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**Deb Graber**

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 11:09 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

*Wendy Hoeksema*  
Whitewater Township Clerk  
Ph (231)267-5141 ext 24  
Fax(231)267-9020  
5777 Vinton Rd  
PO Box 159  
Williamsburg MI 49690  
[clerk@whitewatertownship.org](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownship.org)  
**\*NOTE\***new address of [clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov)

**From:** Michael Hill <~~mskhill1@hotmail.com~~>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 10:36 AM  
**To:** Wendy <[clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov)>  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hello,

I am writing to comment in support of the upcoming consideration of allowing responsible Short Term Rentals in Whitewater Township. My family has had a positive experience short term rentals in this community. I strongly believe that the opportunity to rent responsibly, within guidelines, is good for the community.

Sincerely,  
Michael Hill  
Sent from my iPhone

## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 11:09 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

### *Wendy Hoeksema*

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**From:** Chelsea Seekell <~~chelsea.seekell@yahoo.com~~>

**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 10:26 AM

**To:** Randy <trustee01@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>; Wendy <clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>

**Subject:** SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hello,

I am writing to comment in support of the upcoming consideration of allowing responsible Short Term Rentals in Whitewater Township. My family has had a positive experience at an Airbnb here with many memories made and would be devastated to see it go. I strongly believe that the opportunity to rent responsibly, within guidelines, is good for the community.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Hill

## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:29 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Doesn't look like you got this one

### *Wendy Hoeksema*

Whitewater Township Clerk

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**From:** Jonathan Tricoche-Melton <~~jonathan.tricoche-melton@gmail.com~~>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 23, 2025 9:16 AM  
**To:** Randy <trustee01@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>; Wendy <clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hi,

I am writing to comment in support of the upcoming consideration of allowing responsible Short Term Rentals in Whitewater Township. My wife and I love the respite that short term rentals offer us to get away from our busy lives, reconnect, and make new memories as a family. We would be extremely heartbroken if this was no longer accessible to us. I strongly believe that the opportunity to rent responsibly, within guidelines, is good for the community.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Jonathan

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Jonathan Tricoche-Melton

~~jonathan.tricoche-melton@gmail.com~~

## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:30 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Cc:** Randy  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Wendy Hoeksema  
Whitewater Township Clerk  
Ph (231)267-5141 ext 24  
Fax(231)267-9020  
5777 Vinton Rd  
PO Box 159  
Williamsburg MI 49690  
clerk@whitewatertownship.org  
\*NOTE\*new address of clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Samantha Highfield <shighfield26@gmail.com>  
Sent: Saturday, August 23, 2025 9:38 AM  
To: Wendy <clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>  
Subject: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hello,

I am writing to comment in support of the upcoming consideration of allowing responsible Short Term Rentals in Whitewater Township.

Many seasons and years our family has been enjoying time in northern Michigan thanks to this opportunity to rent small cabins and dwellings. Being able to create these memories with my kids and family and friends has deepened our love for this area and community. I strongly believe that the opportunity to rent responsibly, within guidelines, is good for the community.

Sincerely,  
Samantha Highfield

## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:30 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

### *Wendy Hoeksema*

Whitewater Township Clerk

Ph (231)267-5141 ext 24

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Williamsburg MI 49690

[clerk@whitewatertownship.org](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownship.org)

**\*NOTE\***new address of [clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov)

**From:** Caton Vance <~~caton@vanceandcompany.com~~>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 23, 2025 10:27 AM  
**To:** Randy <trustee01@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>; Wendy <clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Dear Members of the Planning Commission/Board of Trustees,

I am writing in support of allowing responsible Short-Term Rentals (STRs) in Whitewater Township. My family has had a positive experience, gathering with friends and being able to go up north for a weekend or a week away in a peaceful, well-managed place, thanks to pillars of our community who have done this the right way.

I believe the path forward is clear rules and real accountability. Common-sense guidelines can protect neighborhood character while letting good operators contribute value:

- Registration and permits, plus a 24/7 local contact
- Safety basics (working smoke and CO detectors, egress), parking and trash plans
- Occupancy limits and quiet hours
- Remittance of applicable taxes and fees to fund enforcement
- Escalating penalties and suspension for repeat nuisances

This approach rewards the neighbors who do it right and gives the Township effective tools for the rare cases that do not. It also keeps family travel dollars in our community, supporting local shops, restaurants, and seasonal jobs, without sacrificing the peace and safety we all want.

Please vote to allow responsible STRs with clear guidelines and strong enforcement.

Respectfully,

**CATON VANCE**

Crafting Creative Marketing Journeys with a Human Touch



## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:31 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

### Wendy Hoeksema

Whitewater Township Clerk

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**From:** Randy Johnson <~~r1981johnson@gmail.com~~>  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 23, 2025 1:13 PM  
**To:** Randy <trustee01@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>  
**Cc:** Wendy <clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hello ~

The purpose of this email is to voice my support of **responsible** short-term rentals in Whitewater Township. My family and I have had nothing but a positive experience in having the opportunity to rent in such a beautiful part of Michigan, truly Pure Michigan at its finest. The tranquility and interaction with nature at a slower pace has left its imprint as we've made lasting memories in at Island Lake.

Thank you so much for considering to continue to allow for the ongoing short-term rental environment which enhances individual, family, & community life.

~ Linda Johnson  
Hudsonville, MI

## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:32 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

### Wendy Hoeksema

Whitewater Township Clerk

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Fax(231)267-9020

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PO Box 159

Williamsburg MI 49690

[clerk@whitewatertownship.org](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownship.org)

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**From:** Grant Floering <[grantfloering@gmail.com](mailto:grantfloering@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:15 AM  
**To:** Randy <[trustee01@whitewatertownshipmi.gov](mailto:trustee01@whitewatertownshipmi.gov)>; Wendy <[clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov](mailto:clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov)>  
**Subject:** SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hello,

I am writing to express my support for the continued allowance of responsibly managed Short-Term Rentals (STRs) in Whitewater Township.

Our family has enjoyed visiting the area and staying at a friend's STR cottage. These experiences have allowed our children to connect with the natural beauty of northern Michigan and the welcoming spirit of its communities. For many families, STRs provide the only affordable and accessible option for enjoying this part of the state, making them an important gateway for fostering appreciation of the region's natural environment and local culture.

I strongly believe that the solution is not to eliminate STRs entirely, but rather to ensure they are operated responsibly under clear and enforceable guidelines. Thoughtful policies can balance the interests of year-round residents, property owners, and visitors, while protecting the integrity and character of the township.

One practical step forward would be to implement a modest, dedicated tax or fee on STR operations. Revenue generated could directly benefit the township through the following.

Maintaining infrastructure: improving and repairing local roads, utilities, and public facilities.

Preserving natural assets: supporting trail maintenance, water quality protections, and land conservation.

Enhancing community services: providing resources for safety, enforcement, and township programs.

Such a policy ensures that those benefiting from STRs also contribute back to the township, creating a sustainable model where tourism supports; rather than strains, the community. This approach has proven successful in many Michigan communities and beyond.

Ultimately, STRs, when properly regulated, can coexist with long-term residents, contribute meaningfully to the local economy, and uphold the environmental and cultural values that make Whitewater Township special. I encourage the township to pursue a balanced policy that preserves these opportunities while protecting the quality of life for all who call this place home.

Regards,

- Grant

## Deb Graber

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**From:** Wendy  
**Sent:** Monday, August 25, 2025 9:34 AM  
**To:** Deb Graber  
**Cc:** Randy  
**Subject:** FW: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Randy-Any e-mails that have been sent to just you and I - I have forwarded to Deb as of this point from Monday 9:30 AM

Wendy Hoeksema  
Whitewater Township Clerk  
Ph (231)267-5141 ext 24  
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5777 Vinton Rd  
PO Box 159  
Williamsburg MI 49690  
clerk@whitewatertownship.org  
\*NOTE\*new address of clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Steven Veltkamp <~~stevevelt@gmail.com~~>  
Sent: Monday, August 25, 2025 9:15 AM  
To: Wendy <clerk@whitewatertownshipmi.gov>  
Subject: SUPPORT for Proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendment 2025-03

Hello,

I'm sending this email in full support of allowing responsible short term rentals in whitewater township. For many years I have used rentals in the area, and also have been a part of both sides of the process. I truly believe it's good for the overall community and economy in the area.

Regards,