

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Forest County

Wisconsin · Crandon · FIPS 55041 · Population 9,004 ·
Crosodo Index #2473*

STATE BASELINE

Wis. Stat. §97.29

STATE TIER

Freedom

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered

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

Forest County, Wisconsin — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No specific state prohibition for cottage food bakers; standard food safety practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

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

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Wisconsin label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

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

WISCONSIN: FOREST COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2473* · FIPS 55041 · Crandon

Forest County

Population 9,004 · State baseline: Wis. Stat. §97.29 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Wisconsin has a case-law-driven cottage food framework: (1) The statutory 'Pickle Bill' (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH 4.6 or lower) sold at community events or farmers markets, capped at \$5,000/year; (2) The Kivirist injunction (2017) prohibits DATCP from enforcing licensing requirements against home bakers of good character who sell nonhazardous shelf-stable baked goods directly to consumers; (3) The 2024 Court of Appeals ruling (2024 WI App 69) confirmed unbaked goods (candies, fudge, chocolates) are NOT covered by the Kivirist exception.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition for cottage food bakers; standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Forest County is a sparsely populated northern Wisconsin county containing the Potawatomi and Mole Lake Ojibwe tribal lands. Home occupation permits may be required under Forest County zoning ordinance. No Forest County-specific cottage food overlay identified. Crandon (county seat) has its own rules within city limits.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (DATCP has declined to enforce against qualifying home bakers per Kivirist injunction; complaint-driven action possible.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Conditional — Wisconsin has a case-law-driven cottage food framework: (1) The statutory 'Pickle Bill' (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH 4.6 or lower) sold at community events or farmers markets, capped at \$5,000/year; (2) The Kivirist injunction (2017) prohibits DATCP from enforcing licensing requirements against home bakers of good character who sell nonhazardous shelf-stable baked goods directly to consumers; (3) The 2024 Court of Appeals ruling (2024 WI App 69) confirmed unbaked goods (candies, fudge, chocolates) are NOT covered by the Kivirist exception.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state prohibition for cottage food bakers; standard food safety practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific requirement under the Wisconsin cottage food framework.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety sanitation practices apply.

FOOD STORAGE

Shelf-stable, non-potentially-hazardous baked goods only; proper storage required.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — DATCP has declined to enforce against qualifying home bakers per Kivistik injunction; complaint-driven action possible.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Forest County is a sparsely populated northern Wisconsin county containing the Potawatomi and Mole Lake Ojibwe tribal lands. Home occupation permits may be required under Forest County zoning ordinance. No Forest County-specific cottage food overlay identified. Crandon (county seat) has its own rules within city limits.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer only for Kivistik-covered baked goods. Pickle Bill allows farmers market and community event sales only (up to \$5,000/year). No wholesale or retail sales allowed under either exception.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified by state cottage food framework; home occupation zoning rules may apply.

Relevant county code

Forest County Zoning Ordinance (home occupation provisions); Wis. Stat. §97.29

RESEARCH NOTES

Forest County is a sparsely populated northern Wisconsin county. Contains Potawatomi and Mole Lake Ojibwe tribal reservations (tribal sovereignty may create distinct rules on tribal land). No county-specific cottage food rules identified. State baseline (Kivistik/Pickle Bill) is operative for non-tribal areas. Defaulting to state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.forest.wi.us>

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CottageFoodLaws.aspx

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/97/29>

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Forest County	Florence County	Langlade County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state prohibition for cottage food bakers; standard food safety practices apply.	No specific state prohibition for cottage food bakers; standard food safety practices apply.	No specific state prohibition for cottage food bakers; standard food safety practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer only for Kivirist-covered baked goods. Pickle Bill allows farmers market and community event sales only (up to \$5,000/ye...	Direct-to-consumer only for Kivirist-covered baked goods. Pickle Bill allows farmers market and community event sales only (up to \$5,000/ye...	Direct-to-consumer only for Kivirist-covered baked goods. Pickle Bill allows farmers market and community event sales only (up to \$5,000/ye...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Wisconsin has a case-law-driven cottage food framework: (1) The statutory 'Pickle Bill' (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles and acid...	Wisconsin has a case-law-driven cottage food framework: (1) The statutory 'Pickle Bill' (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles and acid...	Wisconsin has a case-law-driven cottage food framework: (1) The statutory 'Pickle Bill' (§97.29(2)(b)2) allows home-canned pickles and acid...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-potentially-hazardous baked goods only; proper storage required.	Shelf-stable, non-potentially-hazardous baked goods only; proper storage required.	Shelf-stable, non-potentially-hazardous baked goods only; proper storage required.
POPULATION	9,004	4,295	19,189

State context — Wisconsin cottage food law

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

STATUTE

Wis. Stat. §97.29

ANNUAL SALES CAP

Tiered

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

No

FOOD HANDLER CERT

No

KITCHEN INSPECTION

No

DIRECT SALES ONLY

Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Home-canned goods must be sold at community or social events or farmers' markets in Wisconsin (§97.29(2)(b)2.b). The Kivist court order applies to direct-to-consumer sales by home bakers. Products cannot be sold to retail food establishments or distributed through wholesale channels without a license.

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **Wisconsin cottage food law report** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/wisconsin.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/97/29>

State dept cottage food page: https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/CottageFoodLaws.aspx

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

Questions about Forest 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/wisconsin/forest-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 Forest County, Wisconsin. 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/wisconsin/forest-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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