



## For Short-term Renters

### Your Health and Safety



Visiting Maine's remote areas is a unique experience and comes with unique challenges. When renting in a remote area, you should familiarize yourself with how to contact emergency services and the steps that property owners have taken to ensure your health and safety.

- Emergency Services: Your rental property should have the E911 address prominently displayed on the outside of the property so that emergency services can quickly locate the dwelling. The E911 address should also be available to you inside the dwelling so you can quickly get ahold of the appropriate entity.

The owner/manager of your property should have numbers for emergency services prominently displayed. If you don't have telephone or cellular service at the rental property, you should determine where the nearest location with service is. You should also familiarize yourself with the route to the nearest main road in case you need to leave quickly or evacuate.



- Fire Safety: Smoke detectors are required by [Maine State law](#) in family dwellings. Smoke alarms should at least be placed in every bedroom and just outside bedroom areas. If this is not the case, the owner of the property and rental platform you used to book the property should be notified. You should note where the fire extinguishers are located, too. Also see the [FEMA fire safety flyer for short-term rentals](#).



If you are planning a campfire, leave firewood at home and [buy it where you burn it!](#) Be sure to apply for the [proper permits](#) and check to make sure they are legal at the rental. Visit the [Maine Forest Service Forest Protection webpage](#) for more information about campfires.



- Firearms: Maine is a Constitutional Carry state, and visitors may see people with open carry weapons. Be aware of [Maine's gun laws](#) and contact [law enforcement](#) if you have questions or concerns.

- Health Concerns: For rodent infestations, mold, or other health concerns, contact the appropriate [Public Health District of the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#).
- Drinking Water Safety: Many homes in Maine have private wells. Maine CDC recommends that well water be tested once a year for bacteria and every five years for arsenic, fluoride, uranium, radon, lead, and manganese. Regular well testing isn't currently a requirement in Maine. If you're concerned about well safety, you can ask the owner/manager for this information if it is not available at the rental.
- Certified Safe Short-Term Rentals: Safety certification for short-term rentals is possible through private companies. If safety is a concern for you, please feel free to reach out to the owner or manager of the property you are renting to check for safety certification. Please also be aware that certification might not be comprehensive. For example, well water testing may not be included in certification procedures.
- Septic Use and Environmental Safety: Septic systems are designed for human waste and toilet paper. No other materials, such as baby wipes, feminine products, paper towels, pharmaceuticals, or household cleaner, should be flushed down the toilet. For more information, see [septic system guidance from the US Environmental Protection Agency](#).



## **Residential Campsites and Waste**

Recreational vehicles with onboard holding tanks for waste must dump waste at designated dump sites. Many campgrounds allow dumping for free if you are a registered guest or for a small fee if you are not a registered guest. The Sanidumps website provides a comprehensive list of all dump sites in Maine, which allows you to plan where to dump your holding tank before starting your trip.

*For more information about dump stations near your STR:*

[Sanidumps.com Dump Station Map for Maine](#)

