

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Madison County

Idaho · Rexburg · FIPS 16065 · Population 52,487 · Crosodo Index #511*

STATE BASELINE

IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

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.

IDAHO: MADISON COUNTY

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Madison County

Population 52,487 · State baseline: IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must be non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) foods only. All sales must be direct to consumer within Idaho. No sales to retailers, distributors, or brokers. No sales outside Idaho. Acidified foods prohibited under cottage food framework.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not required by state law; minimizing pet contamination risk is recommended but not mandated.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Rexburg city code or Madison County may require a business license and/or home occupation permit depending on location. No state food permit required. Cottage food operations must have a sales tax permit. Farmers markets and other venues may require their own approvals.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No license or inspection required. Completing a Cottage Foods Risk Assessment Form (signed by local health district Environmental Health Specialist) is strongly recommended but not required. Public Health District 5 (covers Madison County) may be consulted.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must be non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) foods only. All sales must be direct to consumer within Idaho. No sales to retailers, distributors, or brokers. No sales outside Idaho. Acidified foods prohibited under cottage food framework.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not required by state law; minimizing pet contamination risk is recommended but not mandated.
WATER SUPPLY	Not required by state law; well water testing recommended but not mandated.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices recommended; not explicitly required by state cottage food rules.
FOOD STORAGE	Standard residential storage; products must remain non-potentially hazardous.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No license or inspection required. Completing a Cottage Foods Risk Assessment Form (signed by local health district Environmental Health Specialist) is strongly recommended but not required. Public Health District 5 (covers Madison County) may be consulted.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Rexburg city code or Madison County may require a business license and/or home occupation permit depending on location. No state food permit required. Cottage food operations must have a sales tax permit. Farmers markets and other venues may require their own approvals.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Sales allowed at any venue with direct-to-consumer transaction: home sales, roadside stands, farmers markets, personal deliveries, delivery services, online/mail order (within Idaho only).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law.

Relevant county code

IDAPA 16.02.19; Idaho Food Code cottage food provisions; University of Idaho Extension BUL1009

RESEARCH NOTES

Idaho’s cottage food framework requires no license or inspection for direct-to-consumer sales of non-TCS foods. Madison County is served by Public Health District 5 (South Central). City of Rexburg and/or Madison County may require a business license and/or home occupation permit for home-based businesses. A sales tax permit is required. Completing the Cottage Foods Risk Assessment Form with Public Health District 5 signature is strongly recommended. No county-specific cottage food ordinances found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

<https://www.uidaho.edu/-/media/UIdaho-Responsive/Files/Extension/publications/bul/bul1009.pdf?la=en>

https://phd5.idaho.gov/Documents/Environmental-Health/Cottage-Food-FAQs_2-16-17.pdf

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/idaho/madison-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Madison County	Bonneville County	Fremont County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not required by state law; minimizing pet contamination risk is recommended but not mandated.	No specific state or county restrictions beyond standard food safety sanitation practices.	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Sales allowed at any venue with direct-to-consumer transaction: home sales, roadside stands, farmers markets, personal deliveries, delivery...	Idaho direct sales only; no wholesale, restaurant, or retail store sales. Interstate sales prohibited. Sales from home, online, farmers mar...	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must be non-TCS (non-time/temperature control for safety) foods only. All sales must be direct to consumer within Idaho. No sales to retail...	Idaho allows all non-potentially hazardous foods (except acidified foods) from home kitchen. No registration or inspection required. Bonne...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...
FOOD STORAGE	Standard residential storage; products must remain non-potentially hazardous.	Shelf-stable non-TCS products stored per food safety standards. Acidified foods (pickles, salsas) are not permitted under cottage food exem...	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.
POPULATION	52,487	124,490	13,494

State context — Idaho cottage food law

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

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)	—
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes
INDIRECT SALES	
No — Idaho prohibits wholesale, restaurant, and retail store sales; only direct-to-consumer in-person sales at home, farmers markets, events, online (pickup/delivery), and roadside stands are allowed.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the [Idaho cottage food law report](#).

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/16/160219.pdf>

State dept cottage food page: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/services-programs/food-safety/cottage-food-operations>

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

Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Madison County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/idaho/madison-county-discuss>
