A short term rental, also known as a vacation rental, is the rental of an entire privately owned house, townhouse unit, condominium unit, apartment or other residence, or any space within a dwelling unit rented independently, for stays of less than 30 days.

A short term rental does not include bed and breakfasts, hostels, motels, or other hotel establishments.

A violation of these standards or disturbing the peace related to this property may result in suspension and possible revocation of the business license and short-term rental permit, as well as possible enforcement action.

Operating a short term rental outside an allowed district is a violation of City Code, and subject to enforcement action.

Contact Information for other Applicable Agencies

Flathead County Environmental Health Department  406-751-8130
Montana Department of Revenue  406-444-6900
For each rental unit, you must:

- Register a joint short term rental and business license application with the Whitefish Planning Office;
- Meet off street parking standards;
- Report and remit Resort Tax in conformance with the Resort Tax requirements to the City of Whitefish;
- Post an emergency contact notice visible from outside the front door with the owner's name and phone number (or local contact);
- Provide proof of application for a State of Montana public accommodation license for a tourist home administered by the Flathead City-County Health Department;
- Provide verification the property is appropriately registered and meets requirements for State Bed Tax purposes, administered by the State of Montana Department of Revenue;
- Be inspected by the Fire Marshal to ensure it meets current safety standards once the Planning Department deems the application complete.

Contact the Planning Department at 406-863-2410 for additional requirements.