

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Wood County

Wisconsin • Wisconsin Rapids • FIPS 55141 • Population
74,138 • Crosodo Index #551*

STATE BASELINE

Wis. Stat. §97.29 (Pickle Bill); Kivirist v. DATCP (2017 court order)

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

Wood 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

Not specified in statute. Good sanitary practices required.

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: WOOD COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #551* · FIPS 55141 · Wisconsin Rapids

Wood County

Population 74,138 · State baseline: Wis. Stat. §97.29 (Pickle Bill); Kivirist v. DATCP (2017 court order) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Two pathways: (1) Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2): home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits ($\text{pH} \leq 4.6$) sold at community events or farmers markets, capped at \$5,000/year. (2) Kivirist court order: home bakers of good character may sell nonhazardous shelf-stable baked goods direct to consumer at low volume without a license. 2024 Court of Appeals decision clarified Kivirist does NOT extend to unbaked goods (chocolates, fudge, candy).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in statute. Good sanitary practices required.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No permit required for Kivirist-qualifying home bakers or Pickle Bill sellers. Wood County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Wood County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (DATCP may investigate upon complaint. Kivirist order restricts DATCP enforcement against qualifying home bakers.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Two pathways: (1) Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2): home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits ($\text{pH} \leq 4.6$) sold at community events or farmers markets, capped at \$5,000/year. (2) Kivirist court order: home bakers of good character may sell nonhazardous shelf-stable baked goods direct to consumer at low volume without a license. 2024 Court of Appeals decision clarified Kivirist does NOT extend to unbaked goods (chocolates, fudge, candy).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in statute. Good sanitary practices required.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately. TCS foods require food processing plant license.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — DATCP may investigate upon complaint. Kivirist order restricts DATCP enforcement against qualifying home bakers.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No permit required for Kivirist-qualifying home bakers or Pickle Bill sellers. Wood County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Wood County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Pickle Bill: sales at community events or farmers markets only, \$5,000/year cap. Kivirist bakers: direct to consumer, low volume, from home — no stated dollar cap. No internet/mail order for unlicensed bakers.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified.

Relevant county code

Wis. Stat. §97.29. No Wood County-specific code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Wisconsin's cottage food landscape is shaped by case law (Kivirist v. DATCP, 2017) and the Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2). The 2024 Wisconsin Cottage Food Association v. DATCP Court of Appeals decision clarified the Kivirist exception does NOT extend to unbaked goods. Wisconsin Supreme Court denied review. No Wood County-specific overrides found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.co.wood.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/wood-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Wood County	Portage County	Marathon County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specified in statute. Good sanitary practices required.	Not specified in state law	Not prohibited by state statute; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Pickle Bill: sales at community events or farmers markets only, \$5,000/year cap. Kivistik bakers: direct to consumer, low volume, from home...	Direct-to-consumer sales; direct delivery by producer permitted in-state	Direct sales only at community events and farmers markets for home-canned goods (up to \$5,000/year). Baked goods (Kivistik exception): dire...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Two pathways: (1) Pickle Bill (§97.29(2)(b)2): home-canned pickles and acidified vegetables/fruits (pH ≤ 4.6) sold at community events or f...	No food handler cert required. No registration or inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no internet sales to out-of-state; no...	Wisconsin has an unusual cottage food landscape. Under Wis. Stat. §97.29(2)(b)2 ("Pickle Bill"), home-canned pickles and acidified vegetabl...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable products must be stored appropriately. TCS foods require food processing plant license.	Appropriate storage for shelf-stable products	Home-canned items: pH 4.6 or lower. Baked goods: shelf-stable, nonhazardous. All stored in food-safe containers.
POPULATION	74,138	70,281	137,820

State context — Wisconsin cottage food law

Wood 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 Wood 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/wood-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 Wood 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/wood-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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