



Community Development

125 NW Chehalis Avenue
Chehalis WA 98532

Date: August 14, 2026

To: Lewis County Board of County Commissioners

From: Mindy Brooks, Director of Community Development

Cc: Tara Snelson, Planner (STR Lead)
Doyle Sanford, Building Official
Kirsten Wecker, Environmental Health Manager

RE: Short Term Rental Update

BACKGROUND

On September 23, 2025 the BOCC passed [Chapter 17.105, Short Term Rentals, LCC](#) to become effective on January 1, 2026. All owners or operators of Short Term Rentals (STRs), also called Airbnb's, are required to obtain a permit through Lewis County Community Development.

Also in 2026, the Lewis County Office of the Assessor selected Deckard Technologies, platform <https://rentalscape.deckard.technology>, to provide current information regarding STRs in Lewis County. Community Development is utilizing this data to understand STRs distribution and neighborhood concentration across the County, and to inform code compliance if necessary.

The first list of STRs was provided to Lewis County on July 7, 2026.

SUMMARY OF STR DATA

The data is for unincorporated Lewis County, which includes unincorporated Urban Growth Areas. STRs located within incorporated cities is not included in this data. The exclusion of city data is because the County's permitting requirements do not apply within incorporated cities.

There are 504 STRs in unincorporated Lewis County, see Table 1. Of those, as of June 30, 2026, 173 obtained a permit from Lewis County and 331 had not. STR owners have until December 31, 2026 to do so. The highest concentration of STRs is in Packwood (including the Packwood UGA, High Valley, Timberline) with a total of 280 STRs and makes up 56% of the total STRs in unincorporated Lewis County. The second highest concentration is Ashford, at 26%. The remaining 18% are scattered across the County. See Table 1.

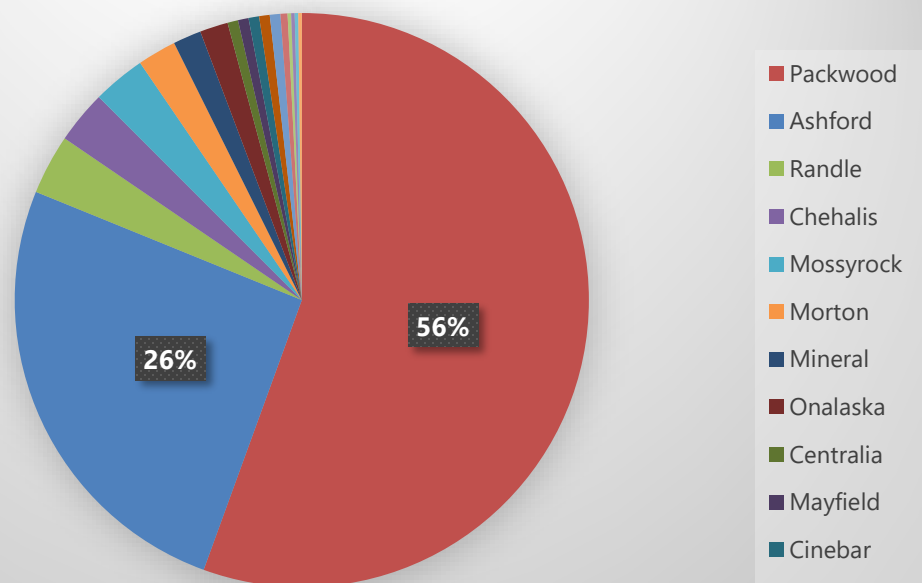
Table 1: Short Term Rentals in Unincorporated Lewis County (7/7/26)

	Permitted	Unpermitted	Total	% of Total
Ashford	50	79	129	26%
Centralia*	0	3	3	1%
Chehalis*	2	13	15	3%
Cinebar	0	3	3	1%
Glenoma	1	0	1	0%
Mayfield	0	3	3	1%
Mineral	1	7	8	2%
Morton*	4	7	11	2%
Mossyrock*	1	14	15	3%
Napavine*	1	0	1	0%
Onalaska	1	7	8	2%
Packwood**	110	170	280	56%
Randle	2	15	17	3%
Salkum	0	1	1	0%
Silver Creek	0	3	3	1%
Toledo*	0	3	3	1%
Vader*	0	2	2	0%
Winlock*	0	1	1	0%
TOTAL	173	331	504	100%

*Cities listed include only the unincorporated UGA; does not include STRS within city limits.

**Packwood includes Packwood UGA, High Valley, Timberline and surrounding neighborhoods.

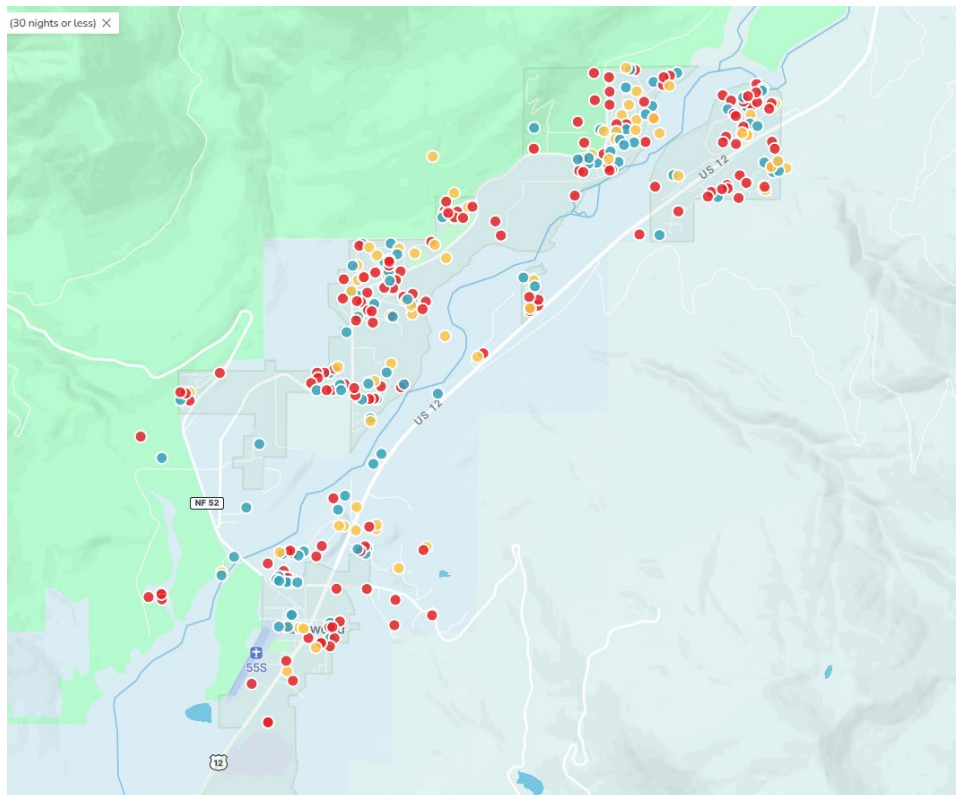
Short Term Rentals Unincorporated Lewis County, WA



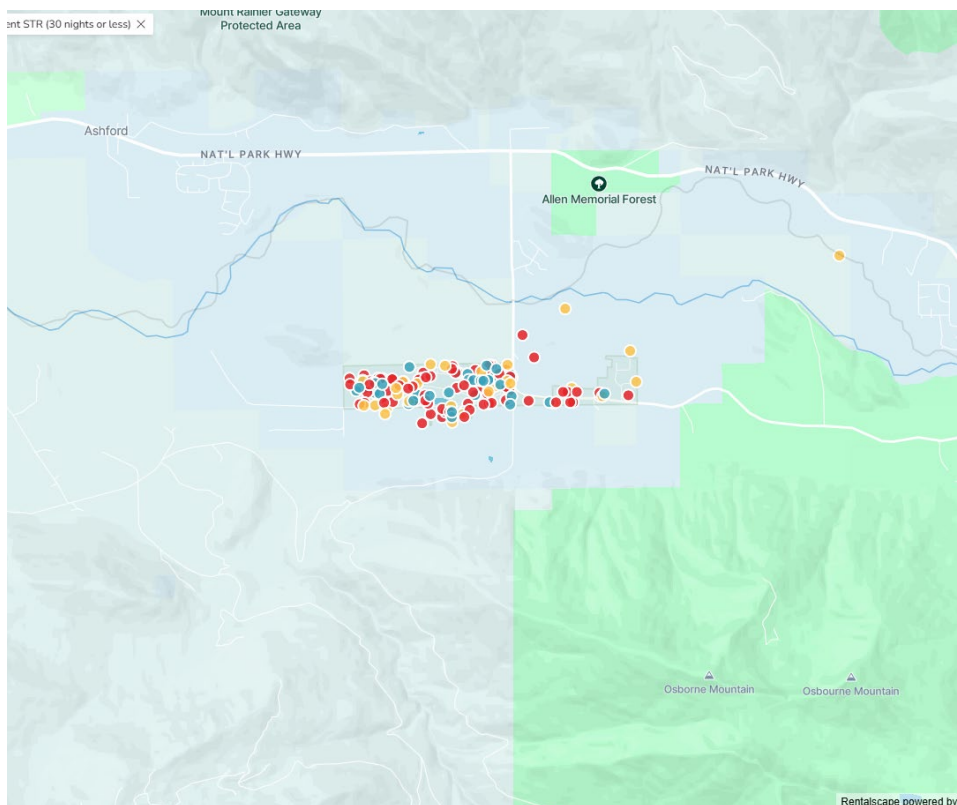
Source: Deckard Technologies

Cities listed include only the unincorporated UGA associated with each city; not including STRs located in city limits.

Packwood includes the UGA, High Valley, Timberline and surrounding neighborhoods.



Map 1: Packwood and Surrounding Neighborhoods
(Source: [Rentalscape](#))



Map 2: Ashford Paradise Estates
(Source: [Rentalscape](#))

STR Advisory Committee

As part of the adoption of STR requirements, the BOCC formed the Short Term Rental Advisory Group (STRAG). The make up of the STRAG is available on the webpage at <https://lewiscountywa.gov/departments/community-development/boards-commissions/short-term-rental-advisory-group/> . There are currently two open positions – one representing a full time resident of Lewis County who does not own or operate a STR and one representing a fire district in Lewis County. Anyone interested in these positions should contact the BOCC Clerk at Rieva.Lester@lewiscountywa.gov

The STRAG provides advice to the Lewis County Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners on STR matters including analyzing data collected through STR permits, evaluating the relationship between STRs and residential housing, recommending good neighbor guidelines, and recommending future regulations for STRs, as appropriate.

All STRAG meetings are open to the public, and the public is encouraged to communicate with the members. The public is invited to participate in person or via Zoom. Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of March, June, September and December at [location to be determined]. The Zoom link is found on the Community Development Calendar <https://lewiscountywa.gov/departments/community-development/events/> . Click on the specific meeting date to view the meeting information.