

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Douglas County

Washington · Waterville · FIPS 53017 · Population 45,795 ·
Crosodo Index #2695*

STATE BASELINE

RCW §69.22.010-.040; WAC 16-149

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

WAC 16-149 restricts access to the permitted area during cottage food production. Pets must be excluded from the permitted area during food production and handling.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Washington label one-pager →](#)

Local notes & questions →

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

WASHINGTON: DOUGLAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2695* · FIPS 53017 · Waterville

Douglas County

Population 45,795 · State baseline: RCW §69.22.010–.040; WAC 16-149 · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Washington state cottage food law (RCW §69.22.010–.040; WAC 16-149) requires a biennial WSDA cottage food permit (\$125 inspection fee + \$75 public health review fee + \$30 processing fee). All food handlers must hold a food and beverage service worker's permit (Chapter 69.06 RCW). Producers must comply with all applicable county and municipal zoning ordinances prior to permitting (WAC 16-149-030(4)). Douglas County has a detailed home occupation ordinance (Chapter 18A.66) that explicitly permits home cooking and preserving for the purpose of selling the product as an allowed home occupation use.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

WAC 16-149 restricts access to the permitted area during cottage food production. Pets must be excluded from the permitted area during food production and handling.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Yes (Douglas County Chapter 18A.66 requires a home occupation permit for most home-based businesses. Home occupation permit is required unless the activity is specifically exempted. Home cooking and preserving for sale is explicitly listed as a permitted home occupation use (DCC 18A.66.040(A)(10)). Standards include: (1) home occupation must be clearly incidental to residential use; (2) limited to 25% of gross floor area of the structure or 500 sq ft, whichever is less; (3) no exterior or window displays or outdoor storage of materials; (4) retail/wholesale sales limited to products created in the home occupation; (5) no restaurant/cafe uses. Exemptions from permit requirement include temporary home boutiques (max 5 days or 10 days/year) and purely administrative home offices. WAC 16-149-030(4) also requires a Washington State master business license.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual basic hygiene inspection by WSDA required for permit renewal. Initial inspection required before operations begin.)

Home kitchen rules**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED**

Yes — Washington state cottage food law (RCW §69.22.010–.040; WAC 16-149) requires a biennial WSDA cottage food permit (\$125 inspection fee + \$75 public health review fee + \$30 processing fee). All food handlers must hold a food and beverage service worker's permit (Chapter 69.06 RCW). Producers must comply with all applicable county and municipal zoning ordinances prior to permitting (WAC 16-149-030(4)). Douglas County has a detailed home occupation ordinance (Chapter 18A.66) that explicitly permits home cooking and preserving for the purpose of selling the product as an allowed home occupation use.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

WAC 16-149 restricts access to the permitted area during cottage food production. Pets must be excluded from the permitted area during food production and handling.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific water testing requirement under RCW 69.22 beyond standard food safety practices.

HANDWASHING

Handwashing facilities required per WAC 16-149 basic hygiene standards.

FOOD STORAGE

Proper storage per WAC 16-149 basic hygiene requirements; cottage foods must be nonpotentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual basic hygiene inspection by WSDA required for permit renewal. Initial inspection required before operations begin.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes — Douglas County Chapter 18A.66 requires a home occupation permit for most home-based businesses. Home occupation permit is required unless the activity is specifically exempted. Home cooking and preserving for sale is explicitly listed as a permitted home occupation use (DCC 18A.66.040(A)(10)). Standards include: (1) home occupation must be clearly incidental to residential use; (2) limited to 25% of gross floor area of the structure or 500 sq ft, whichever is less; (3) no exterior or window displays or outdoor storage of materials; (4) retail/wholesale sales limited to products created in the home occupation; (5) no restaurant/cafe uses. Exemptions from permit requirement include temporary home boutiques (max 5 days or 10 days/year) and purely administrative home offices. WAC 16-149-030(4) also requires a Washington State master business license.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Washington cottage food: direct sales to consumers only. No internet/mail-order/interstate sales. No retail sales outside Washington. Producers may sell at farmers markets and direct from home. Douglas County home occupation rules: retail/wholesale sales limited to products created in the home occupation. Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle cottage food products during processing (RCW §69.22.020).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Douglas County home occupation rules: primary residence of the operator required; limited to immediate residents plus one nonresident employee. Only the permittee or persons under direct supervision may handle cottage food products during processing (RCW §69.22.020).

Relevant county code

Douglas County Code (East Wenatchee) Chapter 18A.66 (Home Occupations); RCW §69.22.010–.040; WAC 16-149

RESEARCH NOTES

Douglas County WA (seat: Waterville; East Wenatchee is a city within the county) has a detailed home occupation ordinance (Chapter 18A.66, Ord. TLS 23-11-44B) that explicitly lists home cooking and preserving for sale as a permitted home occupation use (DCC 18A.66.040(A)(10)). Home occupation permit required. Floor area limited to 25%/500 sq ft. No outdoor storage. Retail limited to on-premises products. Classes for home cooking/preserving also permitted. WAC 16-149-030(4) requires county zoning compliance before WSDA cottage food permit is issued. State cottage food baseline applies for food rules. Medium confidence: Douglas County home occupation ordinance confirmed from official CodePublishing source (Ord. TLS 23-11-44B, 2023); WSDA state rules confirmed.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.douglas.wa.us/planning/>

<https://www.co.douglas.wa.us/>

<https://www.codepublishing.com/WA/DouglasCounty/html/DouglasCounty18A/DouglasCounty18A66.html>

<https://agr.wa.gov/services/business-services/food-safety-and-licensing/cottage-food-operations>

<https://app.leg.wa.gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=69.22&full=true>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Douglas County	Kittitas County	Okanogan County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	WAC 16-149 restricts access to the permitted area during cottage food production. Pets must be excluded from the permitted area during food...	Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. P...	Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. P...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Washington cottage food: direct sales to consumers only. No internet/mail-order/interstate sales. No retail sales outside Washington. Produ...	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order o...	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order o...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Yes	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Washington state cottage food law (RCW §69.22.010-.040; WAC 16-149) requires a biennial WSDA cottage food permit (\$125 inspection fee + \$75...	Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operation...	Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operation...
FOOD STORAGE	Proper storage per WAC 16-149 basic hygiene requirements; cottage foods must be nonpotentially hazardous.	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.
POPULATION	43,189	47,935	42,243

State context — Washington cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
RCW §69.22.010–.040	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
Yes	Yes
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
Yes	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Cottage food products may only be sold directly to the consumer. Internet sales, mail order, and retail sale outside Washington state are explicitly prohibited. Products may not be repackaged, sold, or used as an ingredient by a food processing plant, or sold by a food service establishment.	

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=69.22.040>

State dept cottage food page: <https://agr.wa.gov/services/business-services/food-safety-and-licensing/cottage-food-operations>

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

Questions about Douglas 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/washington/douglas-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 Douglas County, Washington. 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/washington/douglas-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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