

From: [Gary Helfrich](#)
To: [Alisa Sanders](#)
Subject: FW: Adding and Amending the Vacation Rental Exclusion and Cap(X) combining Zones
Date: Wednesday, March 15, 2023 11:02:00 AM

From: acmwc@comcast.net <acmwc@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, March 14, 2023 4:37 PM
To: Gary Helfrich <Gary.Helfrich@sonoma-county.org>
Subject: Adding and Amending the Vacation Rental Exclusion and Cap(X) combining Zones

EXTERNAL

Dear Mr. Helfrich, Project Planner,

I strongly support the most severe restrictions on the number of vacation rentals allowed in a neighborhood.

I have lived next to a vacation rental for over 15 years. It has been and continues to be a very negative experience.

I would like to describe the main issues of my experience.

1. The renters have no consideration that people in the neighborhood must get up early to go to work, even on holidays and weekends.

Sound travels very far in a semi-rural area like my neighborhood.

Typically the drinking and partying in the hot tub starts the moment renters arrive. The yelling and loud drunken laughter lasts through the night.

The renters are passed out during the day until one gets up, hung over, and tries to back up the very steep driveway in order to get more alcohol.

The driveway is my property. Even though they are told not to use it, they continue to disregard the instructions. The driver often can not manage to move the car and has to call a tow truck.

2. The renters are afraid of the dark and quiet. They usually turn on every light in the house and leave all the lights on all night and day. It is like living next to a Las Vegas Casino.

3. When the renters finally leave, there is trash everywhere on my property. Cigarette butts, beer cans, bottles of alcohol, paper, and plastic which I clean up. The renters do not know the difference between the recycle bin and the garbage bin.

For example, one time I found dirty diapers and left over pizza in the recycle bin. I check the bins after every renter leaves in order to have the collection done correctly.

4. The renters are allowed to bring their dogs but do not clean up after the dogs. I have to clean up the dog poop on my property.

5. The house does not get an adequate cleaning between renters. Typically the renter leaves in the morning, the cleaner comes in the early afternoon, and the next renters arrive that same late afternoon.

6. I have not been able to have family or friends visit me on holidays or weekends because I never know what kind of people will be renting the house. Rather than enjoy a quiet peaceful country day, evening, or night, my guests would be kept up all night and hear only yelling and screaming. I cannot escape the noise and disruptive behavior. At one point I also had a vacation rental above me. I was surrounded. Luckily that rental is now a home and not being rented out anymore.

Any limits and restrictions on the number of vacation rentals allowed in the neighborhood will be greatly appreciated. People are selling their homes to buyers who have no intention of being part of the community. Two more homes in my neighborhood are probably going to be vacation rentals which will mean that everyone will be impacted to some extent. We must get some control over this scourge.

Thank you,

Linda Petrulias
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