

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Whitman County

Washington · Colfax · FIPS 53075 · Population 51,017 ·
Crosodo Index #2302*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
RCW \$69.22.010-.040	Good	—	MEDIUM	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

Whitman County, Washington — 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?

Conditional

INSPECTION

Yes

PETS

Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. Pet presence during production is prohibited; standard food safety rules apply.

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: WHITMAN COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2302* · FIPS 53075 · Colfax

Whitman County

Population 51,017 · State baseline: RCW §69.22.010–.040 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operations. Permit fees: approximately \$125 (inspection) + \$75 (public health review) + \$30 (processing). Annual kitchen inspection required. Home kitchen must be the operator's primary residence. Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle products or be present in the kitchen during processing.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. Pet presence during production is prohibited; standard food safety rules apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Whitman County is an agricultural (Palouse wheat country) county in southeastern Washington, home to Washington State University (Pullman). Home-based businesses in unincorporated areas are subject to Whitman County zoning code accessory use provisions. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Colfax (county seat) and Pullman (home to WSU, separately incorporated) have their own rules within city limits.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Yes (Annual basic hygiene inspections required by Washington State Department of Agriculture as a permit condition. Permittee must sign document granting WSDA right of entry to home during normal business hours.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operations. Permit fees: approximately \$125 (inspection) + \$75 (public health review) + \$30 (processing). Annual kitchen inspection required. Home kitchen must be the operator's primary residence. Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may handle products or be present in the kitchen during processing.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. Pet presence during production is prohibited; standard food safety rules apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific private water testing requirement cited in RCW §69.22; standard water supply requirements apply per Washington food code.
HANDWASHING	Food and beverage service worker's permit required under RCW chapter 69.06, implying food handler training and hygiene standards including handwashing.
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes — Annual basic hygiene inspections required by Washington State Department of Agriculture as a permit condition. Permittee must sign document granting WSDA right of entry to home during normal business hours.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Whitman County is an agricultural (Palouse wheat country) county in southeastern Washington, home to Washington State University (Pullman). Home-based businesses in unincorporated areas are subject to Whitman County zoning code accessory use provisions. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified. Colfax (county seat) and Pullman (home to WSU, separately incorporated) have their own rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order outside Washington are restricted by statute. Home pickup generally allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only the permittee or persons under their direct supervision may be in the kitchen during processing per RCW §69.22.

Relevant county code

Whitman County Zoning Code (home occupation provisions); RCW §69.22; WAC 16-149

RESEARCH NOTES

Whitman County is an agricultural county in eastern Washington containing Washington State University (Pullman). No county-specific cottage food or home occupation ordinance found in search. State baseline (RCW §69.22 / WAC 16-149) is the operative framework. Pullman has its own city-level rules. Defaulting to state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.whitmancounty.org>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Whitman County	Adams County	Asotin County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Persons other than the permittee and those under their direct supervision are prohibited in the kitchen during production per RCW §69.22. P...	WAC 16-149 restricts access to the permitted area during cottage food production. Pets must be excluded from the permitted area (home kitch...	WAC 16-149 restricts access to the permitted area during cottage food production. Pets must be excluded from the permitted area during food...
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Washington state cottage food law permits direct-to-consumer sales at farmers markets, events, and from home. Online sales and mail order o...	Washington cottage food: direct sales to consumers only. No internet/mail-order/interstate sales. No retail sales outside Washington. Produ...	Washington cottage food: direct sales to consumers only. No internet/mail-order/interstate sales. No retail sales outside Washington. Produ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
RESTRICTIONS	Washington state law (RCW §69.22) requires a biennial permit from the Washington State Department of Agriculture for cottage food operation...	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 cottage food law (RCW §69.22.010-.040; WAC 16-149) requires a biennial WSDA cottage food permit (\$125 inspection fee + \$75...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage requirements per Washington food safety rules; products must be non-potentially hazardous.	Proper storage per WAC 16-149 basic hygiene requirements; cottage foods must be nonpotentially hazardous.	Proper storage per WAC 16-149 basic hygiene requirements; cottage foods must be nonpotentially hazardous.
POPULATION	51,017	20,557	22,370

State context — Washington cottage food law

Whitman 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 Whitman 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/whitman-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 Whitman 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/whitman-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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