

Rental Compliance Guide

Michigan Service Areas • Long-Term and Short-Term Rental Compliance

How to use this guide: Each entry was checked against an official municipal page, ordinance, form or packet available in July 2026. “No program identified” means no municipality-wide registration or periodic inspection program was found on the current official site; ordinary zoning, building, property-maintenance, tax and private-association rules may still apply. Where an official page does not publish a clear cycle - or appears to describe a paused program - the guide says to verify directly.

Rental compliance across Michigan municipalities is constantly evolving. RMO handles municipal compliance so owners do not need to track registration, inspection, certificate and renewal requirements alone.

Oakland County

Municipality	Program / scope	Cycle / key requirement	Source
Royal Oak	All residential rental units must be registered and are subject to inspection.	No fixed cycle is stated on the public page; follow the City-issued certificate or notice.	Official page
Ferndale	Residential rental registration and inspection program.	Every 2 years. Separate rules apply to short-term rentals.	Official page
Southfield	Rental registration and a Certificate of Rental Compliance are required.	Certificate expires after 3 years.	Official page
Troy	Inspection program applies to multiple-family dwellings housing 3 or more families; no citywide single-family rental program was identified.	Periodic inspection for covered multifamily property; verify the assigned schedule.	Official page
Farmington Hills	Single-family rental registration plus an exterior safety and maintenance inspection.	Certificate is valid for 3 years.	Official page
Madison Heights	Landlord license required for non-owner-occupied homes; inspection is required at renewal.	Current program packet states a 4-year license cycle; confirm the expiration on an existing license.	Official page
Novi	No municipality-wide residential rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	Complaint-based and general code enforcement still apply.	Repeal ordinance
Waterford Township	Rental buildings and units must be registered and pass certification inspection.	Certification may be issued for up to 4 years.	Official ordinance
Birmingham	Annual rental license; the Building Department administers rental inspections.	Renew the license annually and confirm the assigned inspection timing.	Official forms
Bloomfield Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, property-maintenance and private-association rules may still apply.	Official department
Rochester Hills	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning and code-enforcement requirements still apply.	Official department
Pontiac	All rental properties must be registered and are subject to code-compliance inspection.	Inspection every 3 years.	Official page
Oak Park	Rental registration, licensing and inspection required; all rentals must pass inspection before occupancy.	Rental license renews every 2 years.	Official page
Hazel Park	The Building Department conducts rental inspections.	Registration and inspection are required; verify the current certificate cycle directly.	Official department

Macomb County

Municipality	Program / scope	Cycle / key requirement	Source
Clinton Township	Residential rental registration and inspection required.	Every 2 years.	Official packet
Roseville	Rental property registration and inspection required.	Registration is valid for 3 years.	Official page
St. Clair Shores	Rental registration and inspection required.	Follow the current certificate expiration or City notice; merit extensions may apply.	Official form
Warren	Rental registration, inspection and license required.	License expires after 2 years.	Official page
Shelby Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General building, zoning and code-enforcement requirements still apply.	Official department
Macomb Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General building and code-enforcement requirements still apply.	Official department
Eastpointe	All rental properties must be registered and inspected.	Every 2 years.	Official page
Mount Clemens	Rental registration and inspection required.	Inspection every 2 years.	Official page
Sterling Heights	The City identifies non-homestead rentals and conducts exterior inspections; no routine interior rental inspection program was identified.	Exterior inspection every other year; interior inspections remain complaint or code based.	Official minutes
Fraser	Non-owner-occupied housing registration and inspection required.	Certificate is valid for 2 years.	Official page
Utica	Landlord license and rental inspection required for non-owner-occupied dwellings.	License renews annually; inspection every 2 years.	Official page
New Baltimore	Residential rental registration and inspection required.	Confirm the current certificate expiration and renewal schedule directly.	Official page

Washtenaw County

Municipality	Program / scope	Cycle / key requirement	Source
Ann Arbor	Rental registration, inspection and housing certificate required.	Standard cycle is 30 months; a compliant first inspection may qualify for a 12-month extension.	Official page
Ypsilanti Township	Single-family, duplex and multifamily rentals must be registered, inspected and certified.	Every 2 years.	Official page
Pittsfield Township	Rental registration and certification inspection required.	Renew and inspect before the current certificate expires; verify the property-specific date.	Official page
City of Ypsilanti	Rental registration and inspection required.	Every 2 years.	Official page
Saline	Rental certificate and inspection required.	Biennial (every 2 years).	Official page
Dexter	City materials reference a rental registration and inspection program.	City materials reference 2-year inspections; confirm current implementation and scheduling directly.	Official forms
Superior Township	All rental structures and units must be registered, inspected and certified under the program adopted in 2025.	Certificate is valid for 24 months; qualifying properties may earn a 12-month extension.	Official ordinance

Wayne County

Municipality	Program / scope	Cycle / key requirement	Source
Livonia	Rental license and Certificate of Compliance are required.	License renews annually or at title transfer; inspection/certificate requirements also apply.	Official guide
Westland	Residential rental registration, inspection and Certificate of Compliance required.	Certificate is valid for 3 years.	Official page
Dearborn Heights	Rental registration and certificate inspection required.	Update at change of tenant; confirm the certificate expiration with the Building Department.	Official forms
Canton Township	Rental registration and inspection required.	Program generally uses 2-year cycles; qualifying multifamily properties may use a 4-year checklist protocol.	Official page
Plymouth	A City rental-housing inspection program page exists, but the public page still describes inspections as on hold.	Confirm current program status and scheduling directly before relying on the page.	Official page
Northville	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, property-maintenance and private-association rules may still apply.	Official department
Taylor	Rental registration, inspection and Certificate of Compliance required.	Certificate is valid for 3 years.	Official FAQ
Dearborn	Non-owner-occupied rental property must be registered and receive a Certificate of Occupancy before listing.	Inspection every 3 years.	Official page
Detroit	Rental registration, inspection and a Certificate of Compliance are required; lead compliance may also apply.	Registration remains valid unless ownership changes; follow the expiration on the issued certificate.	Official page
Redford Township	Rental home registration and inspection required.	Confirm the current certificate expiration and renewal schedule directly.	Official page
Garden City	Rental registration, inspection and rental certificate required.	Certificate is valid for 3 years.	Official packet
Inkster	All rental properties must be registered, inspected and certified; furnace and carbon-monoxide testing are required.	Every 3 years.	Official page
Allen Park	Rental registration and inspection program.	Follow the expiration on the current inspection certificate; confirm the renewal cycle directly.	Official page
Lincoln Park	Rental registration, inspection and Certificate of Compliance required.	A Michigan responsible party within 100 miles is required; confirm the certificate cycle directly.	Official forms
Romulus	Rental registration and inspection required.	Certificate cycle ranges from 2 to 5 years based on the City's program.	Official form

Northern Michigan - Long-Term Rentals

Municipality	Program / scope	Cycle / key requirement	Source
Traverse City	The City publishes apartment and rooming-house rental inspection programs.	Initial inspection followed by biennial inspection; confirm whether the specific property type is covered.	Official fee schedule
Garfield Township	No routine municipality-wide long-term rental registry was identified. Tenants may request a property-maintenance inspection.	Complaint or tenant-request inspection; owner may be charged when violations are found.	Official page
East Bay Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official department
Acme Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official department
Long Lake Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official department
Peninsula Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official department
Elmwood Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official township page
Bingham Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official township page
Suttons Bay Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official township page
Leland Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official township page
Leelanau Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official township page
Glen Arbor Township	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building, septic and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official department
Village of Elk Rapids	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official department
Village of Northport	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official page
Frankfort	No municipality-wide long-term rental registration or periodic inspection program was identified.	General zoning, building and property-maintenance requirements still apply.	Official code page

Northern Michigan - Short-Term Rentals

Municipality	Program / scope	Cycle / key requirement	Source
Traverse City	Vacation-home rentals require a license; eligibility, caps and classification depend on zoning.	Annual license expires December 31. Confirm whether tourist-home or vacation-home rules apply.	Official page
Garfield Township	Short-term rental of a residential dwelling for fewer than 30 days is not allowed.	Lodging uses are limited to zoning districts where specifically permitted.	Official FAQ
Elmwood Township	Annual STR license required; the Township reported the license cap full as of January 29, 2026 and maintains a waitlist.	License expires December 31; renewals are accepted October 1-31.	Official page
Glen Arbor Township	No standalone township-wide STR licensing ordinance was located on the current ordinance page.	Confirm parcel zoning, land-use classification and any private-association rules before operating.	Official ordinances
Leland Township	Annual STR registration required, including a local contact able to respond within 45 minutes.	Renew annually and follow occupancy, parking and operational standards.	Official ordinance
Acme Township	STR license required; tourist-home and vacation-home eligibility depends on zoning.	Annual license expires December 31; separate caps apply by license type.	Official ordinances
East Bay Township	STR license required; township cap is 145.	Annual license. The Township states that new applications will not be accepted until March 2027.	Official page
Long Lake Township	Certificate required before advertising or operating; occupancy is tied to septic approval.	A local manager must be available 24/7; verify current renewal timing.	Official page
Peninsula Township	Short-term rentals under 30 days are prohibited in all zoning districts.	Rentals of 30 days or longer remain subject to general zoning and code requirements.	Official page
Bingham Township	Annual STR permit required; cap is 86 permits.	Township reported 7 permits available as of June 19, 2026; occupancy depends on septic approval.	Official page
Suttons Bay Township	Annual STR permit required in eligible residential districts; cap is 150.	Permits are first-come, first-served and are not transferable.	Official page
Leelanau Township	Annual STR permit required.	Occupancy is tied to Health Department/building records; no more than 15 guests over age 5.	Official page
Village of Elk Rapids	Annual STR license required; license availability is limited and a waitlist is maintained.	Renew during October and November; license number and approved occupancy must appear in advertising.	Official page
Village of Northport	STR registration and permit required; zoning or special-use review may also apply.	Confirm current license availability, occupancy and renewal requirements before advertising.	Official page
Frankfort	STR registration and permit required.	City materials allow 1-year, 2-year or 3-year permit terms; follow the issued permit expiration.	Official page