

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Dearborn County

Indiana · Lawrenceburg · FIPS 18029 · Population 50,709 ·
Crosodo Index #1202*

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

Dearborn County, Indiana — 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 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: DEARBORN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1202* · FIPS 18029 · Lawrenceburg

Dearborn County

Population 50,709 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Home kitchen required. Most nonperishable non-potentially hazardous foods allowed. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required and must be provided to local health department. Direct-to-consumer sales only (home, online, events, farmers markets). No acidified foods, pickles in oxygen-sealed containers, salsas, sauces, ketchup, juices, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state cottage food law.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (No specific Dearborn County cottage food ordinances found. Unincorporated areas and City of Lawrenceburg may have separate home occupation zoning requirements. Recommend verifying with Dearborn County Area Plan Commission.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (No routine inspection. Local health departments are preempted from adding licensing or inspection requirements. May inspect on complaint or foodborne illness.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Home kitchen required. Most nonperishable non-potentially hazardous foods allowed. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required and must be provided to local health department. Direct-to-consumer sales only (home, online, events, farmers markets). No acidified foods, pickles in oxygen-sealed containers, salsas, sauces, ketchup, juices, low-acid canned foods, or meat jerkies.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state cottage food law.
WATER SUPPLY	Not specified in state cottage food law.
HANDWASHING	Standard sanitation required as part of food handler certification compliance.
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-potentially hazardous and shelf-stable.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — No routine inspection. Local health departments are preempted from adding licensing or inspection requirements. May inspect on complaint or foodborne illness.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — No specific Dearborn County cottage food ordinances found. Unincorporated areas and City of Lawrenceburg may have separate home occupation zoning requirements. Recommend verifying with Dearborn County Area Plan Commission.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed from home, online, events, and farmers markets within Indiana. State law preempts local governments from adding licensing or inspection requirements for home-based vendors.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

Ind. Code §16-42-5.2; HEA 1149 (2022); Dearborn County Area Plan Commission zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Indiana's 2022 HEA 1149 created a new home-based vendor framework. Food handler certificate required. State preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. No Dearborn County-specific rules found. Dearborn County borders Ohio and Kentucky near Cincinnati metro area.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dearborncounty.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)/)

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Dearborn County	Franklin County	Ohio County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	—	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	—	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state cottage food law.	—	Not specified in state statute; proper sanitary procedures and good hygienic practices required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	—	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	—	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	—	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed from home, online, events, and farmers markets within Indiana. State law preempts local governments from adding licensing or ...	—	Products may be sold in-person, by telephone, or via the internet, and delivered to the end consumer in person, by mail, or by third-party ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	—	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	—	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Home kitchen required. Most nonperishable non-potentially hazardous foods allowed. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required and ...	—	Must prepare food in the individual's primary residential home kitchen (or permanent structure on the same property). Only non-TCS (non-tim...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be non-potentially hazardous and shelf-stable.	—	Must use proper sanitary procedures; containers and packaging must be sanitized before use.
POPULATION	50,709	22,850	5,875

State context — Indiana cottage food law

Dearborn 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

—

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 Dearborn 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/dearborn-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 Dearborn 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/dearborn-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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