Recreational vehicles are intended for just that—recreation—and can cause special problems or hazards when used contrary to their intended purpose. Skagit County has adopted rules to protect neighborhoods and property owners from unintended RV use.

**What is a recreational vehicle?**

“Recreational vehicle” means a park model trailer or a vehicle that is:

1. built on a single chassis;
2. four hundred square feet or less when measured at the largest horizontal projection;
3. designed to be self-propelled or permanently towable by a light-duty truck; and
4. designed not for use as a permanent dwelling but as temporary living quarters for recreational, camping, travel, or seasonal use.

An RV is not the same as a manufactured home; it is built to different standards and labeled accordingly. While Skagit County allows temporary placement of a manufactured home to accommodate certain special needs, an RV cannot be used for that purpose.

**Living in RVs**

Recreational vehicles are not designed for use as permanent dwelling units. Skagit County does not permit using an RV as a dwelling unit or accessory dwelling unit.

Temporarily occupying an RV is allowed, but:

- no RV may be occupied for more than 180 days in any 12-month period; AND
- only one occupied RV may be present on any lot.

**Keeping RVs on your property**

Except in the flood hazard areas, you may keep no more than two recreational vehicles on any lot at one time. As described above, only one may be occupied, and then only for a limited time.

Any RV that is inoperative or unlicensed is considered junk.

Outdoor storage of more than 500 square feet of junk is prohibited.

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1 SCC 14.04.020, definition of “recreational vehicle.”
3 SCC 14.16.945(3)(a) and SCC 14.04.020, definition of “accessory dwelling unit.”
4 SCC 14.16.945(3)(b).
5 SCC 14.16.945(3)(d).
6 SCC 14.04.020, definition of “junk.”
7 SCC 14.16.945(2).
8 SCC 14.34.150(7)(b).
9 SCC 14.34.190(4)(a).
10 SCC 14.34.190(4)(b).