

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Will County

Illinois · Joliet · FIPS 17197 · Population 696,774 · Crosodo
Index #1230*

STATE BASELINE

410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act; 2022 amendment PA 102-0633)

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	—	MEDIUM	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

Will 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

State baseline applies

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: WILL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1230* · FIPS 17197 · Joliet

Will County

Population 696,774 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act; 2022 amendment PA 102-0633) · **MEDIUM**

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

Yes (State baseline applies. Registration with Will County Health Department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Some local health departments may impose additional requirements.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Will County is a mix of incorporated cities (Joliet, Bolingbrook, Romeoville, Naperville portion, Plainfield, etc.) and unincorporated areas. Contact the relevant municipality's planning/zoning department for home occupation permit. Will County Land Use Department governs unincorporated areas.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Will County Health Department may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — State baseline applies. Registration with Will County Health Department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Some local health departments may impose additional requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water; state baseline
HANDWASHING	Food Safety Manager certification required
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; perishables sold directly but not shipped

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Will County Health Department may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Will County is a mix of incorporated cities (Joliet, Bolingbrook, Romeoville, Naperville portion, Plainfield, etc.) and unincorporated areas. Contact the relevant municipality's planning/zoning department for home occupation permit. Will County Land Use Department governs unincorporated areas.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer statewide. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. No out-of-state shipping. No wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

410 ILCS 625/4; Will County Health Department registration; municipal home occupation codes vary

RESEARCH NOTES

Will County follows Illinois state baseline. Registration with Will County Health Department required. CFPM required under state law. No Will County-specific modification of state cottage food rules found. Will County is rapidly growing suburban Chicago area.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.willcountyhealth.org>

<https://www.willcountyillinois.com/departments/planning>

<https://www.willcountyillinois.com>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Will County	DuPage County	Cook County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer statewide. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. No out-of-state shipping. No wholesale.	Direct-to-consumer sales statewide (not just farmers markets since 2022 amendment). Online sales allowed for non-perishable items within IL...	State law allows direct-to-consumer sales. CCDPH registration limits sales to direct consumer channels; retail walk-in customers to home ar...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies. Registration with Will County Health Department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-...	Home kitchen allowed under state cottage food law. Registration required with local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager...	In unincorporated Cook County, operators register with the Cook County Department of Public Health (CCDPH). Chicago residents must register...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; perishables sold directly but not shipped	Standard food storage practices; perishable items may be sold directly but not shipped	State baseline applies
POPULATION	696,774	930,559	5,225,367

State context — Illinois cottage food law

Will 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 Will 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/will-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 Will 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/will-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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