

COTTAGE BAKERY FROM HOME

Can I sell from my kitchen in Yellowstone County, Montana?

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

STATE FOOD PERMIT	HOME OCCUPATION	BUSINESS LICENSE	SALES CAP
Yes	Yes	Varies	—

MONTANA RULES. OPEN THESE FIRST.

[Montana permits PDF](#)

[Montana cottage food law page](#)

[Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services cottage food program](#)

Statute: Mont. Code §50-50-116 and §50-50-117 (cottage food); Mont. Code §§50-49-201 et seq. (Local Food Choice Act)

NOT LEGAL ADVICE

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

What you need

Yellowstone County, Montana. File every Yes. Confirm every Check or Ask. Stay under the sales cap.

STATE FOOD PERMIT

Yes

ANNUAL SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION / ZONING

Yes

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

Montana permits PDF →

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

Montana cottage food law page →

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

Permit page for this place →

<https://crosodo.com/what-permits/montana/yellowstone-county>

Yellowstone County cottage food law page →

<https://crosodo.com/states/montana/yellowstone-county>

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

Where to file

State

Montana registration: Yes. Routine kitchen inspection: Upon-complaint. Consignment sales at retail food establishments or through wholesale establishments are explicitly prohibited under §50-50-116(3). The Montana Local Food Choice Act also requires direct producer-to-informed-end-consumer transactions only; retail locations require a wholesale food license.

Montana permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/montana.pdf

State law page: crosodo.com/states/montana

Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services: <https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/fcs/foodsafety/cottagefoods>

Statute: [Mont. Code §50-50-116 and §50-50-117 \(cottage food\)](#); [Mont. Code §§50-49-201 et seq. \(Local Food Choice Act\)](#)

Zoning / home occupation

Yes. Yellowstone County requires home occupation permit for home-based businesses in residential zones. Billings city has its own cottage food operations rules distinct from county. County zoning defines home occupation as accessory activity — no non-resident employees, conducted entirely within dwelling, no visible signage, no external evidence of business. Billings-area zoning (various Planning and Zoning Districts) governs properties in the county.

Health

Upon-complaint. DPHHS may investigate upon complaint. No routine inspections under MLFCA.

Business license

Varies

Pickup / delivery

Direct sales within Montana at home, farmers markets, and other venues. MLFCA: delivery to informed end consumers allowed.

If you rent a commissary kitchen

DPHHS / local health license retail food. Montana cottage food and the Local Food Choice Act are home paths. A commissary is a retail food establishment licensed by the local health department.

Official source: [Montana FCSS](#)

Local health office we have on file: <https://www.co.yellowstone.mt.gov>

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.co.yellowstone.mt.gov>

<https://dphhs.mt.gov/publichealth/fcs/foodsafety/cottagefoods>

<https://billingsmt.gov/DocumentCenter/View/1290/Special-Zoning-Districts-17?bidId=>

<https://www.cityrulelookup.com/home-business/cottage-food/yellowstone-county-mt>

Yellowstone County and nearby places

Regulation	Yellowstone County	Big Horn County	Carbon County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.	Not specified in state cottage food law; individual county health departments may have additional requirements.	Not specified in state cottage food law; individual county health departments may have additional requirements.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales within Montana at home, farmers markets, and other venues. MLFCA: delivery to informed end consumers allowed.	Direct-to-consumer sales permitted at farmers markets, events, and from home. Under standard cottage food (§50-50-116), no consignment, ret...	Direct-to-consumer sales permitted at farmers markets, events, and from home. Under standard cottage food (§50-50-116), no consignment, ret...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Yes	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Standard cottage food (§50-50-116): local health authority registration required, labeling required, no consignment sales through retail/wh...	Cottage food operations must register with local health authority under Mont. Code §50-50-117. Non-potentially-hazardous foods only under s...	Cottage food operations must register with local health authority under Mont. Code §50-50-117. Non-potentially-hazardous foods only under s...
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage; MLFCA requires informed consumer disclosure.	Products must be non-potentially hazardous (standard cottage food track) or properly disclosed as unlicensed/uninspected (MLFCA track). Pro...	Products must be non-potentially hazardous (standard cottage food track) or properly disclosed as unlicensed/uninspected (MLFCA track). Pro...
POPULATION	165,524	13,090	10,645

More pages for this place

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

Montana permits PDF: crosodo.com/reports/pdf/permits/montana.pdf

Montana cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/montana

Yellowstone County cottage food law: crosodo.com/states/montana/yellowstone-county