

WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE
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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Insurance Coverage for Eclipse Rentals

CHEYENNE, Wyo. – As Wyoming prepares for the possibility of hundreds of thousands of people coming to our great state over the next week to witness the once in a lifetime solar eclipse, many citizens are considering renting out their homes, or using their land as campsites. If you are one of these property owners, you will want to consider possible liability issues, and if these uses are covered by your insurance.

For example, if somebody gets hurt on your property or in your home, you could be liable for injuries, and typically your homeowner's policy would cover this. However, if you are using your property commercially, and renting it out or charging a fee for a campsite, liability coverage is most likely excluded. If paying guests blame the owner for the injury, and proper insurance is not in place, the owner could end up paying not only the guests' medical expenses, but also any awarded liability damages. Most homeowner's policies also do not provide coverage if a guest damages your property.

Many homeowners turn to short-term rental platforms for this type of event, such as Airbnb or Vacation Rental by Owner (VRBO). Some of these companies provide liability insurance to their hosts, while others do not. The Department of Insurance recommends that consumers who are using these short-term rental programs, or those who are renting out their homes or land on their own, do so with proper due diligence and know your insurance coverage. Contact the short-term rental program, your insurance company, or your agent to make sure you are covered.

Make this Eclipse an experience you will fondly remember, not one that you regret. Make sure you are covered by insurance.