

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Clay County

Missouri · Liberty · FIPS 29047 · Population 253,085 ·
Crosodo Index #455*

STATE BASELINE

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

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, Missouri — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Missouri label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

MISSOURI: CLAY COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #455* · FIPS 29047 · Liberty

Clay County

Population 253,085 · State baseline: Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Under §196.298: only nonperishable baked goods (cookies, cakes, breads, danish, donuts, pastries, pies), canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs/herb mixes allowed. Direct sales only. Local health departments cannot regulate production (§196.298(3)(1)). Online/in-state shipping allowed (2022 amendment). No sales cap. May also have access to individual-stands law in some county areas.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Clay County and Liberty may require home occupation permits or business licenses under local zoning. State law prohibits local health dept regulation but does not address local zoning. Check with Clay County Planning & Zoning.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Local health departments expressly prohibited from regulating cottage food production (§196.298(3)(1)))

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Yes — Under §196.298: only nonperishable baked goods (cookies, cakes, breads, danish, donuts, pastries, pies), canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs/herb mixes allowed. Direct sales only. Local health departments cannot regulate production (§196.298(3)(1)). Online/in-state shipping allowed (2022 amendment). No sales cap. May also have access to individual-stands law in some county areas.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water supply required

HANDWASHING

No formal certification required by state

FOOD STORAGE

Nonperishable shelf-stable foods only under primary statute; baked goods, jams/jellies, dried herbs

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

No — Local health departments expressly prohibited from regulating cottage food production (§196.298(3)(1))

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

Conditional — Clay County and Liberty may require home occupation permits or business licenses under local zoning. State law prohibits local health dept regulation but does not address local zoning. Check with Clay County Planning & Zoning.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only: home pickup, delivery, online/in-state shipping (as of 2022 HB 1697). No farmers markets, events, or restaurants under §196.298 (though separate individual-stands law may allow event sales in some counties).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute

Relevant county code

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298; Clay County zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Clay County MO follows the Missouri state baseline (Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298). Missouri has one of the nation's most explicit preemption provisions — local health depts cannot regulate cottage food production. Limited food list under primary statute (baked goods, jams/jellies, dried herbs). No sales cap. No Clay County-specific ordinance found. Confidence medium — state law confirmed but no Clay County .gov cottage food source retrieved.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.claycountymo.gov>

<https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>

<https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Clay County	Jackson County	Platte County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in state statute; kitchen must be clean	Not specified; standard sanitation	No specific state restriction.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only: home pickup, delivery, online/in-state shipping (as of 2022 HB 1697). No farmers markets, events, or restaurants under \$...	Direct-to-consumer: home pickup, farmers markets, online with in-state delivery (2022 amendment). No wholesale, no events, no roadside stan...	Direct-to-consumer at home and via online/in-state shipping permitted. Farmers markets, events, restaurants, retail stores, roadside stands...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Under §196.298: only nonperishable baked goods (cookies, cakes, breads, danish, donuts, pastries, pies), canned jams/jellies, and dried her...	Missouri's §196.298 limits cottage food to non-perishable baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs. No registration, permit, or fe...	Missouri primary statute (§196.298) allows only: nonperishable baked goods (cookies, cakes, breads, danish, donuts, pastries, pies), canned...
FOOD STORAGE	Nonperishable shelf-stable foods only under primary statute; baked goods, jams/jellies, dried herbs	Standard food storage practices	Only baked goods, canned jams/jellies, and dried herbs allowed under §196.298.
POPULATION	253,085	715,526	107,033

State context — Missouri cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Mo. Rev. Stat. §196.298

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Under §196.298, sales must be directly to consumers from the producer's home. Events, farmers markets, restaurants, retail stores, and roadside stands are not permitted under this law. Internet/online sales are allowed but only if both the producer and buyer are located in Missouri. Local health departments are explicitly prohibited from regulating the production of food at cottage food operations. A separate Missouri statute (individual stands law) allows sales at events and roadside stands in counties that have adopted it, permitting most other nonperishable foods.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://revisor.mo.gov/main/OneSection.aspx?section=196.298>

State dept cottage food page: <https://health.mo.gov/safety/foodsafety/cottagefood.php>

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

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/missouri/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, Missouri. 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/missouri/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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