



What are Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)?



ADUs are smaller, independent living units that are either attached to or detached from a single-family home.

ADUs benefit homeowners, renters, families, and towns.

What benefits do towns get from new accessory apartments?

- ▶ Reduced per-unit infrastructure expenses because units are nestled within existing housing
- ▶ An increase in permitting and tax revenues

Do building codes apply to new units?

- ▶ Yes! And towns can create design standards to guide their development

How do ADUs benefit homeowners?

- ▶ They increase property values
- ▶ They provide rental income
- ▶ They help older residents age in place by providing space for family, home health aides, or tenants

Who can live in an accessory apartment?

- ▶ Anyone! They're great for students, older residents, and multi-generational families

Have other states legalized them?

- ▶ Yes! California, Connecticut, Oregon, Rhode Island, and Vermont
- ▶ California saw an 11-fold increase in accessory apartment permits within 4 years of legalization

Are accessory apartments good for the environment?

- ▶ Yes! They are built where housing already exists, so there's no extra sprawl - and their small size means they use less electricity and water

Learn more at rpa.org

This work was funded in part through a grant from The Henry and Marilyn Taub Foundation

It was the house that we purchased, not the garage apartment to begin with, and it's just developed into a wonderful opportunity. — Mary, homeowner

We decided to really focus on being an age-friendly community and what we found talking to more and more of our older residents is that housing and the affordability of housing was a huge piece...We found out about this idea of accessory dwelling units. — Deputy Mayor Victor De Luca, Maplewood

