

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Wicomico County

Maryland · Salisbury · FIPS 24045 · Population 103,815 ·
Crosodo Index #1757*

STATE BASELINE

MD COMAR 10.15.03.27

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

50000

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

Wicomico County, Maryland — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

50000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state pet restriction, but standard sanitation applies.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Maryland label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

MARYLAND: WICOMICO COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1757* · FIPS 24045 · Salisbury

Wicomico County

Population 103,815 · State baseline: MD COMAR 10.15.03.27 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Maryland residential kitchen permit allows non-PHF baked goods, non-PHF candy, acid-fruit jellies/jams/preserves/butters, dry goods (spice blends, coffee, teas), and certain snacks. Annual sales cap of \$50,000. Food handler cert recommended (required for retail channel). Complaint-based inspections. Free optional registration unless selling at retail stores.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state pet restriction, but standard sanitation applies.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Wicomico County and the City of Salisbury may have home occupation zoning requirements. Salisbury is on the Delmarva Peninsula and serves as a regional hub. No specific Wicomico County cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-based inspections only.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Maryland residential kitchen permit allows non-PHF baked goods, non-PHF candy, acid-fruit jellies/jams/preserves/butters, dry goods (spice blends, coffee, teas), and certain snacks. Annual sales cap of \$50,000. Food handler cert recommended (required for retail channel). Complaint-based inspections. Free optional registration unless selling at retail stores.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state pet restriction, but standard sanitation applies.

WATER SUPPLY

Private well and septic may have additional testing requirements.

HANDWASHING

Standard handwashing required. Food handler cert recommended (required for retail channel).

FOOD STORAGE

Non-PHF foods only. Prohibited: refrigerated baked goods, low-acid canned foods, acidified foods/pickled products (pickles, salsa, pepper jelly, mustard, BBQ sauce), garlic/vegetables in oil, raw sprouts, fish, shellfish, meat, poultry, milk/dairy products, beverages, fermented foods.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Upon-complaint — Complaint-based inspections only.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Wicomico County and the City of Salisbury may have home occupation zoning requirements. Salisbury is on the Delmarva Peninsula and serves as a regional hub. No specific Wicomico County cottage food ordinance identified.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales permitted. Retail store sales require free optional registration and food handler cert. Online sales and delivery permitted within Maryland. \$50,000 annual cap.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

No specific Wicomico County code section identified. State law governs: MD COMAR 10.15.03.27.

RESEARCH NOTES

Wicomico County was flagged as 'verified-large' and has a county_govt_url. The county seat Salisbury is a major Delmarva Peninsula city with University of Maryland Eastern Shore nearby. Maryland's state rules govern with no county-specific deviations found. Confidence medium — county URL exists but no county-specific cottage food rules identified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.wicomicocounty.org>

<https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

<https://regs.maryland.gov/us/md/exec/comar/10.15.03.27>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Wicomico County	Worcester County	Dorchester County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction, but standard sanitation applies.	No specific MD state or Worcester County restriction.	Local health department standards apply; typically animals must be excluded from food prep areas.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer and some indirect sales permitted. Retail store sales require free optional registration and food handler cert. Online s...	Direct and limited indirect sales. Retail store sales require food handler certification and free registration. Online and direct-to-consum...	Direct-to-consumer sales permitted. Retail store sales require prior MDH approval. Food safety training recommended but not required for st...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Maryland residential kitchen permit allows non-PHF baked goods, non-PHF candy, acid-fruit jellies/jams/preserves/butters, dry goods (spice ...	Non-potentially hazardous foods from residential kitchen. Annual cap \$50,000. Complaint-based inspections. No routine inspection. Food hand...	Annual gross sales capped at \$50,000. Must produce in residential kitchen in Maryland. Must comply with all applicable county and municipal...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods only. Prohibited: refrigerated baked goods, low-acid canned foods, acidified foods/pickled products (pickles, salsa, pepper j...	Non-PHF shelf-stable products. Prohibited: items requiring refrigeration, acidified foods (pickles, salsa, ketchup, BBQ sauce), fermented f...	Products must be stored on premises of the cottage food business. Shelf-stable non-potentially hazardous foods only.
POPULATION	103,815	52,827	32,557

State context — Maryland cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
MD COMAR 10.15.03.27	50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Depends	Recommended
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Upon-complaint	No
INDIRECT SALES	
Limited (see notes) — Sales at retail food stores (indirect) are allowed but require prior submission of labels and documentation of ANSI-accredited food safety course completion to the Maryland Department of Health before any retail sales can commence. The Department must notify the producer in writing that requirements are met before retail sales begin.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://regs.maryland.gov/us/md/exec/comar/10.15.03.27>

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

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

Questions about Wicomico 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/maryland/wicomico-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 Wicomico County, Maryland. 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/maryland/wicomico-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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