

Licensing Guide for a Bed & Breakfast



Do I need a license to rent out my home?

Yes, a license is required. **Wisconsin ATCP 73.03 Definitions.** (3) "Bed and breakfast establishment" means any place of lodging that provides 8 or fewer rooms for rent to no more than a total of 20 tourists or other transients for more than 10 nights in a 12-month period, is the owner's personal residence, is occupied by the owner at the time of rental, and in which the only meal served to guests is breakfast.

73.04 Licenses. (1) LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) No bed and breakfast establishment may be opened to the public until the operator of the bed and breakfast establishment has obtained a license from the department

Follow these steps to work towards obtaining a lodging license:

1. **TOWN:** Contact the Township, Village, or City for any local requirements regarding conditional use or zoning permits that may be required.
2. **COUNTY ZONING:** Contact Rusk County Land Conservation & Development at 715-532-2156 to determine if a land use permit must be submitted.
3. **WELL/WATER TESTING:** If a private well is present, the well must be constructed, maintained and operated according to NR812. The water must also be tested annually for coliform and nitrates. (This will be evaluated during your annual health inspection.)
4. **PUBLIC HEALTH:** Contact our Environmental Health Specialist, at (715) 532-2299 for an onsite inspection based on the scope of rules in ATCP 73. Provide a copy of your water sample results, complete the lodging license application and pay the required license fees.
5. **OPEN:** Start to rent out your home as a Bed and Breakfast.

Lodging questions please contact: Rusk County Public Health Department at (715) 532-2299