SHORT TERM RENTALS IN MUSKEGON COUNTY

WELCOME

Welcome to short term rental ownership in Muskegon County! Thank you for helping to promote tourism in Muskegon County and provide various options for lodging!





COUNTY TAX PAYMENT

STRs are subject to Muskegon County Accommodation Taxes. Muskegon County has partnered with LocalGov for online tax payments to make payments easier on you! See our FAQ sheet for more information!



Many of our local municipalities within Muskegon County require STR registration. Keep an eye on https://www.visitmuskegon.org/about-us/partner-resources/short-term-rentals for more information.





VISIT MUSKEGON PROMOTION

Visit Muskegon is the official destination marketing organization for Muskegon County. Once an STR has been established as an accommodation tax payer, Visit Muskegon staff will work with you to create a listing on visitmuskegon.org.



- Short Term Rental Association www.shorttermrentalassoc.com
- Sign up for Visit Muskegon's Partner Newsletter www.visitmuskegon.com/about-us/partner resources/partner-signup



Visit Muskegon 610 W. Western Avenue Muskegon, MI 49440 Toll Free: (800) 250-9283 Local: (231) 724-3100

www.visitmuskegon.org



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Phone: 231-724-3100

Muskegon County Accommodation Tax Short Term Rental Frequently Asked Questions

Is the Occupancy tax listed by Airbnb different from the Muskegon County Accommodation tax?

Yes. AirBNB collects a state wide "use tax" of 6% for any stays 30 nights and shorter. The Muskegon County accommodation tax is a County wide 5% tax on any stays 30 nights and shorter.

How do I report and pay the tax?

You can remit Accommodation Taxes online using LocalGov, a secure file and pay platform customized specifically for the needs of Muskegon County businesses.

Muskegon County requires that Hotel/Motel/Inn/B&B operators pay 5% of the total charge for accommodations on or before the 15th of each month or quarterly for short-term rental properties.

Set up your account today at: https://lata.localgov.org.

How do I calculate the tax?

When filing online, you will be asked for your total revenue, representing total charges for accommodations for the reporting period. It will then calculate the tax owed based on the 5% tax.

How do I know if I have to file monthly or quarterly taxes?

The ordinance dictates that taxes should be reported monthly if accommodations are provided all 12 months of the year. Quarterly reporting should be utilized if accommodations are provided less than 12 months of the year. For due date info, <u>Click Here.</u>

Who can I reach out to for help with Localgov payment system?

First, check out this <u>USER GUIDE</u>. If you still have questions, please reach out to the Localgov service number at (877)842-3037 or by email at: <u>service@localgov.org</u>.



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What is the history of the Muskegon County Accommodation Tax?

The Muskegon County accommodation tax was adopted in late 2013. With the large rise and in short term rentals and the privacy policies, it has been difficult to identify properties. We recently began working with a company to help identify STR's who may not be aware, or are non-compliant with the ordinance. We are not attempting to collect back taxes from year past, but expect current and future reporting. For more info, or to read the full ordinance, click here.

Will AirBNB or VRBO collect the tax for my property?

Some short-term rental companies allow property owners to add a local tax on to their bookings, to be automatically calculated to individual reservations. When doing so, you will be asked for an accommodation tax registration number. Please fill out the form linked to below, and we will send you your registration number. Please note, although the short-term rental companies may collect these local taxes, they will pay them directly to you, and you will still be responsible for reporting and paying to the County.

Accommodation Tax Registration Form

Resources to add a local tax to your bookings:

AIRBNB

VRBO