

Media Release

Short-Term Rental Licensing By-law Effective March 1, 2024

Owen Sound, Ontario
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, December 5, 2023

City Council, at its meeting held on December 4 approved the [Short-Term Rental Licensing By-law](#) that will come into effect March 1, 2024.

The Short-Term Rental (STR) Licensing program will require all STR operators in the City to acquire a licence and to operate within parameters set out in the by-law. The STR Licensing program includes the following:

- An annual licence for any residence that offers rentals of twenty-eight (28) days or less.
- Licences will not be transferable.
- Licences will not be granted where a residence has outstanding enforcement issues or City arrears.
- A licence can be suspended or revoked if there have been three (3) or more contraventions of City by-laws within a six-month period or four (4) or more contraventions of City by-laws within a calendar year.
- On-site parking will be limited to the number of vehicles the property can accommodate as determined by the City during the application process.
- The STR will only be permitted in an owner's principal residence.
- There is a rental cap of 180 days per year.
- There are no separate rentals permitted for individuals or groups that do not know each other.
- Licences will permit two (2) people per legal bedroom and two (2) people in the common area to a maximum of eight (8) people.
- The application fee is \$500 per year.

Bed and Breakfasts are excluded from the rental cap, group rental, and occupancy provisions outlined above.

The STR By-law provides additional enforcement options for officers and there will be offences for:

- Advertising without a licence.
- Advertising without the licence number.
- Advertising in contravention of the by-law.
- Not displaying the licence at the property.
- Not providing the Visitor Code of Conduct to renters.

The City's website is the best place to find information on the [Short-Term Rental Licensing program](#). The website will be updated throughout the program implementation.

For more information, please contact Briana Bloomfield, City Clerk at 519-376-4440 ext. 1247 or email to bbloomfield@owensound.ca

Quick Facts:

- The application form will be available through the City's website in February 2024.
- Complaints and violations will be tracked.
- STRs will be subject to the [Municipal Accommodation Tax](#).