



ATHA'S TINY HOUSE UPDATE – APRIL/MAY 2026

Welcome to our Tiny House Update - tiny house news from around Australia

There have been lots of positive moves towards legalising tiny house living in the past two months, especially in Victoria and WA, and tiny homes continue to feature in the mainstream media on a regular basis.

Here's a sample of what's been happening around Australia in April and May this year.

- In **Castlemaine, Victoria**, My Home Network kicked off [a new initiative](#) to allow people in THOWs to become property caretakers, on 7 April.
- **Shellharbour City Council**, south of Wollongong in NSW, announced on 9 April that its [tiny homes pilot program](#) was on public exhibition. Submissions closed 22 May.
- **The City of Greater Bendigo**, Victoria, while generally NOT recognising tiny homes as “suitable for permanent residence” specifically proposed “reduced permit conditions for caravans and tiny homes” in its new [Affordable Housing Plan 2026-28](#), released on 13 April, which will be presented to council in June.
- On **SBS's Insight program**, the [Housing Boomers](#) episode explored how Australia's housing shortage is affecting Baby Boomers, and one of the participants talked about her tiny house on wheels.
- **The WA government** is conducting [an inquiry into land rent schemes](#) with an 8 May deadline for submissions. WA-based Community Housing Initiative called it “a real opportunity for everyday people to help shape how some micro or tiny housing solutions could actually work [in WA]”. The initiative said, “Too many people are locked out of housing because of one thing: the cost of land. Land rent/land lease models could change that by allowing people to own a micro or tiny home without needing to buy the land upfront [makes] housing far more affordable and accessible for so many”.
- ATHA president Danielle Lester featured in a **Tweed Coast Times** story on 2 May, [Tiny houses shift from fringe to frontline as Northern Rivers housing crisis deepens](#) about why tiny houses on wheels need to be part of Northern Rivers housing solution.
- **Realestate.com.au** mentioned ATHA in its 4 May story: [Could an Aussie tiny home be the best housing solution for you?](#)
- **Yahoo News** story on 11 May about [a woman happily living tiny in Hervey Bay](#), Qld.
- **Sustainable House Day** on Sunday 17 May included open homes at several small sustainable houses including prefab, studio and modular homes (though no tiny houses on wheels) all over Australia.
- The second [Tiny Homes Expo](#) of 2026 happened in Sydney, 29-31 May. The next expo is on at Caloundra on the Qld Sunshine Coast, 10-12 July.

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