

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

LaPorte County

Indiana · La Porte · FIPS 18091 · Population 112,215 · Crosodo
Index #2093*

STATE BASELINE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.3 (Home Based Food Products, enacted 2022); no sales cap; no registration; food handler cert required; direct sales only; no acidified foods in oxygen-sealed containers

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

LaPorte 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

No specific state restriction; standard sanitation practices 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: LAPORTE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2093* · FIPS 18091 · La Porte

LaPorte County

Population 112,215 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.3 (Home Based Food Products, enacted 2022); no sales cap; no registration; food handler cert required; direct sales only; no acidified foods in oxygen-sealed containers · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Indiana 2022 law allows home-based vendor sales of most nonperishable foods from home kitchen. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) must be provided to local health department. Local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; standard sanitation practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Indiana preempts local licensing and inspection requirements for home-based vendors. LaPorte County unincorporated areas or city of La Porte may have general home occupation zoning permits. Note: county_seat in input is blank but is La Porte. Contact LaPorte County Planning or city zoning for zoning-specific requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Indiana preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. Inspection only upon complaint or illness investigation.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Indiana 2022 law allows home-based vendor sales of most nonperishable foods from home kitchen. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) must be provided to local health department. Local governments cannot add licensing or inspection requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; standard sanitation practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required per state food safety standards.
HANDWASHING	Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) required; must be provided to local health department.
FOOD STORAGE	Nonperishable (non-PHF) products. Fermented products allowed if not in oxygen-sealed containers. Acidified foods in oxygen-sealed containers prohibited.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Indiana preempts local licensing/inspection requirements. Inspection only upon complaint or illness investigation.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Indiana preempts local licensing and inspection requirements for home-based vendors. LaPorte County unincorporated areas or city of La Porte may have general home occupation zoning permits. Note: county_seat in input is blank but is La Porte. Contact LaPorte County Planning or city zoning for zoning-specific requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Indiana allows direct sales only: from home, online, farmers markets, events. No wholesale to restaurants or retail stores. Interstate sales prohibited.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific state limit; local zoning home occupation rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Ind. Code §16-42-5.3

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline applied (IN tier Great). LaPorte County is in northwestern Indiana near Lake Michigan. County seat is La Porte (input field was blank). No county-specific URLs provided. State preemption of local licensing/inspection is explicit. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.laportecounty.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/laporte-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	LaPorte County	Porter County	St. Joseph County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; standard sanitation practices apply.	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	Not specified; home kitchen must be clean and sanitary
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Indiana allows direct sales only: from home, online, farmers markets, events. No wholesale to restaurants or retail stores. Interstate sale...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, online with in-state delivery. No sales cap.	Direct-to-consumer only: home pickup, delivery, farmers markets, events. No wholesale, no consignment, no restaurant sales.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Indiana 2022 law allows home-based vendor sales of most nonperishable foods from home kitchen. Food handler certificate (ANSI-accredited) m...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Direct sales only; no wholesale or interstate sales. Food handler certification (ANSI-accredited) req...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; must have ANSI-accredited food handler certificate provided to local health department. Sales are dir...
FOOD STORAGE	Nonperishable (non-PHF) products. Fermented products allowed if not in oxygen-sealed containers. Acidified foods in oxygen-sealed container...	Shelf-stable storage for non-PHF products.	Non-TCS shelf-stable storage; no refrigerated finished products
POPULATION	112,215	173,355	272,388

State context — Indiana cottage food law

LaPorte 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 LaPorte 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/laporte-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 LaPorte 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/laporte-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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