

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Manitowoc County

Wisconsin · Manitowoc · FIPS 55071 · Population 81,242 ·
Crosodo Index #559*

STATE BASELINE

Wis. Stat. §97.29

STATE TIER

Freedom

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered

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

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

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

Tiered

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

Kitchen hygiene must not be in question per Kivirist conditions.

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: MANITOWOC COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #559* · FIPS 55071 · Manitowoc

Manitowoc County

Population 81,242 · State baseline: Wis. Stat. §97.29 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Same as all Wisconsin counties: Kivirist court order allows home bakers selling non-PHF baked goods directly to consumers without a DATCP license. Baked goods only (exposed to dry heat at 140°F+). Unbaked non-PHF items not covered per 2024 Court of Appeals ruling. Pickle Bill allows home-canned pickles/acidified items up to \$5,000/year at community events/farmers markets.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Kitchen hygiene must not be in question per Kivirist conditions.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Manitowoc County and the City of Manitowoc may have home occupation ordinances. No Manitowoc County-specific cottage food permit requirement identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (DATCP may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Same as all Wisconsin counties: Kivirist court order allows home bakers selling non-PHF baked goods directly to consumers without a DATCP license. Baked goods only (exposed to dry heat at 140°F+). Unbaked non-PHF items not covered per 2024 Court of Appeals ruling. Pickle Bill allows home-canned pickles/acidified items up to \$5,000/year at community events/farmers markets.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Kitchen hygiene must not be in question per Kivirist conditions.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific requirement beyond general sanitation.
HANDWASHING	Kitchen hygiene must not be in question.
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory requirement beyond general sanitation.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — DATCP may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Manitowoc County and the City of Manitowoc may have home occupation ordinances. No Manitowoc County-specific cottage food permit requirement identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only under Kivirist; no wholesale. Pickle Bill: community events and farmers markets only up to \$5,000/year.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Low volume condition of Kivirist exemption.

Relevant county code

No Manitowoc County-specific cottage food code identified. Wis. Stat. §97.29 and Kivirist court order govern.

RESEARCH NOTES

Manitowoc County follows Wisconsin cottage food framework. No county-specific overrides identified. Confidence is medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.manitowoccounty.gov>

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Licenses_Permits/HomeBakers.aspx

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Manitowoc County	Sheboygan County	Calumet County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Kitchen hygiene must not be in question per Kivirist conditions.	No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.	Not specified in state law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct-to-consumer sales only under Kivirist; no wholesale. Pickle Bill: community events and farmers markets only up to \$5,000/year.	Wisconsin: direct sales only. Pickle Bill: community events and farmers markets only. Kivirist: direct consumer sales at low volume. No who...	Direct-to-consumer sales only for exempt operations. Pickle Bill limits sales to community events and farmers markets for home-canned goods...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Same as all Wisconsin counties: Kivirist court order allows home bakers selling non-PHF baked goods directly to consumers without a DATCP l...	Wisconsin: (1) Pickle Bill (\$97.29) allows home-canned acidified foods with pH ≤4.6 up to \$5,000/year at community events or farmers market...	Under the Kivirist court order (2017), home bakers of good character may sell nonhazardous shelf-stable baked goods direct to consumer at l...
FOOD STORAGE	No specific statutory requirement beyond general sanitation.	Shelf-stable non-TCS baked goods and home-canned acidified foods (pH ≤4.6). Unbaked goods (chocolates, fudge, candy) require food processin...	Products must remain shelf-stable and nonhazardous.
POPULATION	81,242	117,741	52,361

State context — Wisconsin cottage food law

Manitowoc 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 Manitowoc 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/manitowoc-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 Manitowoc 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/manitowoc-county-discuss

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