

# GUIDE: CHAPTER 90 OREGON REVISED STATUTES

**OREGON RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD TENANT LAW** 

# 2021 EDITION

The updated Oregon Revised Statutes are printed and made available in December of odd-numbered years, coinciding with typical revisions to the Oregon Residential Landlord Tenant Act. We receive the newest version in January of even-numbered years. The 2021 Edition is the current edition for 2022-2023.

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#### **OSTA AND PARK AND MARINA LAW**

OSTA has 40+ years of experience in helping tenants find answers to their most pressing issues. Understanding what is expected of tenants and their landlords brings peace of mind.

The first way we help park and marina tenants accomplish this is by making it easy to locate and access the laws by producing this guide.

The second way we help tenants improve their communities is helping them to understand these laws and to empower them to exercise their rights by providing guidance, tools. and resources from our website: <a href="www.oregontenats.com">www.oregontenats.com</a>. Our online resource is full of information about what the law says a landlord can and cannot do and will be consistently updated with new information about your rights and our own legislative campaigns to improve your rights.

We also advocate for legislative change and work closely with the Oregon Legislature to change the laws to add additional protections for park and marina tenants. OSTA works with "The Coalition" and other stakeholders for two years to create a bill worthy of becoming a law. Incidentally, there used to be two coalitions: the "General Landlord/Tenant Coalition" and the "Manufactured Housing Landlord Tenant Coalition." Since 2016, marina residents have begun participating in the Manufactured Housing Landlord Tenant Coalition. When OSTA refers to "The Coalition" we are referring to the Manufactured Housing Landlord Tenant Coalition which also now includes floating home tenants.

In every odd-numbered year, the Oregon Legislature meets for five months in what is referred to as "the long session"; this is when more complex or important bills are considered. The long session in odd-numbered years, typically, has been the time when the Oregon Legislature has considered some of OSTA's ideas making changes to our park and marina laws.

In even-numbered years the legislature meets for five weeks in the "short session." The short session was intended to focus on budget matters, but substantive bills that could affect our tenancies can be considered in either session. Both sessions typically start in early February. Generally, the new laws adopted in a session are effective on the first legal day of the following year, which is why the majority of new laws that impact us, historically, have become effective on



January 1 of an even-numbered year. But there are ways in which a new law can be made effective earlier.

This 2021 Edition of this Guide is intended to be used until January 1, of 2024.

Between 2021 and 2024, some laws may be enacted with an emergency clause which would mean they would take effect immediately (e.g. the Eviction Moratorium due to COVID-19 was passed with an emergency clause and become effective July 1, 2020 – a short legislative session during an even-numbered year that typically does not see major landlord-tenant laws enacted).

#### UNDERSTANDING OREGON RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD TENANT LAW

## Being a Homeowner AND a Tenant

You must understand your rights in order to benefit from them.

We own our homes. How can we be tenants?

If you are one of the 60,000 people in Oregon who own your manufactured or floating home but you rent the land or the slip space that the home is located on, even though you are a homeowner, you are protected under Oregon laws as a tenant.

The Oregon Residential Landlord Tenant Act governs the laws around your contract with your park or marina owner. Under Oregon laws, your park or marina owner is your landlord and you are their tenant.

But Oregon Revised Statute laws in Chapter 90 provide more rights and protections to manufactured and floating home owners in parks and marinas than apartment tenants. These laws are contained in the second half of ORS Chapter 90 and are in addition to the laws which govern apartment tenancies.

The Oregon Residential Landlord Tenant Act (ORLTA), also known as Oregon Revised Statute Chapter 90 Laws, govern the contractual relationship that landlords strike with their



tenants. Some laws in Chapter 90 protect the landlord and some are written to protect the tenant.

# Why Chapter 90 Laws Matter

Nearly everything you can or cannot do in your park or marina is governed by Chapter 90 laws with only a few exceptions. Chapter 90 sets the rules your landlord must follow regarding your tenancy.

Likewise, even though you consider yourself a homeowner, you also must comply with the limits that the law places on you in a park or marina.

#### Which Laws Pertain to Me?



ORS Chapter 90 deals in the laws for all residential tenancies. There are two main sections.

The first half of ORS Chapter 90 Landlord-Tenant laws (ORS 90.100 - 90.493) generally (with a few exceptions) covers all residential tenancies (apartments, park and marina residents, subleases, etc.). However, some laws in the first half of Chapter 90 will have a provision expressly stating that it does not apply to facility tenancies.



For example, "ORS 90.462: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations" contains several statutes, but the very last section [ORS 90.462(11)] states "This section does not apply to tenancies governed by ORS 90.505 (Definitions for ORS 90.505 to 90.850) to 90.850 (Owner affidavit certifying compliance with requirements for sale of facility). This means that ORS 90.462, in its entirety, does not apply to marina and park tenancies.

So, when reading a law in the first half of Chapter 90, be sure to read through to the end of the statute to verify that such a facility exclusion does not exist for that law.

NOTE: If a Chapter 90 law conflicts with a provision of your rental agreement, the Chapter 90 provision controls. Your rental agreement can give you – but not the landlord – more protection than Chapter 90 does, but not less. No landlord can take away your Chapter 90 rights with a provision contained in a rental agreement.

The additional protections included in the second half of ORS Chapter 90 (ORS 90.505 - 90.875) apply only to park and marina tenancies, and **only** if you meet all three of the following criteria:

- 1. HOME OWNERSHIP: You must own your manufactured or floating home.
- 2. **RENTED SPACE**: You must rent the space or slip that your home is situated in.
- 3. IN A FACILITY: Your home must be located in a park or marina with 4 or more homes.

NOTE: For park and marina tenancies, if there is language in the last half of ORS Chapter 90 (ORS 90.505 – 90.875) which contradicts the language in the first half (ORS 90.100 – 90.493), consider the language in last half of Chapter 90 to reign supreme for your situation.

# **Additional Statutes Governing Evictions**

While Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 90 Oregon Residential Landlord Tenant Law governs how tenancy terminations work, notices that must be given, the rights of a tenant to cure the cause, etc., if a park or marina tenancy is terminated, the landlord must file for an eviction hearing in the court. A tenant will have their opportunity to defend themselves before a judge. The laws governing eviction hearings and evictions are found in Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 105 ORS 105.105 through 105.168.



# TIP: How to Read and Understand the Statute Hierarchy

OSTA downloads the following statutes directly from the Oregon Legislature website. We recognize that the organizational hierarchy (multi-level numbering system used to denote sub headings) which the Oregon legislature uses is not the most-user friendly. To help you "read" the law and better understand the hierarchy, below you will find an example of a complex statute hierarchy as it exists and our translated visual hierarchy to assist you.

This example contains a small portion of ORS 90.675:

#### **EXISTING:**

#### 90.675 Disposition of manufactured dwelling or floating home left in facility...

- (10) If the personal property is presumed to be abandoned under subsection (9) of this section, the landlord then may:
  - (a) Sell the personal property at a public or private sale, provided that prior to the sale:
- (A) The landlord may seek to transfer ownership of record of the personal property by complying with the requirements of the appropriate state agency; and
  - (B) The landlord shall:
- (i) Place a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the personal property is located. The notice shall state:
  - (I) That the personal property is abandoned;
  - (II) The tenant's name;

#### WITH VISUAL HIERARCHY:

#### 90.675 Disposition of manufactured dwelling or floating home left in facility...

- (10) If the personal property is presumed to be abandoned under subsection (9) of this section, the landlord then may:
  - (a) Sell the personal property at a public or private sale, provided that prior to the sale:
    - (A) The landlord may seek to transfer ownership of record of the personal property by complying with the requirements of the appropriate state agency; and
    - (B) The landlord shall:
      - (i) Place a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the personal property is located. The notice shall state:
        - (I) That the personal property is abandoned;
        - (II) The tenant's name;

On the following page is a hierarchy legend you can cut out and use as a bookmark.



<u>ORS Visual Hierarchy Legend Bookmark</u> directions: Cut out the bookmark to use for your printed copy of the statutes, and use the blank space to take notes about laws you'd like to keep handy.

#### **ORS VISUAL HIERARCHY LEGEND:**

#### 90.100 ORS Statute Title

- (1) First Level
  - (a) Second Level
    - (A) Third Level
      - (i) Fourth Level
        - (I) Fifth Level

NOTES:



#### Visit

#### www.OregonTenants.com

For more information on learning about your rights and empowering your community



# Where Can I Read the Actual Oregon Revised Statute Chapter 90 Laws

OSTA highly recommends that every tenant save the Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 90 Oregon Residential Landlord Tenant Law as a PDF on their computer so that a handy searchable version is always at your fingertips in case you need it.

In addition, we also recommend printing a hard copy that you can mark up, highlight, and share with other residents who may not have access to a computer. Even though this edition is about 150 pages, it is the single best free resource for anyone trying to understand their tenant rights.

The current version of the Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 90 Oregon Residential Landlord Tenant Law can be found at this link:

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\_laws/ors/ors090.html

### CHAPTER 90 – OREGON RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD-TENANT ACT INDEX

Below is an index of the laws contained within ORS Chapter 90 which will give you an idea of how the statutes are organized and the tenant topics that the laws address.

A full copy of the ORS Chapter 90 landlord tenant laws can be found online at: <a href="https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\_laws/ors/ors090.html">https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills\_laws/ors/ors090.html</a>

Title 10: Property Rights and Transactions Chapter 90 — Residential Landlord and Tenant

2021 EDITION

RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT

PROPERTY RIGHTS AND TRANSACTIONS



#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

90.100 Definitions

(Temporary provisions relating to COVID-19 pandemic and 2020 wildfires are compiled as notes following ORS 90.100)

90.105	Short title
90.110	Exclusions from application of this chapter
90.112	Maximum occupancy limit
90.113	Additional exclusion from application of chapter
90.115	Territorial application
90.120	Applicability of other statutory lien, tenancy and rent provisions; applicability of ORS $90.100$ to $90.465$ and $90.505$ to $90.850$
90.125	Administration of remedies; enforcement
90.130	Obligation of good faith
90.135	Unconscionability
90.140	Types of payments landlord may require or accept; written evidence of payment
90.145	Tenant or applicant who conducts repairs, routine maintenance or cleaning services not employee of landlord; restrictions
90.147	Delivery of possession
90.148	Landlord acts that imply acceptance of tenant abandonment or relinquishment of right to occupy

#### SERVICE OR DELIVERY OF NOTICES

90.150	Service or delivery of actual notice
90.155	Service or delivery of written notice
90.160	Calculation of notice periods



#### CONTENT OF AGREEMENTS

90.220	Terms and conditions of rental agreement; smoking policy; rent obligation, increases and payment	
90.222	Renter's liability insurance	
90.228	Notice of location in 100-year flood plain	
90.230	Rental agreements for occupancy of recreational vehicle in park; remedy for noncompliance; exception	
90.243	Qualifications for drug and alcohol free housing; "program of recovery" defined	
90.245	Prohibited provisions in rental agreements; remedy	
90.250	Receipt of rent without obligation to maintain premises prohibited	
90.255	Attorney fees	
90.260	Late rent payment charge or fee; restrictions; calculation	
90.262	Use and occupancy rules and regulations; adoption; enforceability; restrictions	
90.263	Vehicle tags	
90.265	Interest in alternative energy device installed by tenant	
TEMPORARY OCCUPANCY AGREEMENT		
90.275	Temporary occupancy agreement; terms and conditions	
FEES AND DEPOSITS		
90.295	Applicant screening charges; screening criteria	
90.297	Prohibition on charging deposit or fee to enter rental agreement; exceptions; deposit allowed for securing execution of rental agreement; remedy	
90.300	Security deposits; prepaid rent	
90.302	Fees allowed for certain landlord expenses; accounting not required; fees for noncompliance with written rules; tenant remedies	

## LANDLORD RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS



90.303	Evaluation of applicant	
90.304	Statement of reasons for denial; remedy	
90.305	Disclosure of certain matters; retention of rental agreement; inspection of agreement	
90.310	Disclosure of legal proceedings; tenant remedies for failure to disclose; liability of manager	
90.315	Utility or service payments; additional charges; responsibility for utility or service; remedies	
90.316	Carbon monoxide alarm	
90.317	Repair or replacement of carbon monoxide alarm	
90.318	Criteria for landlord provision of certain recycling services	
90.320	Landlord to maintain premises in habitable condition; agreement with tenant to maintain premises	
90.322	Landlord or agent access to premises; remedies	
90.323	Maximum rent increase; exceptions; notice	
90.324	Calculation of maximum rent increase; publication	
TENANT OBLIGATIONS		
90.325	Tenant duties	
90.340	Occupancy of premises as dwelling unit only; notice of tenant absence	
TENANT RIGHTS AND REMEDIES		
90.360	Effect of landlord noncompliance with rental agreement or obligation to maintain premises; generally	
90.365	Failure of landlord to supply essential services; remedies	
90.367	Application of security deposit or prepaid rent after notice of foreclosure; termination of fixed term tenancy after notice	
90.368	Repair of minor habitability defect	



90.370	Tenant counterclaims in action by landlord for possession or rent
90.375	Effect of unlawful ouster or exclusion; willful diminution of services
90.380	Effect of rental of dwelling in violation of building or housing codes; remedy
90.385	Retaliatory conduct by landlord; tenant remedies and defenses; action for possession in certain cases
90.390	Discrimination against tenant or applicant; tenant defense
LANDLO	RD REMEDIES
90.391	Information to veterans required in notice
90.392	Termination of tenancy for cause; tenant right to cure violation
90.394	Termination of tenancy for failure to pay rent
90.396	Acts or omissions justifying termination 24 hours after notice
90.398	Termination of tenancy for drug or alcohol violations
90.401	Remedies available to landlord
90.403	Taking possession of premises from unauthorized possessor
90.405	Effect of tenant keeping unpermitted pet
90.410	Effect of tenant failure to give notice of absence; absence; abandonment
90.412	Waiver of termination of tenancy
90.414	Acts not constituting waiver of termination of tenancy; delivery of rent refund
90.417	Duty to pay rent; effect of acceptance of partial rent
90.420	Enforceability of landlord liens; distraint for rent abolished
90.425	Disposition of personal property abandoned by tenant; notice; sale; limitation on landlord liability; tax cancellation; storage agreements; hazardous property
90.427	Termination of tenancy without tenant cause; effect of termination notice





90.429	Termination of tenancy for certain rented spaces not covered by ORS 90.505 to 90.850	
90.430	Claims for possession, rent, damages after termination of rental agreement	
90.435	Limitation on recovery of possession of premises	
90.440	Termination of tenancy in group recovery home; recovery of possession; damages	
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT OR STALKING		
90.445	Termination of tenant committing criminal act of physical violence	
90.449	Landlord discrimination against victim; exception; tenant defenses and remedies	
90.453	Termination by tenant who is victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking; verification statement	
90.456	Other tenants remaining in dwelling unit following tenant termination or exclusion due to domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking	
90.459	Change of locks at request of tenant who is victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or stalking	
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90.460	Alternate exit from bedroom required; tenant right to recover for landlord noncompliance	
90.462	Electric vehicle charging stations	
90.465	Right of city to recover from owner for costs of relocating tenant due to condemnation; defense	
90.472	Termination by tenant called into active state service by Governor	
90.475	Termination by tenant due to service with Armed Forces or commissioned corps of National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
90.485	Restrictions on landlord removal of vehicle; exceptions	
90.490	Prohibited acts in anticipation of notice of conversion to condominium; damages	
90.493	Prohibited acts following notice of conversion to condominium; damages	



#### MANUFACTURED DWELLING PARKS AND MARINAS

(General Provisions)

90.505	Definitions for ORS 90.505 to 90.850; application of statutes	
90.510	Statement of policy; rental agreement; rules and regulations; remedies	
90.512	Definitions for ORS 90.514 and 90.518	
90.514	Disclosure to prospective tenant of improvements required under rental agreement	
90.516	Model statement for disclosure of improvements required under rental agreement; rules	
90.518	Provider statement of estimated cost of improvements	
90.525	Unreasonable conditions of rental or occupancy prohibited; notice of rights	
90.527	Renter's liability insurance in park	
90.528	Use of common areas or facilities	
90.530	Pets in facilities; rental agreements; violations	
90.545	Fixed term tenancy expiration; renewal or extension; new rental agreements; tenant refusal of new rental agreement; written storage agreement upon termination of tenancy	
90.550	Permissible forms of tenancy; minimum fixed term	
90.555	Subleasing agreements	
(Utility and Service Charges)		
90.560	Definitions for ORS 90.560 to 90.584	
90.562	Utility and service charges; limits	
90.564	Charge for cable, satellite or Internet	
90.566	Conversion to direct billing for garbage service	
90.568	Pro rata billing; apportionment methods	



90.570	Public service charge pro rata apportionment	
90.572	Submeter billing	
90.574	Conversion to submeter or pro rata billing for water	
90.576	Legislative findings	
90.578	Conversion to submeter or direct billing for large parks	
90.580	Entry to read submeter; requirement for water submeter	
90.582	Publication of submeter or pro rata bills; tenant inspection	
90.584	Park specific billing for water; voting	
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90.600	Increases in rent; limitations; notice; meeting with tenants; effect of failure to meet	
90.605	Persons authorized to receive notice and demands on landlord's behalf; written notice to change designated person	
90.610	Notice of proposed change in rule or regulation; tenant objection to change	
90.620	Termination by tenant; notice to landlord	
90.630	Termination by landlord; causes; notice; cure; repeated nonpayment of rent	
90.632	Termination of tenancy due to physical condition of manufactured dwelling or floating home; correction of condition by tenant	
90.634	Prohibition against lien for rent; action for possession; disposition of dwelling or home; disposition of goods	
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90.643	Conversion of park to planned community subdivision of manufactured dwellings	
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90.650	Notice of tax provisions to tenants of closing park; rules	



90.655	Park closure notice to nontenants; report of tenant reactions	
90.660	Local regulation of park closures	
90.671	Closure of marina; notices; payments to tenants; rules	
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90.675	Disposition of manufactured dwelling or floating home left in facility; notice; sale; limitation on landlord liability; tax cancellation; storage agreements; hazardous property	
90.680	Sale of dwelling or home on rented space; consignment sales; duties and rights of seller, prospective purchaser and landlord	
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90.710	Causes of action; limit on cause of action of tenant	
90.720	Action to enjoin violation of ORS 90.750 or 90.755	
(Landlord Rights and Obligations)		
90.725	Landlord or agent access to rented space; remedies	
90.727	Maintenance of trees in rented spaces	
90.729	Temporary movement of floating home; notice; costs paid by landlord	
90.730	Landlord duty to maintain rented space, vacant spaces and common areas in habitable condition	
90.732	Landlord registration; registration fee	
90.734	Manager or owner continuing education requirements	
90.736	Civil penalties	
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90.767	Mandatory mediation	
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90.844	Procedures for purchase of facility by tenants; financial information; deadlines	
90.846	Notices and processes in facility transfer; remedies	
90.848	Exceptions to facility transfer requirements	
90.849	Notice of conveyance	
90.850	Owner affidavit certifying compliance with requirements for sale of facility; reliance of parties on affidavit	
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90.860	Definitions for ORS 90.865 to 90.875	
90.865	Dealer notice of rent payments and financing	
90.870	Manner of giving notice; persons entitled to notice	
90.875	Remedy for failure to give notice	