

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Washtenaw County

Michigan · Ann Arbor · FIPS 26161 · Population 370,231 ·
Crosodo Index #1743*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

50000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices 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: WASHTENAW COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1743* · FIPS 26161 · Ann Arbor

Washtenaw County

Population 370,231 · State baseline: MCL §289.4102 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) allows non-PHF foods from home kitchens with annual gross sales cap of \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025, effective March 2026). Direct sales only. Online/mail order and third-party delivery permitted with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement (2025 amendment). Allowed foods: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, pastries, preserves, snacks (specific permitted list). No state registration required. Local zoning compliance required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Washtenaw County municipalities (Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Saline, Chelsea, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances governing home occupations. Ann Arbor has active zoning enforcement. Operators should verify with local city/township whether home occupation permit required.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Conditional — Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) allows non-PHF foods from home kitchens with annual gross sales cap of \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025, effective March 2026). Direct sales only. Online/mail order and third-party delivery permitted with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement (2025 amendment). Allowed foods: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, pastries, preserves, snacks (specific permitted list). No state registration required. Local zoning compliance required.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety practices.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — No routine inspection required.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Washtenaw County municipalities (Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Saline, Chelsea, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances governing home occupations. Ann Arbor has active zoning enforcement. Operators should verify with local city/township whether home occupation permit required.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only. No consignment or wholesale. Online/mail/third-party delivery with face-to-face or virtual interaction permitted per 2025 amendment.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law; local zoning rules vary.

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102 (state cottage food); local Washtenaw County municipal zoning codes vary.

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) confirmed from state baseline. 2025 amendment (HB 4122) raised cap to \$50,000, allowed online/mail/third-party delivery. Washtenaw County includes University of Michigan community — active farmers market and food entrepreneurship culture. No state registration. Local zoning compliance required. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Washtenaw County local zoning not specifically researched.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.washtenaw.org>

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Washtenaw County	Livingston County	Oakland County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	No explicit state-level pet restriction in Michigan cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.	State baseline applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer only. No consignment or wholesale. Online/mail/third-party delivery with face-to-face or virtual interaction permitted p...	Michigan cottage food: direct sales from home, at events/ markets, and online (2025 amendment added online/ mail-order/third-party delivery p...	Direct sales required; wholesale/consignment prohibited. Internet/mail order and third-party delivery allowed if consumer can directly inte...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies by city
RESTRICTIONS	Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) allows non-PHF foods from home kitchens with annual gross sales cap of \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122...	Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102, amended 2025 HB 4122) allows non-PHF foods from a home kitchen. Annual sales cap: \$50,000 (double...	Michigan Cottage Food Law exempts cottage food operations from MDARD licensing and inspection. No separate Oakland County permit required. ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only.	Non-PHF foods only; only two specified buttercream frosting recipes permitted. Standard GMP storage.	Products must be stored only in the primary domestic residence.
POPULATION	370,231	194,302	1,272,264

State context — Michigan cottage food law

Washtenaw 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 Washtenaw 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/washtenaw-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 Washtenaw 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/washtenaw-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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