

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Dakota County

Minnesota · Hastings · FIPS 27037 · Population 439,179 ·
Crosodo Index #2764*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

78000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

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: DAKOTA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2764* · FIPS 27037 · Hastings

Dakota County

Population 439,179 · State baseline: Minn. Stat. §28A.152 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152) allows non-potentially-hazardous foods without a food license, up to \$78,000 gross annual sales (2025 inflation-adjusted cap). Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/yr): free online training registration. Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/yr): \$50 annual registration fee + approved food safety course every 3 years. Direct sales to consumers, at farmers markets/events, from home (to extent allowed by local ordinance), and online (with producer delivering). Local ordinances not preempted: Dakota County municipalities may impose additional zoning/licensing requirements. Dakota County requires home occupation permit.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Dakota County zoning requires home occupation permit or conditional use permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. Business must be secondary to residential use; no external signage; typically no on-site employees. Cities within Dakota County (Eagan, Lakeville, Apple Valley, Burnsville) have their own rules. Home sales directly to consumers allowed to extent permitted by local ordinance per state statute. HOAs may impose additional restrictions.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No inspection required at state level. MN Stat. §28A.152 does not preempt local sanitation, public health, or zoning requirements.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Conditional — Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152) allows non-potentially-hazardous foods without a food license, up to \$78,000 gross annual sales (2025 inflation-adjusted cap). Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/yr): free online training registration. Tier 2 (up to \$78,000/yr): \$50 annual registration fee + approved food safety course every 3 years. Direct sales to consumers, at farmers markets/events, from home (to extent allowed by local ordinance), and online (with producer delivering). Local ordinances not preempted: Dakota County municipalities may impose additional zoning/licensing requirements. Dakota County requires home occupation permit.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety practices required.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Home-canned items must meet pH 4.6 or lower or water activity 0.85 or less.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No inspection required at state level. MN Stat. §28A.152 does not preempt local sanitation, public health, or zoning requirements.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Dakota County zoning requires home occupation permit or conditional use permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. Business must be secondary to residential use; no external signage; typically no on-site employees. Cities within Dakota County (Eagan, Lakeville, Apple Valley, Burnsville) have their own rules. Home sales directly to consumers allowed to extent permitted by local ordinance per state statute. HOAs may impose additional restrictions.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales from home (if local ordinance permits), at community events/farmers markets, and online (producer must deliver). Home-canned items (pH 4.6 or lower) may only be sold at community events/farmers markets or within Minnesota via producer delivery.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Typically none on-site per Dakota County home occupation rules.

Relevant county code

Minn. Stat. §28A.152 (state cottage food exemption); Dakota County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions). Local municipal codes vary.

RESEARCH NOTES

Minnesota cottage food statute confirmed from official [revisor.mn.gov](https://www.revisor.mn.gov) PDF. Dakota County home occupation permit requirement confirmed via CityRuleLookup (Municode source). State does not preempt local zoning/business licensing. Cities within Dakota County (Eagan, Lakeville, Apple Valley, Burnsville) have separate city-specific rules. \$78,000 cap is inflation-adjusted for 2025 per 2025 amendment. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; county zoning details from Municode-sourced summary.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.dakotacounty.us>

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

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/zoning/dakota-county-mn>

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/2021/cite/28A.152/pdf>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Dakota County	Ramsey County	Washington 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 specific state cottage food pet restriction	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be sanitary
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales from home (if local ordinance permits), at community events/farmers markets, and online (producer must deliver). Home-canned i...	Direct sales within Minnesota: farmers markets, community events, home sales (if local zoning allows), online within Minnesota. \$78,000 ann...	Sales allowed at home, farmers markets, online (direct delivery only within MN); no interstate sales for home-canned category; Class A CFO ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152) allows non-potentially-hazardous foods without a food license, up to \$78,000 gross annual...	State registration required (\$50 if sales exceed \$7,665; free otherwise). Accredited food safety training required. \$78,000 annual sales ca...	Annual sales cap of \$78,000 (2025, CPI-adjusted). Two tiers: Tier 1 (up to ~\$7,665/year) requires free registration training only; Tier 2 (...)
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Home-canned items must meet pH 4.6 or lower or water activity 0.85 or less.	Standard home kitchen storage for approved non-PHF foods	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; no refrigerated finished products
POPULATION	439,179	547,202	268,651

State context — Minnesota cottage food law

Dakota 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 Dakota 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/dakota-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 Dakota 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/dakota-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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