

Sophia Cassam

From: Sandy Playa <sandyplaya@rockisland.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 10:03 AM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: Vacation rentals need constant regulation and supervision

[You don't often get email from sandyplaya@rockisland.com. Learn why this is important at <https://aka.ms/LearnAboutSenderIdentification>.]

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello there - today you have the power to preserve our island community in what the restoration pros call "a state of arrested decay"

I have been legally renting out visitor accommodations for 30 years. My permit required an onsite owner/manager at all times. This is not a new idea. Did I mention 30 years??? this is not a new concept.

I am retiring this year, so you will have one more permit to add to the pool... I just hope it is given to a responsible resident!

I am in favor of:

requiring All transient rentals to have an onsite (not just on island) manager at all times.

capping the # of vacation rentals to those currently and legally in operation.

limiting the permits for no longer than 2 years., with an option to renew under any regulations that have been added/deleted.

rigorously enforcing the rules - with a first offense penalty of a significant financial fine - the equivalent of one weeks advertised rate or \$5000 - whichever is higher - and losing the permit on the second offense.

I have often been the lone voice in the Orcas Island lodging community promoting quality over quantity for both visitors and residents. Instead, San Juan County has been chanting "heads in beds!" for most of the 30 years I have been in business . The best SJIVB has come up with to promote responsible tourism has been a brochure and an ad.

The opportunity to repair some of the damage created by over tourism is yours now. Please - do the right thing this time around.

Thanks.

Sandy Playa
Spring Bay on Orcas Island

