Affordable-Housing Demand Skyrockets in Response to Pandemic Page 4



Can a Landlord Evict Tenants Due to Damage to the Rental?

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Published in association with Multifamily NW and Rental Housing Alliance Oregon



4 Steps to Help Extend the Life of Your Carpet

KEEP

Flooring experts believe carpets should be changed every seven years, but not many carpets make it to that timeline, especially in a rental home. Here are some suggestions on how to make carpet last longer in your rentals.

From all manner of trampling, dust, children and pet accidents, carpet is arguably the most heavily used item in the home and requires frequent replacing.

If you hope to keep your rental-home carpeting for more than a few years, here are some steps that will make rental-home carpet last longer and help keep your expensive carpeting looking new.

While carpet is not built to last forever, you can extend its lifespan by a couple of years by understanding the common causes of carpet destruction.

 Lack of consistent cleaning: In most cases, carpet depreciation is usually a result of a lack of consistent vacuuming, or allowing liquid stains to soak in.

See '4 Steps' on Page 8

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How 2020 Can Positively Affect Your Assets in the Coming Year

By David Pickron

As an early adopter of new technology, I was so excited when MapQuest became mainstream in the early 2000s. After having worked as a process server for about 10 years at thet time, I knew my way around my home city of Phoenix fairly well. But with this new technology I felt that I could work faster and smarter than anyone else out there. I began relying on the directions provided by this service, setting aside my hard-earned knowledge of a growing metropolis. Like anyone who has relied wholly on a mapping software, I soon found myself becoming an expert "U-turner," as I was often offcourse.

Off-course may be the perfect term to sum up 2020. But like any challenging circumstance, it does give us the time to pause and reflect on what we learned and how that will serve as a guide moving forward.

As a serious investor, I spend a good part of my end-of-year review with my wife (who runs our investments) analyzing our current situation and then



creating a plan for the next year.

Below are two of the key areas that we analyze annually and recommend focusing on as you look to a new year and new opportunities.

Acquire, Sell, or Hold Steady

If there were ever a year where we

may have felt like throwing our hands in the air and selling everything, 2020 fits the bill: COVID-19, the loss of income and resulting inability for some of our renters to pay, and eventually an eviction moratorium mandate from the federal government.

Hard times call for hard decisions. Your analysis in this area must involve **See 'How' on Page 5**



John DiLorenzo, attorney

Portland Relocation Ordinance to Get Supreme Court Review

RENTAL HOUSING JOURNAL

The Oregon Supreme Court has granted review of the Owen decision, which relates to landlords' appeal to invalidate the Portland Relocation Ordinance, according to attorney John DiLorenzo.

Portland landlords had appealed to the Oregon Supreme Court after losing the appeal of the ordinance in the Oregon Court of Appeals. "They are not limiting argument to any particular issue, so I assume it means each of the arguments we made in the petition will be in play in the Supreme Court," DiLorenzo said.

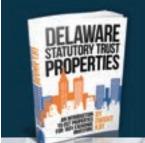
"Winning on any of those arguments would result in invalidating the Relocation Ordinance and possibly other city ordinances," he said.

The landlords argue the city ordinance is in

See 'Oregon' on Page 4



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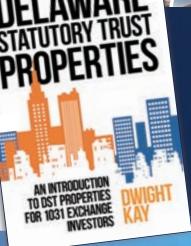
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How to Build a Diversified Real Estate Investment Portfolio

Having a diversified commercial and multifamily real estate portfolio is important to potentially reduce risk and create multiple opportunities for potential income and appreciation. Diversification is even more important in tumultuous times like these. Here's a look at how to build a diverse real estate investment portfolio.

By DWIGHT KAY, FOUNDER AND CEO, KAY PROPERTIES & INVESTMENTS, LLC

Recent survey research by National Real Estate Investor magazine indicates that nearly 60% of high-net-worth investors are expected to increase their allocation to investment real estate in the next 12 months. Millions of Americans invest in alternative assets, including real estate. It's an important step towards diversifying a portfolio with investments that don't necessarily correlate with the stock or bond markets.

Once you decide to invest in real estate, the challenge is how to build a diverse portfolio.

Buying a property outright and actively managing it yourself is one way to participate in the market, but that typically requires a substantial initial investment — often hundreds of thousands of dollars to be paid at once. A downside of this approach is that you put all your eggs in one basket.

Owning and managing real estate yourself also means dealing with the three T's: toilets, tenants and trash. If you have the time, and dealing with all that appeals to you, it may be the way to go. Alternatively, you can invest alongside others in a diverse basket of properties. Diversification is even more important now with the pandemic and the additional risk it creates as the looming fear of further economic distress continues to cause concern.

Here are five tips to build a diverse real estate investment portfolio that has the potential to generate income and appreciation, as well as potentially withstand the shock of events, including recessionary downturns and, potentially, extraordinary occurrences like the pandemic and future recessions or even depressions. Please remember: Diversification does not guarantee profits or protection against losses.

5 TIPS TO BUILD A DIVERSE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO

1. DIVERSIFY BY ASSET TYPE

Investors should diversify their real estate portfolios by asset type to avoid the risk of over-concentration in one particular category of property — same as you would avoid over-concentration in any one stock. Rather, invest capital across asset types, such as industrial, multifamily housing, triple-net-leased retail, medical office and self-storage.

2. DIVERSIFY BY GEOGRAPHY

Similarly, investors should diversify their real estate portfolios across geography to avoid the risk of over-concentration in a particular local or regional market.

3. AVOID HIGH-RISK ASSET TYPES

There is risk in all real estate investments, but some asset types have demonstrated that they are particularly risky, and are thus best avoided by those looking to reduce downside potential. These include hotels and lodging properties, senior housing in all its forms, and real estate used in the production of oil and gas.

Hospitality, for example, has been hit hard by all three recessions since 2000, including the 2001 recession,

the Great Recession of 2008-2009 and the current recession related to COVID-19. In all three cases, the standard industry measure of hotel performance (RevPAR, or revenue per available hotel room), declined precipitously. Most recently, Marriott recorded its largest loss ever for the June 2020 quarter, reported The Wall Street Journal in August.

Senior care is another sore spot, which the pandemic has demonstrated once again. First, the population themselves often is at risk, literally. Second, operators of senior care facilities, whether residential housing, long-term care facilities or nursing homes, are subject to all manner of regulations that increase the risk associated with property operational performance.

Finally, oil and gas industry properties have proved to be as subject to volatility over the years as the industry they support. Just think about it: An oil well may or may not produce as expected; thus, the underlying real estate asset is particularly vulnerable to speculative risk. Stay clear if you can!

4. Consider the range of investing options

Unless you want to actively manage your investment properties and embrace the three T's, passive real estate invests can be the way to go. There are a range of options to choose from, including Delaware Statutory Trusts (DSTs), Tenants-in-Common (TIC) properties and private equity funds, such as Qualified Opportunity Zone Funds.

A Delaware Statutory Trust is an entity used to hold title to investments, such as income-producing real estate. Most types of real estate can be owned in a DST, including industrial, multifamily, office and retail properties. Often, the properties are institutional quality similar to those owned by an insurance company or pension fund, such as a 500-unit Class A multifamily apartment community or a 50,000-square-foot industrial distribution facility subject to a 10- to 20-year lease with a Fortune 500 logistics and shipping company. The asset manager takes care of the property day to day and handles all investor reporting and monthly distributions.

A TIC structure is another way to co-invest in real estate. With a TIC, you own a fractional interest in the property and receive a pro rata portion of the potential income and appreciation of the real estate. As a TIC investor you will typically be given the opportunity to vote on major issues at the property, such as whether to sign a new lease, refinance the mortgage and sell the property.

Although TIC investments and DSTs have their nuances and differences, they often will hold title to the same types of property. While the DST is generally considered the more passive investment vehicle, there are some circumstances in which a TIC is desirable, including if the investors wish to utilize a cash-out refinance after owning the TIC investment for a few years in order to get some of their equity back, which can be invested in other assets.

Qualified Opportunity Zone Funds, another option, offer benefits including tax deferral and elimination that many investors nationwide have utilized. A fund of this type can invest in real property or operating businesses within an Opportunity Zone, typically a geographic area in the U.S. that has been so designated because it may be underserved or neglected. As such, there may be a higher level of investment risk. Also, the time horizon of the fund may be as long as 10 years, which means tying up your capital for that length of time in an illiquid fund.

5. REMEMBER THE TAX BENEFITS OF REAL ESTATE INVESTING

Real estate is arguably one of the most tax-advantaged investment classes for U.S investors. Depreciation deductions are available to all investors, and any real estate investment losses may be deductible against other income, which could potentially reduce your tax bill. Additionally, direct real estate investments — including Delaware Statutory Trusts and Tenants-in-Common properties — qualify for like-kind exchange treatment, otherwise known as a 1031 exchange, which can save investors approximately 40% on their tax bills when there are net gains on property sales.

A SAMPLE BASKET OF DIVERSE REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS

What might a diverse basket of real estate investments look like? Here's one example:

Mary Smith decides to invest \$500,000 into commercial and multifamily real estate with the potential for income and appreciation. She makes five investments, allocating her funds equally among these assets:

- \$100,000 into an industrial distribution facility with a long-term net lease to a company like Amazon, FedEx or Frito Lay
- \$100,000 into a medical dialysis center with a long-term net lease to a company, such as Fresenius or DaVita
- \$100,000 into a multifamily apartment community with 300 units in the Southeast
- \$100,000 into a self-storage facility in the Midwest
- \$100,000 into a debt-free multifamily property with 50 units in Texas

Net-net, Ms. Smith has diversified her portfolio by both asset type and geography. She has avoided more cyclical and highly volatile asset classes, including senior housing and long-term care, hotels and oil and gas. She has made passive investments, leaving day-to-day management of the properties to industry professionals. And she has consulted with her accountant and attorney about the tax advantages of real estate investing, including 1031 exchanges.

She is well positioned for the uncertainty of the future and is aware that all real estate investments have risks, and that income and appreciation are never guaranteed. Even diversification, while desirable, does not guarantee profit or protect against losses, but it can potentially reduce risk and create diverse potential income streams and opportunities for appreciation.

Dwight Kay is founder and CEO of Kay Properties and Investments, LLC, which operates a 1031 exchange property marketplace at www.kpi1031.com.

About Kay Properties and www.kpi1031.com

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Affordable-Housing Demand Skyrockets in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic

By Matthew Davies PRESIDENT, HARMONY COMMUNITIES

The affordable housing industry is in dire straits. Record-high costs for construction materials coupled with labor shortages have hampered the development of new affordable housing communities. Yet the demand for affordable homes is greater than ever.

According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, the U.S. has a shortage of 7.2 million affordable and available rental homes. In existing communities, eviction moratoriums put in place during the COVID-19 pandemic mean that many landlords and owners and operators of affordable housing communities must maintain their operations without the major source of their income – rent.

At the same time, families are struggling while housing costs rise faster than incomes; Harvard University's Joint Center for Housing Studies estimates that nearly half of renter households spend more than 30 percent of their income on

In many ways, the pandemic exacerbated a problem that is already approaching crisis levels: missed work due to illness. joblessness, and wage reductions during the pandemic could drive an estimated 250,000 new people into homelessness, according to a Columbia University study.

In the state of California, the need for affordable housing expands past lower and middle-income families. With an average median home price upwards of \$600,000, California housing is among the most expensive in the country.

According to a study from the California Department of Housing and Community Development, in every major metropolitan area and its surrounding counties, between 30 and 60 percent of residents cannot afford market rent.

It's no longer just cities that are seeing a demand for more affordable housing either. With fewer people required to physically report to work in cities, many have fled urban areas in search of a more affordable solution.

In California, multiple attempts to solve the affordable housing demand problem at the government level have But a state law passed in 2020 to cap the provide housing for 300 people.

amount by which landlords raise rent and eighteen other bills aimed at increasing housing production, the problem remains, demonstrating that other solutions are

In this article, I'll discuss four alternative solutions to increase the supply of affordable homes where they are needed and help those who truly need assistance.

1. Reduce regulatory **BARRIERS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

In many areas, zoning laws prohibit affordable housing development.

For example, in most U.S. cities, it is illegal to build anything other than singlefamily detached homes on three-quarters of an acre of land. When multifamily housing is allowed, zoning rules including building height caps can limit the profitability of these developments.

To increase the affordable housing supply in areas where it is needed most requires reducing the regulatory hurdles that developers need to go through in order to build more affordable homes.

2. MAXIMIZE LAND SPACE WITH **GREATER DENSITIES**

With zoning regulations relaxed, developers can utilize density to maximize the available land and provide housing for more people. Two creative ways to do this are through tiny homes or by going vertical, an approach known as upzoning.

A typical subdivision with site-built, single-family homes requires on average about an acre for every 4-5 homes. By contrast, a community of tiny homes holds up to 25 or even 30 residences per acre. Tiny homes are economical, practical, and can go a long way toward solving many of our nation's housing concerns.

Likewise, high-rise buildings can house more people per acre than their singlefamily home counterparts. A typical high-rise building provides about 100 housing units on an acre of land. If each been either proposed or implemented. unit houses three people, a single acre can

3. INCENTIVIZE DENSITY WITH **TAX INCENTIVES**

When paired with relaxed zoning restrictions, putting higher taxes on expensive, but underused, land can also incentivize affordable housing development.

Unlike property taxes, which charge a similar rate for buildings and land, land value taxes charge a higher tax rate on the land and a lower rate on the structures themselves.

In other words, the land tax rate is the same whether the land owner uses it for commercial space, apartments, or any other use. Tax abatement programs are available in some cities to offset the cost of providing affordable housing.

4. Grant rent subsidies - not RENT CONTROL - TO ENSURE HELP IS GIVEN WHERE IT'S **NEEDED MOST**

Rental subsidies provide financial assistance to households who need it. By contrast, rent control caps the frequency and amount by which landlords and property owners can increase the rent in residential units across the board.

On the surface, rent control may appear to be a viable solution to making rent more affordable, but upon closer inspection it becomes apparent that the opposite is

When a state, city, or county government adopts rent control, the regulation is applied to everyone, regardless of need. As a result, in rentcontrolled communities, everyone even those who can easily afford market rent — receives a subsidy that is paid for by the government, the property owner, or some combination of the two.

Rent control can make it difficult for property owners to maintain their business. When owns and operators of affordable housing communities find themselves unable to maintain their businesses, they may seek out a more lucrative option, displacing people from their homes and lessening the affordable housing supply, ultimately driving up prices for homes in the area and making them the polar opposite of affordable.

Unlike rent control, rental assistance programs target people based on need. Instead of imposing a ceiling mandate on rent prices, governments provide rental assistance only to people who meet certain income criteria.

These programs offer a more targeted approach to helping those in need while requiring those who can afford the rent to pay market rates, thereby taking some of the burden off the property owners.

CONCLUSION: A MULTIFACETED

Conquering a complex problem like affordable housing demand requires a multifaceted solution that addresses both housing supply and assists those truly in

The greatest way that government can help solve the affordable crisis in our country is to use a twofold approach that

- Reducing the number of regulatory and legal hurdles that developers have to face (which spurs development and works to increase the housing supply, therefore keeping prices down)
- Providing help where it's needed, to ensure tenants get the assistance they need while ensuring landlords and property managers continue to receive the income they need to ensure their communities thrive and their businesses stay operative.

A final note: when considering solutions like land value tax reform and upzoning, caution must be taken to prevent displacement of existing renters, especially in high-demand real estate markets, where newer, larger buildings could have broad appeal and subsequently drive rent prices up. In these instances, housing vouchers can help.

Matthew Davies is the founder of Stockton, CA-based Harmony Communities, which currently owns and operates thirty-three manufactured housing communities in the western United States. An investor and community development professional working for affordable housing solutions, Davies' goal is to help bring the opportunity for homeownership to people in his home state who otherwise could not

Oregon Supreme Court to Review Ordinance

Continued from Page 1

conflict with state laws that ban rent control. On March 7, 2018, the Portland City Council made the ordinance permanent and extended its application to landlords who own as few as one rental unit.

THE BACKGROUND ON THE CASE

"The legislature has determined that rent control is a matter of statewide concern and proclaimed that no local government may enact any ordinance that either 'controls the rent that may be charged for the rental of any dwelling unit,' ORS 91.225(2), or that is inconsistent with that prohibition, ORS 91.225(7).," DiLorenzo said when the trial court's decision was appealed to the Court of Appeals.

"Notwithstanding the legislature's unambiguously expressed intent to preempt local rent-control legislation, the city enacted the ordinance, which requires landlords to pay thousands of dollars to tenants upon the tenants' demand when a landlord gives notice of a rent increase of 10 percent or more in a 12-month period—meaning the ordinance penalizes rent increases that cumulatively total 10 percent or more in any rolling 12-month period."

DiLorenzo explained why the ordinance is in violation of state law.

"The ordinance calls the payments 'relocation assistance,' but tenants are not required to use the money for that or any other designated purpose. Further, the requirement to make the payments is triggered solely by the size of the rent increase and is intended to limit those rent increases. By penalizing rent increases greater than a certain size, the ordinance is designed to control the rent that may be charged. Accordingly, the ordinance runs afoul of ORS 91.225(2) and ORS 91.225(7), which forbid the rent-control aspects of the ordinance."

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How 2020 Can Benefit Your Assets in 2021

Continued from Page 1

properties and devising a game plan specific to each one.

As an example, after one of our review and planning sessions five years ago, we made the decision to acquire some short-term rentals. Being in Phoenix, we focused on winter visitors looking to escape the cold for three months.

We mapped out how and where we wanted to buy, considered if any of our current properties could work in this model, determined the platform we would use to advertise, and evaluated the ROI for this model versus traditional renting.

We executed our plan and eventually bought six homes and condos that worked well for winter visitors, but also have been filled year-round with other shortterm renters. They have been great investments so far, generating four times more income than a traditional rental. But the big question is, will they be the same in 2021?

PIVOT USAGE TYPE

Continuing our story, due to COVID-19 our winter visitors are not booking like they have in the past. This has led us to a healthy discussion on how we can pivot the primary usage of our properties to ensure they are still income generators. That discussion created a lot of questions:

- Is it time to convert these short-term rentals into more of a traditional model?
- What would we do with 6 washers and dryers, 18 beds, 8 couches, dining room tables and more?
- What happens next year if the rentals come back?
- Will that require \$30,000 for furnishing those units again?
- Where is the market today in regard to new homes in a hot market like ours?

Answering those questions led us to decide to keep these properties as furnished short-term rentals, but to switch our focus to people who are between selling their existing home and buying a new one.

This decision then generated a whole

slew of new questions, such as how would we find renters, what would we charge for rent, and how are these renters different from winter visitors? All valid questions that we are figuring out.

My next step is to visit the realtors in the new-home communities to let them know what I have available. Although this is a new strategy that pivots from where we were previously, I am confident it will work based on our analysis.

These are just two of the many topics we review in-depth each year. Every rental is unique and poses different challenges and opportunities.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In addition to the two key areas we discussed, we also consider the following:

- Location: Is it time to sell or acquire based on what is happening in a certain market?
- Tenants: Are we happy with our current tenants or should we be looking for someone new?
- Government regulations: Are there changes that help or hurt our investments?
- Improvements: What does each property need to ensure it is desirable?
- Taxes: How do changes in state, county and city taxes affect our bottom line?
- Vacancy: What vacancy rate do we aim for to ensure short- and longterm profitability?
- Policies: Do we add, alter, or eliminate current policies to entice renters to stay or rent?

Performing this type of analysis will easily help you identify whether you are currently in the best position with your properties or if you need to change a few

These property-specific questions are great, but you also need to consider how you manage your property. Is it time to hire a property-management company, or can you continue doing it yourself? Are there available technology platforms that help you onboard tenants, manage, and collect rent?

No doubt there is room for adjustment reach our destination. or improvement in how we manage our properties.

Although 2020 has taken most of us into uncharted territory, investing the time to map out your 2021 goals will make you a better investor and manager.

After all, U-turns or adjustments are okay as long as they help us successfully

David Pickron is President of Rent Perfect and a fellow landlord who manages several short- and long-term rentals. He is a private investigator and teaches organizations across the country the importance of proper screening. His platform, Rent Perfect, was built to help the small landlord find success.



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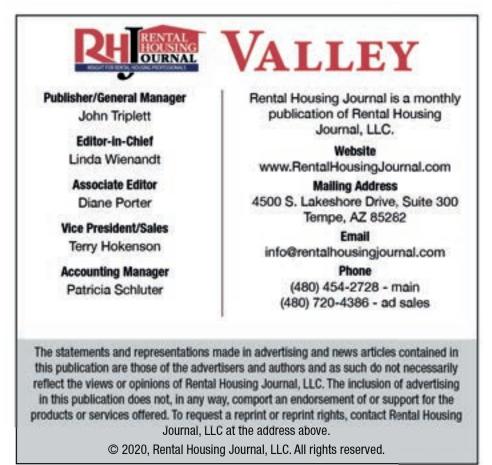
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Can I Evict Tenants Due to Damage to the Home?



By Hank Rossi

Dear Landlord Hank: Tenants of 10 years have done substantial damage to the home, not normal wear and tear, but that could be subjective upon the beliefs of a judge.

The home needs a complete renovation that cannot be completed with tenants living in the home. Can they be evicted because the home has become unsafe to continue to inhabit? Without being responsible to pay their rent or moving costs for them to move out? — Yvonne

Dear Landlord Yvonne: We now have a federal moratorium on evictions until the end of the year, and the interpretation of the order varies from one jurisdiction to another and from one judge to another. If these tenants are paying rent and are satisfied to stay in their rental for now, I would not rock the boat. You can always renovate when their lease is up. When the eviction moratorium has ended, the courts



will likely be packed – meaning the time it normally takes to evict a tenant will be substantially increased, and it could take months. If you feel that you can't wait and want to move forward now, I would engage an attorney that specializes in landlord/tenant law, as they will be up to date on the situation in your county. Good

Dear Landlord Hank: We inherited a single-family home that already had a property management company. Lucky for us, the tenant moved out just before moratorium! However, the home was trashed and it was clear that this had been going on for quite a while. Garbage bags and damage were everywhere. For instance, a glass shower door had broken glass and large pieces of glass protruding! And the tenant was still using the shower with just a curtain hanging! And there were 4 small children living in the home! My question is, do I have any recourse with the property management company? They had done their walk-through and had asked the tenant to replace the door, but failed to follow up. We also had smoke detectors beeping from June till December, when I was granted permission to enter with the property-management owner. Clearly there was neglect. We sold the house with a loss of more than \$50,000 due to all the problems, including the pandemic. Please advise if there is any way to recapture all the money lost? — Pat

Dear Landlord Pat: I'm so sorry to hear about your situation. Tenants like these are exactly why more people aren't landlords; and in this case, you had a property-management company that put these tenants into your place! The property-management company hopefully did a complete background screen on these tenants and shared these results with you. Even though the company didn't directly cause the damage to your property, they have a duty to you to protect and maintain your property and do periodic inspections (that is in my MLS agreement, anyway). When the propertymanagement company did a walk-through inspection and noted the damage in addition to the shower door, they should have contacted you and made you aware of the situation. Did the company owner talk to you about evicting the tenants? The eviction moratorium has put a strain on many landlords and driven some to foreclosure. I'd consult an attorney after you review your management agreement with the property-management company. Best of luck!

Hank Rossi started in real estate as a child watching his father take care of the family rental maintenance business and was occasionally his assistant. In the mid-'90s he got into the rental business on his own, as a sideline. A few years ago Hank and his sister started their own real estate brokerage focusing on property management and leasing, and he continues to manage his real estate portfolio in Florida and Atlanta. Visit Landlord Hank's website: https://rentsrg.com



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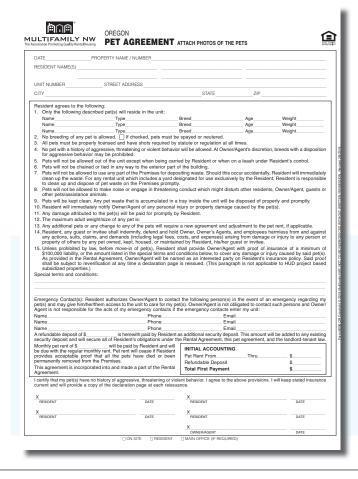
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Oregon Pet Agreement M006 OR



Multifami	ly NW Webinar Schedule	
DECEMBER 2	WEBINAR: FAIR HOUSING FOR MAINTENANCE	10:00 AM - 11:30 AM
DECEMBER 7	FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT BASICS -NOI DOES NOT MEAN "NO OTHER INCOME"	2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
DECEMBER 8	UNWIND WITH MULTIFAMILY NW: GIFT WRAPPING CLASS	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
DECEMBER 9	WEBINAR: MOLD AWARENESS	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
	WEBINAR: HR ISSUES - WHAT IS GOOD DOCUMENTATION?	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
DECEMBER 10	WEBINAR: LEASING WITH CONFIDENCE - ONLINE MARKETING	2:00 PM - 3:00 PM
DECEMBER 11	WEBINAR: IT'S THE LAW: HAPPY ALMOST NEW YEAR	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
DECEMBER 14	UNWIND WITH MULTIFAMILY NW: OLD FASHIONED COCKTAIL CLASS	5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
DECEMBER 15	WEBINAR: WA IT'S THE LAW: HAPPY ALMOST NEW YEAR	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

Pets are a popular request for residents, and this form simplifies the terms to ensure all parties are aware of the rules and regulations for pets on the property. The Pet Agreement is specific to Oregon (there is a Washington version as well) and has been recently updated to accommodate more than one pet on the form. The form template includes standard best practices and responsibilities for the resident including restrictions on breeding, mandating applicable licensing and vaccinations, codifying responsibility for the pet's behavior and picking up the pet's waste, etc.

GOT LEAKS?

We are open and providing service through this COVID-19 crisis. We are following CDC guidelines and taking every precaution to protect our techs, our customers and the community.

Undetected leaks can threaten property values and repairs will be more costly. Avoid hit and miss digging. Save your property!

Our highly trained specialists use advanced technology to accurately locate water line and leaks. We save your time, money and frustration.

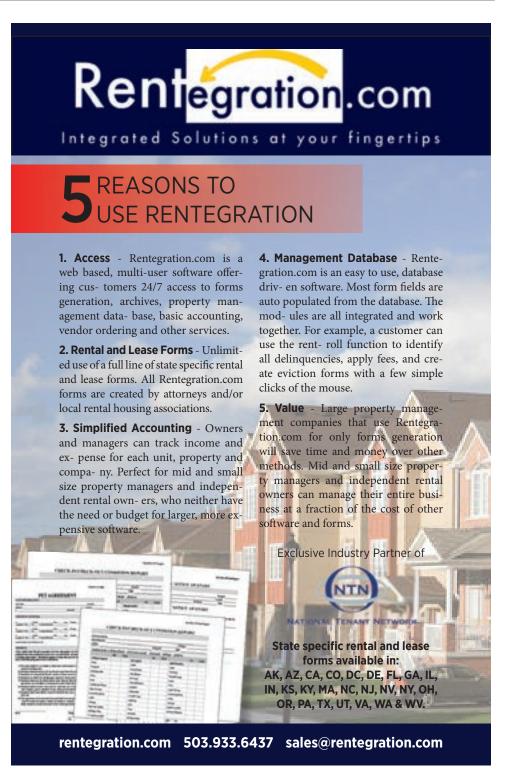
- Leak Detection on water and sewer lines
- Video inspection of sewer and drain lines
- Line locating of all utility lines including PVC
- Cause & Origin investigation for water damage
- Leak detection and inspection on Pools & Spas



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RHA Oregon President's Message

Encouraging Signs for a Better 2021

Dear friends and fellow landlords,

I hope you had a great Thanksgiving holiday, even if it was only a Zoom gathering with family and friends.

I thank all of you who have been writing, calling, and emailing our state legislators as they debate the current round of proposed legislation. It has been a particularly frustrating time for small landlords across the state. As far as I am aware, ours is the only industry that has been forced to continue operating and serving our customers (tenants), whether they are able to pay or not. We must continue to demand real leadership from city councils to the state legislature to the governor's office. "Kicking the can down the road" is not leadership.

Although most of our members have been able to survive during the eviction moratorium, there are many who have lost a significant portion of their income and who face more losses in the next several months. They should not have to carry that burden alone. I am hopeful that when the legislature meets in December, the likely extension of the eviction moratorium will be accompanied by funds made directly available to landlords that have been affected the most.

It seems clear to me that 2021 will bring a new normal for all of us. For me, the results of last month's elections were moderately encouraging. In the city of Portland, anti-landlord council member Chloe Eudaly was defeated by Mingus Mapps, who will at least listen to landlord concerns. At the state level, while Democrats still hold a supermajority, they also still require cooperation from Republicans to form a quorum to conduct business. It is not much, but some of the more outrageous proposals that pop up from time to time (like rent forgiveness) will likely be held in check.

The encouraging results for potential vaccines reported by several pharmaceutical manufacturers this past month are also reason to be hopeful. Americans should have access to at least one COVID-19 vaccine by mid-2021. Until that time, we will continue to forgo our dinner meetings and in-person classes, but it will not be long before we are able to meet again in person. We will continue periodic virtual member meetings to provide you with updated information; our November meeting

had good participation and provided some valuable insight into navigating the current eviction moratorium. Please join us by Zoom in December for our installation of new officers.

My term as President of Rental Housing Alliance Oregon is coming to an end. As much as I have enjoyed working on your behalf over the past two years, I am happy to be passing the reins of leadership back to Ron Garcia, whose experience and expertise is especially welcome during these challenging times. I am also happy to report that our 2021 President-Elect is Melinda McClelland, a small landlord like me and most of our membership. I hope you will support both in the coming years. Though I am stepping down as president, I will continue to support RHA's efforts to obtain financial relief for our members who have been particularly hardhit during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Hang in there, have a Merry Christmas, and have a Happy New Year!

> — Ken Schriver **RHA Oregon President**

4 Steps You Can Take to Help **Extend the Life of Your Carpets**

Continued from Page 1

Poor cleaning habits can turn your rental-home carpet to ruins.

- Pet-related issues: Pets can be a disaster for rental-home carpets if not properly monitored. They can easily urinate, defecate, spread mud, or chew the carpet. It is important that you have a strict pet policy in place.
- Lack of house rules: The lack of 4. Do Spot Cleaning dedicated house rules can lead to rental-home carpet deterioration. Tenants who don't leave their shoes at the door or clean regularly can cause premature destruction of your rental-property carpet.

1. REGULAR VACUUMING

Vacuuming is important because there are a lot of dry soil and stains that your carpet can hold even though it isn't obvious. When this happens, the dirt breaks up the carpet fiber, destroying your carpet in no time.

Vacuuming once or twice a week will help you extend your carpet lifespan. Today, many property managers provide renters with a low-budget vacuum cleaner to help with this.

2. Do A YEARLY DEEP CARPET **CLEANING**

Since stored dirt can destroy your carpet (or distort its color), getting your carpets deep-cleaned regularly is important. Annual or bi-annual cleanings will keep the carpet in good shape.

3. SET A STRICT PET POLICY

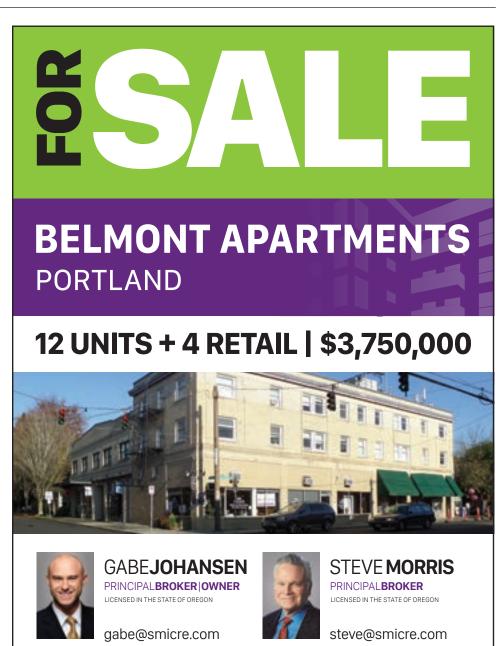
The importance of having a pet policy cannot be stressed nearly enough. While you may allow pets, you need to have a firm stance on what kind of pets they are, whether they're allowed indoors, and who is responsible for accidents or cleanings.

The earlier you get to the spill the better! Even if your rental-home carpet comes with a stain blocker, that doesn't mean it will block the spill. It only helps you prevent the stain from getting set in and makes it easier to clean. Always blot to clean, never rub or scrub, and don't over wet the carpet.

IN CONCLUSION

By adhering to the above tips, you're sure to prolong the lifespan of your rentalhome carpets, save money on regular carpet replacement, and give your carpet an appealing look.

Keepe is an on-demand maintenance solution for property managers and independent landlords with a network of hundreds of independent contractors and handymen. Keepe is available in the Greater Seattle area, Greater Phoenix area, San Francisco Bay area, Portland, San Diego and is coming soon to an area near you. Learn more about Keepe at https://www.keepe.



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