



Florence County Health Department

501 Lake Ave PO Box 410 Florence, Wisconsin 54121 715-528-4837
A.Seibold, RN, MS Health Officer/Director



NEWS RELEASE

07/20/2020

Annette Seibold
Florence County Health Department
715-528-4837
FAX 715-528-5269
aseibold@co.florence.wi.us

Tourist Rooming House

Florence, WI – Are you wondering if a permit is required to rent out a house or cabin short term? The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) requires a permit for all lodging facilities in Wisconsin. There are many types of lodging facilities including but not limited to: hotels, motels, B&B's, cabins, cottages, lodges, and homes rented for a short period of time.

Homes rented for a short period of time are called Tourist Rooming Houses. A *Tourist Rooming House (TRH)* is defined by DATCP as all lodging places and tourist cabins and cottages, other than hotels and motels in which sleeping accommodations are offered for pay to tourists or transients. A *Bed and Breakfast* also has specific requirements by DATCP definition including the establishment being the owner's personal residence and in which the only meal served to guests is breakfast.

DATCP defines a *tourist or transient* as a person who travels to a location away from his or her permanent address for a short period of time for vacation, pleasure, recreation, culture, business or employment. In the definition for tourists or transients, a person has to be away from his or her permanent address. If it is rented to a tourist or transient, it will require a license.

Begin the process by contacting the Florence County Health Department at 715-528-4837 and the Zoning office. The department will assist owners in the process and help determine the best license for their lodging operation. The Registered Sanitarian is the inspector responsible for approving the lodging license. The inspection assures the lodging operation meets health and safety requirements. Applications are available at the Florence County Health Department, 715-528-4837. Florence County Health Department can be reached at 715-528-4837, located in the Courthouse at 501 Lake Avenue or visit our website at <http://www.florencecountywi.com/>.

###