

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Elmore County

Idaho • Mountain Home • FIPS 16039 • Population 27,559 •
Crosodo Index #667*

STATE BASELINE

IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

How to start — 60-second path

Elmore County, Idaho — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Idaho cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Idaho home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Idaho label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

IDAHO: ELMORE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #667* · FIPS 16039 · Mountain Home

Elmore County

Population 27,559 · State baseline: IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods allowed (no acidified foods). Direct sales only to end consumers in Idaho. No wholesale, retail store, or restaurant sales permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Elmore County includes Mountain Home AFB and has a more developed planning department than some Idaho rural counties. Home occupations in unincorporated areas typically require a home occupation permit; business must be secondary to residential use, operated by a resident, no exterior commercial signage, limited customer traffic. Contact Elmore County Planning & Zoning at (208) 587-2025 for specific permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. Central District Health (serving Elmore County) may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods allowed (no acidified foods). Direct sales only to end consumers in Idaho. No wholesale, retail store, or restaurant sales permitted.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required. No additional testing requirements at state level.

HANDWASHING

Standard good hygiene practices expected; no specific statutory handwashing requirement for cottage food.

FOOD STORAGE

Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspection. Central District Health (serving Elmore County) may investigate upon complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Elmore County includes Mountain Home AFB and has a more developed planning department than some Idaho rural counties. Home occupations in unincorporated areas typically require a home occupation permit; business must be secondary to residential use, operated by a resident, no exterior commercial signage, limited customer traffic. Contact Elmore County Planning & Zoning at (208) 587-2025 for specific permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or internet sales under state law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law. County home occupation rules typically restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Elmore County Zoning Ordinance (unincorporated areas); contact Elmore County for current text.

RESEARCH NOTES

Elmore County is a mid-size south-central Idaho county with Mountain Home AFB. No specific county zoning ordinance text located. Idaho cottage food governed by IDAPA 16.02.19; direct sales only; no acidified foods. Defaulting to state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.elmorecounty.org>

<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

<https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160219.pdf>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/idaho/elmore-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Elmore County	Blaine County	Boise County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.
POPULATION	27,559	23,048	7,832

State context — Idaho cottage food law

Elmore County's rules sit on top of Idaho's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Idaho prohibits wholesale, restaurant, and retail store sales; only direct-to-consumer in-person sales at home, farmers markets, events, online (pickup/delivery), and roadside stands are allowed.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Idaho cottage food law report](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/idaho.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160219.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/idaho/>

Questions about Elmore County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/idaho/elmore-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Elmore County, Idaho. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/idaho/elmore-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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