

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Washington County

Minnesota · Stillwater · FIPS 27163 · Population 268,651 ·
Crosodo Index #484*

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

78000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be sanitary

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: WASHINGTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #484* · FIPS 27163 · Stillwater

Washington County

Population 268,651 · State baseline: Minn. Stat. §28A.152 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (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 (up to \$78,000/year) requires \$50 MDA training course renewed every 3 years plus \$30 annual registration fee. Non-potentially hazardous foods only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be sanitary

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Washington County municipalities (Stillwater, Woodbury, etc.) may require home occupation permits under local zoning. Washington County itself does not appear to have county-wide zoning over all municipalities. Producers should check with their specific city or township.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based enforcement only)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — 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 (up to \$78,000/year) requires \$50 MDA training course renewed every 3 years plus \$30 annual registration fee. Non-potentially hazardous foods only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be sanitary
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing facilities required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; no refrigerated finished products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection; complaint-based enforcement only
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Washington County municipalities (Stillwater, Woodbury, etc.) may require home occupation permits under local zoning. Washington County itself does not appear to have county-wide zoning over all municipalities. Producers should check with their specific city or township.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed at home, farmers markets, online (direct delivery only within MN); no interstate sales for home-canned category; Class A CFO model applies for most products
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

Minn. Stat. §28A.152; local municipal zoning varies

RESEARCH NOTES

Washington County MN follows the state baseline (Minn. Stat. §28A.152). No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. State MDA administers registration. The 2025 amendment raised the cap to \$78,000 and added CPI indexing. Washington County is a suburban Twin Cities county; local municipalities likely have home occupation permit requirements. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no specific Washington County .gov cottage food source found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.washington.mn.us>

<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/washington-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Washington County	Anoka County	Dakota County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be sanitary	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed at home, farmers markets, online (direct delivery only within MN); no interstate sales for home-canned category; Class A CFO ...	Direct sales from home (if local ordinance permits), at community events/farmers markets, and online (producer must deliver). Home-canned i...	Direct sales from home (if local ordinance permits), at community events/farmers markets, and online (producer must deliver). Home-canned i...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	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 (...)	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152) allows non-PHF foods without a food license, up to \$78,000 gross annual sales (2025 infla...	Minnesota cottage food law (Minn. Stat. §28A.152) allows non-potentially-hazardous foods without a food license, up to \$78,000 gross annual...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods; no refrigerated finished products	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Home-canned items (pH 4.6 or lower or water activity 0.85 or less) also permitted.	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Home-canned items must meet pH 4.6 or lower or water activity 0.85 or less.
POPULATION	268,651	363,985	439,179

State context — Minnesota cottage food law

Washington 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 Washington 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/washington-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 Washington 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/washington-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