

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# Montgomery County

Indiana · Crawfordsville · FIPS 18107 · Population 38,338 ·  
Crosodo Index #1186\*

STATE BASELINE

Ind. Code §16-42-5.3

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

**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

Montgomery 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 statute; proper sanitary procedures and good hygienic practices required.**

### 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: MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1186\* · FIPS 18107 · Crawfordsville

# Montgomery County

Population 38,338 · State baseline: Ind. Code §16-42-5.3 · **MEDIUM**

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

### HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must prepare food in the individual's primary residential home kitchen (or permanent structure on the same property). Only non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) foods allowed. Whole eggs, traditional pickles (not oxygen-sealed), and whole chickens/rabbits raised by the vendor also allowed with restrictions.)

### SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

### PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute; proper sanitary procedures and good hygienic practices required.

### HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (State law (IC 16-42-5.3 Sec. 12) expressly prohibits local governments from requiring licensure, certification, or inspection of home-based vendor (HBV) food operations. However, local zoning ordinances for home-based businesses may still apply. Montgomery County zoning should be verified directly with the county for any home occupation requirements unrelated to food safety.)

### ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

### INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (State statute (IC 16-42-5.3 Sec. 12) expressly prohibits local governments from requiring inspection; state department of health may investigate upon complaint or foodborne illness report.)

## Home kitchen rules

|                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes — Must prepare food in the individual's primary residential home kitchen (or permanent structure on the same property). Only non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) foods allowed. Whole eggs, traditional pickles (not oxygen-sealed), and whole chickens/rabbits raised by the vendor also allowed with restrictions. |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| PET RESTRICTIONS           | Not specified in state statute; proper sanitary procedures and good hygienic practices required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| WATER SUPPLY               | Potable water required; public water supply typical for residential use.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| HANDWASHING                | Proper handwashing required per IC 16-42-5.3 sanitary procedures.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| FOOD STORAGE               | Must use proper sanitary procedures; containers and packaging must be sanitized before use.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

## Inspection & permitting

|                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| INSPECTION REQUIRED    | Upon-complaint — State statute (IC 16-42-5.3 Sec. 12) expressly prohibits local governments from requiring inspection; state department of health may investigate upon complaint or foodborne illness report.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT | Conditional — State law (IC 16-42-5.3 Sec. 12) expressly prohibits local governments from requiring licensure, certification, or inspection of home-based vendor (HBV) food operations. However, local zoning ordinances for home-based businesses may still apply. Montgomery County zoning should be verified directly with the county for any home occupation requirements unrelated to food safety. |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE | Varies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

**Customer-facing rules**

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP | Yes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE         | Conditional                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES | 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 carrier. All sales and shipments must remain within Indiana. No sales to warehouses, retail food establishments, or wholesalers; all sales must be direct-to-consumer. |
| MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME   | Not specified in state cottage food statute; operation must be conducted at the vendor's primary residence. Local zoning may apply.                                                                                                                                                                               |

**Relevant county code**

No Montgomery County-specific cottage food ordinance found; state law preempts local food safety regulation of HBVs. Consult Montgomery County zoning ordinance for home occupation rules.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

State law (IC 16-42-5.3, enacted 2022 HEA 1149) explicitly preempts local governments from requiring licensure or inspection of home-based vendors (HBVs). ANSI-accredited food handler certificate required; must be provided to local health department. Indiana HBV Handbook 2025 confirms local zoning ordinances unrelated to food safety may still apply. Note: Indiana HB 1424 signed March 12, 2026 (effective July 1, 2026) further expands HBV rules to allow prepared foods, certain meat products, produce, natural sweeteners, baked goods, fruit spreads, and candy — changes not yet in effect as of research date. No Montgomery County-specific cottage food ordinance found. Defaulting to state baseline.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://www.montgomerycounty.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.in.gov/health/food-protection/files/Indiana-Home-Based-Vendor-Handbook-2.pdf>

**Questions about this county?** Local notes and a place to leave a question: [crosodo.com/nb/indiana/montgomery-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/indiana/montgomery-county-discuss)

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

| Regulation                 | Montgomery County                                                                                                                              | Clinton County | Fountain County |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED       | Yes                                                                                                                                            | —              | —               |
| SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN | No                                                                                                                                             | —              | —               |
| PETS ALLOWED               | Not specified in state statute; proper sanitary procedures and good hygienic practices required.                                               | —              | —               |
| INSPECTION REQUIRED        | Upon-complaint                                                                                                                                 | —              | —               |
| ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP    | Yes                                                                                                                                            | —              | —               |
| ON-SITE SIGNAGE            | Conditional                                                                                                                                    | —              | —               |
| DELIVERY / PICKUP          | 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                                                                                                                                    | —              | —               |
| LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE     | Varies                                                                                                                                         | —              | —               |
| RESTRICTIONS               | 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               | Must use proper sanitary procedures; containers and packaging must be sanitized before use.                                                    | —              | —               |
| POPULATION                 | 38,338                                                                                                                                         | 33,020         | 16,468          |

## State context — Indiana cottage food law

Montgomery 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](https://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 Montgomery 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/montgomery-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/indiana/montgomery-county-discuss)

## Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### NATIONAL

#### SUPPLIES

##### Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### COURSES

##### Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

#### INSURANCE

##### Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. [crosodo.com/advertise](https://crosodo.com/advertise)

### LOCAL

#### Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Montgomery County, Indiana. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

[crosodo.com/advertise](https://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/montgomery-county-discuss](https://crosodo.com/nb/indiana/montgomery-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](https://crosodo.com/advertise)