Rent a Shovel!

Did you know you’re required by law to shovel snow on the sidewalks around your home each morning? If your walkway isn’t clear by 9:00 a.m. of the next day following a snow fall, you can actually be charged!

Many students travel light and may not own snow shovels. If that sounds like you, the Neighborhood Ambassadors have you covered! You can rent a snow shovel from the ASUM Renter Center for the whole winter, absolutely free of charge.

To rent a shovel, visit [www.umt.edu/neighborhood](http://www.umt.edu/neighborhood), and click the “Free Snow Shovel Rentals” link on the sidebar.

Renting out a free shovel for the winter!

Enter Our Contest
FOR BEST HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Submit photos of your festive lights to [umrenters@gmail.com](mailto:umrenters@gmail.com) or send us a message on Facebook @umneighborhoodambassadors. We will add your photo to a poll on Facebook where all of our followers can vote. The winner will get a $25 gift card to Liquid Planet!

Please submit photos by December 18th
Guest Column:
Tourist Home Licensing FAQ’s
Missoula City-County Health Department

What is the point of a health license? Our job, at Missoula City-County Health Department (MCCHD), is to evaluate conditions in your tourist home that could affect the health of the traveling public. We look at general housekeeping, pest control, laundry practices, chemical storage areas, bathroom and kitchen safety concerns, garbage storage, drinking water and wastewater disposal. Licensing helps you comply with applicable regulations, and benefits both Montana's tourist industry, and your guests, by maintaining safe and healthy conditions.

What is a Tourist Home? A tourist home is a private home or condominium that is not occupied by an owner or manager and that is rented, leased, or furnished in its entirety to transient guests, daily or weekly.

Is a Tourist Home allowed in my neighborhood? That depends on several things. If your Tourist Home is within Missoula city limits, contact the city’s Development Services (406-552-6630). If your Tourist Home is outside of city limits, contact Missoula County Community and Planning Services (406-258-4642). Ensure a Tourist Home is allowed at your location before completing the health department plan review.

Do I need a health department license to operate a Tourist Home? Yes! The state of Montana requires Tourist Homes to go through local health department plan review, and then get an annual operating license.

How much does plan review cost? Plan review for a Tourist Home in Missoula County is $120. Additional fees may apply if water ($120), or wastewater ($55) review is necessary. This review is conducted by the Missoula City-County Health Department.

How much does a license cost? The annual state license fee for a single Tourist Home is $40 payable by check or money order to Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS). This check, for the first year of licensing, will be collected by MCCHD, once the plan review is approved, and a pre-operational inspection has been successfully completed.

Where can I get more information and application forms? The MCCHD plan review application can be found on Missoula County’s website: http://www.missoulacounty.us/home/showdocument?id=4885, or at the MCCHD offices 301 W. Alder St. Missoula, 2nd floor. The Administrative Rules of Montana, governing Tourist Homes, can be found at http://www.mtrules.org(ARMs 37.111.101-.135). The City of Missoula Tourist Home Ordinance and informational flyer, can be found at http://mt-missoula3.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/View/37058 and http://www.ci.missoula.mt.us/2076/Tourist-Home

Where do I submit my plan review application? Submit your completed plan review application, and fees, to the Environmental Health Department on the 2nd floor of 301 W. Alder Street, Missoula, MT 59802.

My Tourist Home is served by municipal sewer. Do I need to have my wastewater reviewed? A wastewater review is not required if you are on municipal sewer, but you may be required to show proof of your connection.

Will I have to upgrade my septic? We will evaluate whether your septic is adequately sized during the plan review process.

How often are Tourist Homes inspected? Inspections are required before licensing and upon complaint. We’ll also do a routine inspection about once every 3 years.

What is involved in a Tourist Home inspection? There are a number of public health issues addressed, including but not limited to:

- Is the home clean?
- Is there any sign of pest infestation (bed bugs, rodents, etc.), past or present?
- Where, when, and how is the laundry washed, dried and stored?
- Where, when, and how are the dishes washed and sanitized?
- When and how are kitchens and bathrooms cleaned and sanitized?
- Is the water coming out of the tap at least 100 °F, but not over 120°F?
- Is the wastewater system (sewer or septic) functioning properly?
- Is the water supply clean and safe?