

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Bartholomew County

Indiana · Columbus · FIPS 18005 · Population 82,371 ·
Crosodo Index #2114*

STATE BASELINE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.2

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

Bartholomew County, Indiana — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Indiana label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

INDIANA: BARTHOLOMEW COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2114* · FIPS 18005 · Columbus

Bartholomew County

Population 82,371 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Same as all Indiana counties: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) provided to local health department; non-PHF foods only; no acidified foods; direct sales within Indiana only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Bartholomew County and the City of Columbus may have home occupation ordinances. Indiana law preempts local licensing/inspection for home-based vendors but local zoning may still apply. Check with Bartholomew County Planning or City of Columbus.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection. Indiana law preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. Local health dept may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Same as all Indiana counties: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) provided to local health department; non-PHF foods only; no acidified foods; direct sales within Indiana only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific statutory requirement.
HANDWASHING	No specific statutory requirement.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory requirement.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — No routine inspection. Indiana law preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. Local health dept may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Bartholomew County and the City of Columbus may have home occupation ordinances. Indiana law preempts local licensing/inspection for home-based vendors but local zoning may still apply. Check with Bartholomew County Planning or City of Columbus.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from home, online within Indiana, at events and farmers markets permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.

Relevant county code

No Bartholomew County-specific cottage food code identified. Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 governs.

RESEARCH NOTES

Bartholomew County (Columbus, IN) follows Indiana home-based vendor law. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.bartholomewcounty.gov>

[https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-\(cottage-foods\)/](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-(cottage-foods)/)

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Bartholomew County	Johnson County	Brown County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	—
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	—
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in Indiana cottage food law.	No specific state restriction on pets; good manufacturing practices apply.	—
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	—
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	—
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	—
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales from home, online within Indiana, at events and farmers markets permitted.	Sales from home, online, at farmers markets, roadside stands, events, and other direct-to-consumer venues. No wholesale or interstate sales.	—
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	—
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	—
RESTRICTIONS	Same as all Indiana counties: no license required; food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) provided to local health department; non-PHF ...	Indiana HEA 1149 (2022) allows home-based vendors to sell most nonperishable foods from home, online, at events, and other venues. Food han...	—
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory requirement.	Non-PHF foods only; proper storage to prevent contamination.	—
POPULATION	82,371	161,952	15,513

State context — Indiana cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.2

ANNUAL SALES CAP

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REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

Yes (specific course)

KITCHEN INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale are prohibited; producers may sell at events, farmers markets, home, online, and roadside stands only.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <http://iga.in.gov/laws/2022/ic/titles/016/articles/042/chapters/005.2>

State dept cottage food page: [https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-\(cottage-foods\)/](https://www.in.gov/health/food-protection/home-based-vendor-(cottage-foods)/)

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

Questions about Bartholomew 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/indiana/bartholomew-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 Bartholomew County, Indiana. 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/indiana/bartholomew-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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