

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Hamilton County

Indiana · Noblesville · FIPS 18057 · Population 349,527 ·
Crosodo Index #1980*

STATE BASELINE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 (HBV); food handler certificate required (ANAB-accredited); no license;
direct sales only; no annual sales cap

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

Hamilton 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

Good sanitation practices required; no specific state pet rule but kitchen cleanliness standards apply

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: HAMILTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1980* · FIPS 18057 · Noblesville

Hamilton County

Population 349,527 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.2 (HBV); food handler certificate required (ANAB-accredited); no license; direct sales only; no annual sales cap · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Food prepared at producer's primary residence only; non-TCS foods only; ANAB-accredited food handler certificate required; label must state product not for resale and not inspected)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Good sanitation practices required; no specific state pet rule but kitchen cleanliness standards apply

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Hamilton County Health Dept page (hamiltoncounty.in.gov/268/Home-Based-Vendors) addresses HBV state rules. Local municipalities (Noblesville, Carmel, Fishers, Westfield) may require home occupation permits under their zoning ordinances; operator should verify with local city planning)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (IDOH may investigate complaints of unsafe food or foodborne illness; no routine inspections)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Food prepared at producer's primary residence only; non-TCS foods only; ANAB-accredited food handler certificate required; label must state product not for resale and not inspected
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Good sanitation practices required; no specific state pet rule but kitchen cleanliness standards apply
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required
FOOD STORAGE	Stored in sanitary conditions at residence

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — IDOH may investigate complaints of unsafe food or foodborne illness; no routine inspections
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Hamilton County Health Dept page (hamiltoncounty.in.gov/268/Home-Based-Vendors) addresses HBV state rules. Local municipalities (Noblesville, Carmel, Fishers, Westfield) may require home occupation permits under their zoning ordinances; operator should verify with local city planning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	In-person, telephone, internet sales allowed; delivery in-person, by mail, or third-party carrier within Indiana only; not for resale
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Hamilton County Health Dept has a dedicated HBV page confirming state rules apply. County is one of fastest-growing in Indiana; multiple incorporated cities each with own zoning. No county-specific cottage food overlay beyond state rules found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.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)/)

<https://www.hamiltoncounty.in.gov/268/Home-Based-Vendors>

<https://ag.purdue.edu/departments/foodsci/home-based-vendors.html>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Hamilton County	Marion County	Madison County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Good sanitation practices required; no specific state pet rule but kitchen cleanliness standards apply	Animals must be excluded from food preparation areas during production	Not explicitly prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	In-person, telephone, internet sales allowed; delivery in-person, by mail, or third-party carrier within Indiana only; not for resale	Direct-to-consumer sales allowed in person, by phone, or via internet. Delivery by operator, mail, or third-party carrier permitted within ...	Sales permitted from home, farmers markets, roadside stands, online, and other venues per 2022 expanded state law.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Food prepared at producer's primary residence only; non-TCS foods only; ANAB-accredited food handler certificate required; label must state...	Must be vendor's primary residence. Products must be non-potentially hazardous. All locations of sale must meet Marion County zoning and ri...	Non-potentially hazardous foods produced at the individual's primary residence. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) must be provided...
FOOD STORAGE	Stored in sanitary conditions at residence	Food must be stored safely; products must be in sealed tamper-evident packaging	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Stored in food-safe containers.
POPULATION	349,527	971,737	130,545

State context — Indiana cottage food law

Hamilton 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 Hamilton 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/hamilton-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 Hamilton 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/hamilton-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.

Ads are paid placements. Crosodo does not endorse listed vendors. Verify all information independently. · To advertise: crosodo.com/advertise