

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Guidelines and Regulations on Short)
Term/Vacation Rentals, Air B&B, VRBO, and) Resolution TLS No. 20-24
Recreational Vehicle Use During the COVID-19)
Pandemic) Transportation Land Services
)

WHEREAS, on March 18, 2020, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners adopted and enacted Resolution CE 20-14B declaring an emergency order in response to the Novel Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, Resolution CE 20-14B listed findings and conclusions supporting the emergency declaration and the county’s response thereto, including reliance on Governor Inslee’s COVID-19 proclamation and the activation of the county’s Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, since Resolution CE 20-14B was adopted and enacted, Governor Inslee has issued further proclamations related to the COVID-19 emergency including Proclamation 20-25 which directs Washingtonians to stay at home at their primary residence; and

WHEREAS, Governor Inslee has extended the Stay Home, Stay Health Proclamation to May 4, 2020 in Proclamation 20-25.1; and

WHEREAS, the number of infected persons and/or fatalities caused by COVID-19 continues to increase statewide, neighboring counties, and in Douglas County; and

WHEREAS, since the COVID-19 emergency was declared by Governor Inslee on February 29, 2020, there has been an influx of people coming to Douglas and neighboring Chelan County from higher populated urban centers; and

WHEREAS, people coming to Douglas County for recreational purposes avoiding COVID-19 emergency directive and recommendations in other communities are negatively impacting the public health, safety, and welfare in Douglas County these actions are negligent in complying with Governor Inslee’s Proclamations 20-25 and 20-25.1 by not staying home; and

WHEREAS, an influx of people living in recreational and other vehicles creates traffic, sanitation hazards, trespass, and other public safety problems further exhausting law enforcement and first responder resources; and

WHEREAS, an influx of people using Short Term or Vacation Rentals included but not limited to Air B&B and VRBO, further stresses beyond capacity the availability of basic public health, safety and welfare services and facilities in Douglas County; and

WHEREAS, the current conduct of the owners and operator of Short Term/Vacation Rentals including but not limited to Air B&B and VRBO disregards and disobeys Governor Inslee's Stay Home Proclamations 20-25 and 20-25.1 and places the public health, welfare, and safety of the citizens of Douglas County at greater risk.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Douglas County Board of Commissioners hereby orders as follows:

1. The forgoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings, conclusions, and orders.
2. Previously enacted Emergency Proclamation enacted by Resolution CE 20-14B, and the Governor's Proclamations, including but not limited to 20-25 and 20-25.1, enacting the Stay Home, Stay Healthy declaration through May 4, 2020 are incorporated herein.
3. There continues to be an emergency which necessitated the continued activation of the Douglas County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, activation of the joint Regional Chelan-Douglas Emergency Operations Center, and utilization of emergency powers granted by statute.
4. Applicability:
 - a. This order shall only apply in the unincorporated areas of Douglas County and shall not apply within any of the municipal corporate boundaries of the Cities of East Wenatchee, Bridgeport, Waterville, Mansfield, or Rock Island.
 - b. This order shall not apply to any land owned or operated by the State of Washington, United States of America, or any special purpose districts including but not necessarily limited to public utility, school, hospital, sewer, water, irrigation, fire, park, reclamation, cemetery, or port districts.
 - c. This order shall not apply to any tribal land, Indian trust land, or allotments.
 - d. This order shall not apply to private campgrounds.
5. The use of any vehicle, recreational or otherwise, for camping, sleeping, or occupancy while not traveling in Douglas County is prohibited, unless use occurs on owner's property and is limited to owner and owner's family, or else at a private campsite or facility.
6. All Short Term/Vacation Rentals including but not limited to Air B&B and VRBO shall cease renting accommodations and shall close; no use of occupancy is allowed regardless of whether it is compensated or not, subject to the provisions of subsections 4,7, and 8 herein.
7. This order applies to all such structures, uses, rentals, and/or occupancies regardless of whether or not:
 - a. a Conditional Use Permit has been granted
 - b. a building or structure constitutes a single family residence
 - c. a single unit, portion, subsection, or entire building or structure is rented
 - d. management is present or nearby
 - e. cooking or food preparation equipment or capabilities exist
 - f. the length of the lease is more or less than 30 days

8. Owners and operators of Short Term/Vacation Rental including but not necessarily limited to Air B&B and VRBO or campground and camping facilities in Douglas County shall assist in the implementation of Governor Inslee's Proclamations 20-25 and 20-25.1 by providing such accommodations or facilities only to persons for whom such accommodations or facilities are required (1) to conduct or participate in essential activities, (2) for employment in essential business services, or (3) as otherwise provided by Proclamation 20-25. Nothing in this order requires the removal of persons who are already staying in transient accommodations or campground and camping facilities at the time this order is made.

9. Nothing herein is intended to be inconsistent with Governor Inslee's Proclamations 20-25 or 25.1.

10. Violations of this order are hereby declared to be detrimental to public health, safety, and welfare and are hereby declared to be public nuisances, and are contrary to Douglas County Code. RCW 36.32.120(10).

11. Any person willfully violating the Governor's emergency proclamations can be found guilty of a gross misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof is subject to a fine of not more than five thousand dollars and/or imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed 364 days. RCW 43.06.220(5).

12. Any person violating health department orders made for the prevention, suppression and control of dangerous contagious and infectious diseases, or for leaving isolation without the consent of the proper health officer, can be found guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof is subject to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than one hundred dollars and/or to imprisonment in the county jail not to exceed ninety days. RCW 70.05.120(4)

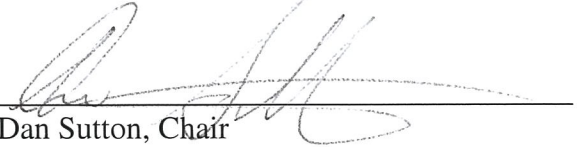
13. This order shall remain in effect until midnight on May 4, 2020, unless extended beyond that date by the Board of County Commissioners.

14. This resolution requiring compliance with Proclamations 20-25 and 25.1, Stay Home, during the COVID-19 Emergency shall become effective immediately.

15. The state of emergency declaration enacted in Resolution CE 20-14 is hereby extended until midnight on May 4, 2020, unless extended beyond that date by the Board of County Commissioners.

Passed and adopted this 14th day of April, 2020, at the Douglas County Public Services Building, 140 NW 19th St, East Wenatchee, Washington.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
DOUGLAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Dan Sutton, Chair



Marc S. Straub, Vice-Chair



Kyle Steinburg, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Tiana Rowland, Clerk of the Board