

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Clay County

Minnesota · Moorhead · FIPS 27027 · Population 65,307 ·
Crosodo Index #1024*

STATE BASELINE

Minn. Stat. §28A.152

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

78000

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

Clay County, Minnesota — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

78000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Minnesota label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

MINNESOTA: CLAY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1024* · FIPS 27027 · Moorhead

Clay County

Population 65,307 · State baseline: Minn. Stat. §28A.152 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Registration required with MDA. Two tiers: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year, free registration training); Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/year, \$50 training fee, \$30 annual registration). Food handler certification required for Tier 2. No kitchen inspection.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Clay County is home to Moorhead (Fargo-Moorhead metro area). No specific Clay County cottage food home occupation permit identified beyond state registration. Contact Clay County Planning & Zoning or City of Moorhead for local zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; MDA may investigate complaints)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Registration required with MDA. Two tiers: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year, free registration training); Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/year, \$50 training fee, \$30 annual registration). Food handler certification required for Tier 2. No kitchen inspection.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing facilities required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods and pH-tested acidified foods; proper storage required

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; MDA may investigate complaints
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Clay County is home to Moorhead (Fargo-Moorhead metro area). No specific Clay County cottage food home occupation permit identified beyond state registration. Contact Clay County Planning & Zoning or City of Moorhead for local zoning.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only; no wholesale or retail sales. Farmers markets, events, home, and online within Minnesota. Home-canned goods for direct MN sales only.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific limit stated

Relevant county code

Contact Clay County or Moorhead City for local zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Minnesota §28A.152 (amended 2025) raised annual cap to \$78,000 for Tier 2. Clay County is the Moorhead-Fargo border area. No specific Clay County cottage food overrides found. Registration required at state level; tiered training costs apply. No county URLs in input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.claycounty.gov>

<https://www.mda.state.mn.us/food/business/cottage-food-producer-registration>

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.152>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Clay County	Otter Tail County	Becker County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies	No specific pet restriction in state cottage food law.	No specific state cottage food pet restriction; good sanitation practices required.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only; no wholesale or retail sales. Farmers markets, events, home, and online within Minnesota. Home-canned goods for direct M...	Direct sales to consumers. Farmers markets, home pickup, events. No wholesale to stores. Home-canned goods may not be sold outside Minnesot...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, community events, and internet sales permitted. Canned goods may not be sold across state lines.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Registration required with MDA. Two tiers: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year, free registration training); Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/year, \$50 trainin...	Minnesota cottage food registration required (\$30/year for Tier 2, or free Tier 1 training for under ~\$7,665/year). No inspection. Food han...	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152, amended 2025) allows up to \$78,000 annual gross sales of non-potentially hazardous foods ...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods and pH-tested acidified foods; proper storage required	Non-potentially hazardous, shelf-stable products required.	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; no refrigeration required.
POPULATION	65,307	60,072	35,202

State context — Minnesota cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
Minn. Stat. §28A.152	78000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	Yes
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	No

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales are limited to direct-to-consumer channels: community events, farmers markets, from the producer's home, online (in-state delivery by the producer personally or by mail/commercial delivery), and fundraising donations. Restaurants, retail stores, roadside stands, mail order wholesale, and catering are prohibited. All deliveries must be made by the producer personally unless shipped by mail or commercial delivery upon a prior online sale. Home-canned products in the pH/water-activity exemption category (Subd. 1(a)(2)) may not be sold outside of Minnesota.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/28A.152>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.mda.state.mn.us/food/business/cottage-food-producer-registration>

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

Questions about Clay 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/minnesota/clay-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 Clay County, Minnesota. 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/minnesota/clay-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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