

**From:** [Barbara Ludlow](#)  
**To:** [Village of Empire Deputy Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Empire short term rentals  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2024 10:23:15 AM

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Hello,

Thank you, Council, for addressing Short Term Rentals in Empire. Although we are new residents of this Village, we moved here from another Michigan coastal resort community, Saugatuck, MI. In the 10 years we resided there, over 50% of the 900 person Village turned into STRs. This hallowed out our community, and meant that families could no longer afford to move there. School enrollment dropped and noise and trash became unbearable.

We fully acknowledge that short term rentals are an important lodging option in resort communities. We are passionate about ensuring that they are regulated. We have read the Village of Empire draft STR ordinance would like to see Empire adopt the following STR regulations:

- A percentage cap on number of STRs allowed - with current rental properties grandfathered in
- An annual registration with the registration number published on all advertisements
- **Regular (3-5 year) Fire inspections - safety, head count, guest allowance based on size of home.**
- A published local contact within 30 minutes to address Noise, Trash or boundary issues.
- A valid septic permit

Again, thank you for tackling this tough issue, we appreciate your hard work.

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