

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Kent County

Michigan · Grand Rapids · FIPS 26081 · Population 657,321 ·
Crosodo Index #2105*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
MCL §289.4102	Great	50000	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

Kent County, Michigan — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

50000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

No specific state cottage food pet restriction found; general sanitation standards apply

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

Open the live county page →

Michigan label one-pager →

Local notes & questions →

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

MICHIGAN: KENT COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2105* · FIPS 26081 · Grand Rapids

Kent County

Population 657,321 · State baseline: MCL \$289.4102 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be the kitchen of the person's primary domestic residence (single-family home). Second homes, vacation homes, motor homes do not qualify. Products must be stored at primary residence. Only single-family domestic residence qualifies.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state cottage food pet restriction found; general sanitation standards apply

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies by city (Michigan cottage food law exempts from state licensing/inspection but expressly states 'contact your local unit of government to determine if there are local regulations that will affect your business.' City of Grand Rapids has a tiered Home Occupation license system (Class A, B, C). Grand Rapids Class C is for lodging; Class A/B likely required for food production. Kent County townships may have separate zoning requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (MDARD will inspect upon complaint or foodborne illness investigation; may seize adulterated product, order label corrections, require discontinuation of unapproved products)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be the kitchen of the person's primary domestic residence (single-family home). Second homes, vacation homes, motor homes do not qualify. Products must be stored at primary residence. Only single-family domestic residence qualifies.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state cottage food pet restriction found; general sanitation standards apply
WATER SUPPLY	Municipal or private supply; no specific state-level water testing requirement for cottage food operations
HANDWASHING	Implied by Michigan Food Law sanitation standards; no specific cottage food provision
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at primary residence following safe good handling guidelines to prevent adulteration (insects, chemicals, water damage, insanitary conditions)

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — MDARD will inspect upon complaint or foodborne illness investigation; may seize adulterated product, order label corrections, require discontinuation of unapproved products
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city — Michigan cottage food law exempts from state licensing/inspection but expressly states 'contact your local unit of government to determine if there are local regulations that will affect your business.' City of Grand Rapids has a tiered Home Occupation license system (Class A, B, C). Grand Rapids Class C is for lodging; Class A/B likely required for food production. Kent County townships may have separate zoning requirements.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales within Michigan only via farmers markets, craft shows, roadside stands, internet/mail order, or third-party delivery platform if direct interaction with operator occurs before sale. No out-of-state sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified; cottage food law is for home kitchen operations — no employee provisions in state law

Relevant county code

No county-level code for cottage food found. State: MCL §289.4102. City of Grand Rapids: Home Occupation License Ordinance.

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan's Cottage Food Law (MCL §289.4102) is a Great-tier state law: no registration, no inspection, no sales cap at state level, direct sales within Michigan only, no license required from MDARD. Must be primary residence. State law does not preempt local ordinances; operators must check local government rules. In Grand Rapids, Home Occupation licenses exist but are structured for different business types; food production home occupation likely falls under Class A or B (not the Class C lodging license found in search). Kent County townships (Kentwood, Wyoming, Walker, etc.) each have separate zoning codes. Annual sales cap of \$25,000 noted on Kentwood city page — this may be an outdated figure from prior law; current state law has no cap. Confidence medium: state law confirmed from official MDARD page; local zoning details not fully confirmed for Kent County unincorporated areas.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.accesskent.com>

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/food-dairy/michigan-cottage-foods-information>

<https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/departments/clerks-office/business-licenses/apply-for-home-occupation-licenses/home-occupation-class-c-license/>

https://www.kentwood.us/michigan_s_cottage_food_law.php

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Kent County	Ottawa County	Muskegon County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state cottage food pet restriction found; general sanitation standards apply	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales within Michigan only via farmers markets, craft shows, roadside stands, internet/mail order, or third-party delivery platform ...	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, online with in-state delivery (virtual interaction required under 2025 amendment).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies by city	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must be the kitchen of the person's primary domestic residence (single-family home). Second homes, vacation homes, motor homes do not quali...	Non-TCS non-potentially-hazardous foods only; \$50,000 annual cap; direct to consumer only; no retail/wholesale; labeling required	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Sales cap \$50,000/year (raised by 2025 HB 4122, effective March 2026). Direct sales only; no consignm...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at primary residence following safe good handling guidelines to prevent adulteration (insects, chemicals, water dam...	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	Store products in clean, pest-free area separate from non-food items.
POPULATION	657,321	296,183	175,947

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
MCL §289.4102	50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales through retail stores, restaurants, or wholesale are prohibited. Online sales, mail order, and third-party delivery platform sales (e.g., DoorDash) are allowed in-state only, but require the producer to offer the customer an opportunity to directly interact (face-to-face or virtually) before purchase. A separate \$75,000 cap applies if all products are priced at \$250 or more per item. Honey and maple syrup have a separate exemption permitting indirect retail sales up to \$15,000/year.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-289-4102>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/food-dairy/cottage-foods>

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

Questions about Kent 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/michigan/kent-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 Kent County, Michigan. 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/michigan/kent-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