights and large pole lights as to not shine on them or create too much lighting.
29. Point of emphasis: There is no Grandfather Rule and any existing Short Term Rentals operating in the township prior to the adoption of this Ordinance are required to apply for a Short Term Rental permit from the township as soon as this is enacted.
30. All requirements and standards pertaining to guest behavior should be posted prominently in the rental dwelling. Rental operators are encouraged to make these standards part of their rental agreements.