

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Washington County, Maryland?

Home kitchen sales. Not a shop or rented commercial kitchen. Last verified 2026-05-05.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Depends

HOME OCCUPATION

Varies

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

SALES CAP

\$50,000 / year

MARYLAND RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Maryland permits PDF](#)[Maryland cottage food law page](#)[Maryland Department of Health cottage food program](#)[Statute: MD COMAR 10.15.03.27](#)**NOT LEGAL ADVICE**

This is what it takes to sell from a home kitchen in Washington County. Confirm each step with Planning, Health, and the license office before you sell.

What you need

Washington County, Maryland. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Depends

ANNUAL SALES CAP

\$50,000 / year

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Varies

LOCAL HEALTH

Upon-complaint

BUSINESS LICENSE

Varies

PICKUP AT THE HOUSE

Yes

HOME KITCHEN ONLY

If you want a shop or a rented commercial kitchen, these rows do not apply.

CONTINUE ONLINE

Maryland permits PDF →

<https://crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maryland.pdf>

Maryland cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/maryland>

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/maryland/washington-county>

Washington County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/maryland/washington-county>

Not legal advice. Rules change. Confirm with the office before you file.

Where to file

State

Maryland registration: Depends. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. Sales at retail food stores (indirect) are allowed but require prior submission of labels and documentation of ANSI-accredited food safety course completion to the Maryland Department of Health before any retail sales can commence. The Department must notify the producer in writing that requirements are met before retail sales begin.

Maryland permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maryland.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/maryland

Maryland Department of Health: <https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

Statute: [MD COMAR 10.15.03.27](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Varies. Washington County may require a home occupation permit under local zoning for commercial activity at a residence. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.

Health

Upon-complaint. Maryland DOH may inspect upon complaint or suspected foodborne illness.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Sales at farmers markets, from home, at events, at roadside stands, and to retail stores. Online sales and mail-order available for direct channel. Limited indirect retail sales allowed.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

MDH and local health license food facilities. Maryland cottage food is not a food-service facility license. A commissary is a food service facility licensed by the local health department.

Official source: [MDH food protection](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.washco-md.net>

This file is the home-kitchen path. A rented kitchen uses a different permit. Ask the kitchen manager which license they expect, then call the local health office.

SOURCES

<https://www.washco-md.net>

<https://health.maryland.gov/phpa/OEHFP/OFPCHS/Pages/Cottage-Food.aspx>

<https://regs.maryland.gov/us/md/exec/comar/10.15.03.27>

Washington County and nearby places

Regulation	Washington County	Allegany County	Frederick County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Conditional	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction on pets in home for standard cottage food sales.	No pets in kitchen during production (standard health code practice)	Not specified at county level; state rules require sanitary production environment
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	No
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales at farmers markets, from home, at events, at roadside stands, and to retail stores. Online sales and mail-order available for direct ...	Limited indirect sales at markets and events; direct delivery permitted	Direct sales to end consumers; indirect sales (retail stores) allowed with MDH ID number and food handler certification. No wholesale via b...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Yes
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Yes
RESTRICTIONS	Maryland allows cottage food from residential kitchens. Annual sales cap \$50,000 (per COMAR 10.15.03.02B(17-1)). Registration optional (fre...	Annual sales cap \$50,000. Food handler certification recommended but not strictly required. Inspection upon complaint only. Registration re...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only; \$50,000 annual sales cap (COMAR 10.15.03.02B(17-1)); must operate from a residential kitchen. Optiona...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods only. No pickles, salsas, acidified foods, pickled products, or fermented foods unless via separate On-Farm Home Processing L...	Non-PHF shelf-stable products; appropriate storage required	Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only; standard food storage requirements apply
POPULATION	154,645	68,161	273,829

More pages for this place

These Crosodo pages cover the same home cottage-food path:

Maryland permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/maryland.pdf

Maryland cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/maryland

Washington County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/maryland/washington-county