

Health Considerations of Short-Term Rental Operators

For detailed information on maintaining a clean, sanitary and healthy short-term rental, please see the Health Department's Licensed Lodging Establishment Rule.

Appliances

- Make sure each appliance provided for guest use is operational and in good repair.
- Clean all cooking appliances, including microwaves and stoves, before each new guest.

Hot and Cold Potable Water

- Supply hot and cold potable water under pressure in sufficient capacity to meet the needs of the rental.
- Make sure the water source is constructed and operated pursuant to the Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requirements.
- Make sure private water supply systems meet the State's drinking water quality standards.

Sewage System and Toilets

- Dispose all sewage through a public sewage treatment plant or an individual sewage disposal system that is constructed, maintained, and operated according to DEC requirements.
- Make sure each toilet is sanitary, in good repair, and operational at all times.

Guest Rooms

- Sweep or vacuum, and wet-clean all floors.
- Clean and sanitize all toilets, sinks, bathtubs, and shower areas appropriate manner and keep them free of hair, mold, and mildew.

Toxic Cleaning Supplies

- Store all poisonous or toxic materials used, including detergents, sanitizers, insecticides and rodenticides, separately from items used by guests to prevent contamination.
- Label containers of poisonous or toxic material with a legible manufacturer's label or the common name of the material.

Insects, Rodents and Other Pests

- Make sure guest rooms are free of any evidence of insects, rodents, and other pests since they may not be rented until any infestation is eliminated.
- Make sure all infestations are treated by a commercially-certified structural pest control operator.
- Use all pest control measures, both mechanical and chemical, in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.

Refuse Containers

- Keep the refuse storage area free of debris and clean it to prevent pests and minimize odors.
- Make sure containers have adequate capacity to store all refuse that accumulates between pickups and are emptied at least once a week or more frequently, if necessary, and between guests.

Swimming Pools, Recreational Water Facilities, and Hot Tubs

- Maintain each swimming pool, recreational water facility, and hot tub to provide for continuous disinfection of the water with a chemical process that leaves a measurable residual in the water.
- Maintain the water at a pH between 7.0 and 8.0, and keep it free of scum, algae, dirt and foreign material.

Linens, Dishware and Utensils

- Clean all linens, including towels, washcloths, bathmats, and bed linens, if provided.
- Make sure all dishware and utensils designed for repeat use are made of safe, durable, and nonabsorbent material, kept in good repair, stored so that they are protected from contamination, and cleaned between guests.