

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

St. Clair County

Illinois · Belleville · FIPS 17163 · Population 256,791 · Crosodo Index #1257*

STATE BASELINE

410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

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

St. Clair County, Illinois — 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?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified in state statute; sanitary production required

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Illinois 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
- ☐ Illinois home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Illinois label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

ILLINOIS: ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1257* · FIPS 17163 · Belleville

St. Clair County

Population 256,791 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Prohibited-list approach — almost anything not on prohibited list allowed. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Registration with St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) required (up to \$50/year). Direct in-state sales only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute; sanitary production required

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (St. Clair County and municipalities (Belleville, O'Fallon, etc.) may require home occupation permits. Registration with St. Clair County Health Department is required for cottage food; this is separate from zoning home occupation permit.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (State law allows local health dept inspection upon complaint; SCCHD may impose additional requirements per §410 ILCS 625/4(d))

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Prohibited-list approach — almost anything not on prohibited list allowed. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Registration with St. Clair County Health Department (SCCHD) required (up to \$50/year). Direct in-state sales only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute; sanitary production required
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required
HANDWASHING	Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required
FOOD STORAGE	Broad — most non-TCS foods allowed; acidified and fermented foods require additional documentation

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — State law allows local health dept inspection upon complaint; SCCHD may impose additional requirements per §410 ILCS 625/4(d)
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — St. Clair County and municipalities (Belleville, O'Fallon, etc.) may require home occupation permits. Registration with St. Clair County Health Department is required for cottage food; this is separate from zoning home occupation permit.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct in-state sales only; online sales allowed but non-perishable items shipped within Illinois only. Farmers markets, events, home pickup all permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

410 ILCS 625/4; St. Clair County Health Department registration

RESEARCH NOTES

St. Clair County IL follows the Illinois state baseline (410 ILCS 625/4). CFPM-level certification required. Registration with local health dept (up to \$50/year). No St. Clair County-specific cottage food ordinance found beyond state requirements. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no specific St. Clair County .gov cottage food source retrieved.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.st-clair.il.us>

<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	St. Clair County	Madison County	Clinton County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute; sanitary production required	Not specified in state statute; sanitary production required	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct in-state sales only; online sales allowed but non-perishable items shipped within Illinois only. Farmers markets, events, home picku...	Direct in-state sales only; online sales allowed but non-perishable items only, shipped within Illinois. No out-of-state shipping. Farmers ...	Direct sales to consumers only (in person, at farmers markets, online orders). In-state shipping of non-perishable items permitted within I...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Prohibited-list approach — almost anything not on prohibited list allowed. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Registr...	Prohibited-list approach — almost anything not on prohibited list allowed. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Registr...	Must register with local health department (Clinton County Health Department or adjacent county health dept if none) for up to \$50/year. Ce...
FOOD STORAGE	Broad — most non-TCS foods allowed; acidified and fermented foods require additional documentation	Broad — most non-TCS foods allowed; acidified and fermented foods require additional documentation (food safety plan, pH test)	Proper storage of shelf-stable and non-TCS foods; acidified foods require pH documentation and food safety plan; fermented foods have addit...
POPULATION	256,791	265,512	36,998

State context — Illinois cottage food law

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

STATUTE 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES No — Illinois prohibits sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale; direct in-state sales are allowed anywhere including home, online, farmers markets, events, and roadside stands; non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois only.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Illinois cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/illinois.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

State dept cottage food page: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

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

Questions about St. Clair 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/illinois/st-clair-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 St. Clair County, Illinois. 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/illinois/st-clair-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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