

Columbia County Plan to Reopen Short-Term Vacation Rentals

Per Governor DeSantis' request, Columbia County has outlined the following recommendations to reopen short-term vacation rentals on Friday, May 22, in a thoughtful and safe method to protect citizens and visitors.

- Vacation rental reservations from areas identified by Governor DeSantis as high-risk, through Executive Orders, are prohibited. (<https://www.flgov.com/covid-19-executive-orders/>)
- Rental Management should post signage and encourage CDC social distancing recommendations such as, request guests maintain a safe distance (at least 6 feet) and not to gather in groups of larger than 10 people. CDC guidelines can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>
- Request guest clean high-touch surfaces daily in household common areas (e.g. tables, hard-backed chairs, doorknobs, light switches, phones, tablets, touch screens, remote controls, sinks, and faucets) daily.
- Vacation rental properties should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between guests and follow CDC sanitation guidelines. VRMA/VRHP have compiled these recommendations for vacation rentals which can be found at <https://www.vrma.org/page/vrhp/vrma-cleaning-guidelines-for-covid-19>.
- Remote check-ins should be made available when possible to cut down on face-to-face interactions.
- Pool furniture should be spaced to encourage social distancing (6ft apart).
- Pool furniture should be disinfected between each use.
- Extra throw blankets, decorative pillows or other soft objects should be put away until further notice.
- This plan will be reviewed at least bi-weekly and updated, as necessary.