

**From:** [Gary Helfrich](#)  
**To:** [Alisa Sanders](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Sonoma County Vacation Rental Ordinance  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:55:20 AM

---

**From:** Sheila O'Neill <sheilatara@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 14, 2023 11:05 AM  
**To:** Gary Helfrich <Gary.Helfrich@sonoma-county.org>  
**Subject:** Sonoma County Vacation Rental Ordinance

## **EXTERNAL**

Gary,

Please share with the Sonoma County Planning Commission. Thank you for all your work on this important issue.

We strongly support staff's recommendation to apply the Vacation Rental Exclusion (X) to Hughes Chicken Colony, as well as the other neighborhoods.

Our neighborhood has become a turnstile of large groups of partiers. The turnover every 2 or so days brings a fresh crowd of enthusiastic, loud and messy celebrants. We have lost neighbors, and the sense of community. The vacationers are so excited to see our horses, and want to visit them and tell us all they know about horses, and how many times they have ridden. They want to pet and feed our horses. I have chased bachelorrettes in maxi dresses and sandles out of our pastures. I appreciate their interest. But, we don't wish to live in a zoo and be entertainment for visitors. We live here so that we can raise and train horses safely in an agricultural environment.

Additionally, we sincerely wish additional measures will be taken for the existing vacation rentals as follows;

Maximum occupancy to be 2 people per bedroom. No additional occupancy for any reason, including children. This will reduce the partiers who cram in as many occupants as possible.

Maximum rental days to be 50% of the year. This will ensure that the property owners become part of the community. Or perhaps they will sell and let the property become occupied by someone who does want to be part of the community. The 4 bedroom home next to us would be ideal for multigenerational living and children. This would be greatly preferred to the 10 adults and additional children rotating through every few days.

Imagine if all these vacation homes were primary homes instead. Perhaps our schools would have enough students. There would be so much more housing available for our community members.

Sincerely,

Sheila O'Neill & Hugh White  
2533 Acacia Avenue  
Sonoma CA 95476  
Hughes Chicken Colony

THIS EMAIL ORIGINATED OUTSIDE OF THE SONOMA COUNTY EMAIL SYSTEM.

**Warning:** If you don't know this email sender or the email is unexpected, **do not** click any web links, attachments, and **never** give out your user ID or password.