

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Washington County

Idaho · Weiser · FIPS 16087 · Population 10,194 · Crosodo
Index #669*

STATE BASELINE

IDAPA 16.02.19 (Idaho Food Code, cottage food provisions)

STATE TIER

Great

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

—

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-06

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: WASHINGTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #669* · FIPS 16087 · Weiser

Washington County

Population 10,194 · 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 operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods allowed (no acidified foods). Direct sales only to end consumers in Idaho. No wholesale, retail store, or restaurant sales permitted.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Washington County is a small rural western Idaho county on the Oregon border. Home occupations in unincorporated areas are generally allowed as accessory residential uses under county zoning. Contact Washington County Planning at (208) 414-2000 for specific permit requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection. Southwest District Health (serving Washington County) may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods allowed (no acidified foods). Direct sales only to end consumers in Idaho. No wholesale, retail store, or restaurant sales permitted.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.

WATER SUPPLY Potable water required. No additional testing requirements at state level.

HANDWASHING Standard good hygiene practices expected; no specific statutory handwashing requirement for cottage food.

FOOD STORAGE Products must be stored at producer’s primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED No — No routine inspection. Southwest District Health (serving Washington County) may investigate upon complaint.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT Conditional — Washington County is a small rural western Idaho county on the Oregon border. Home occupations in unincorporated areas are generally allowed as accessory residential uses under county zoning. Contact Washington County Planning at (208) 414-2000 for specific permit requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or internet sales under state law.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state law. County home occupation rules typically restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

Washington County Zoning Ordinance (unincorporated areas); contact Washington County for current text.

RESEARCH NOTES

Washington County is a small rural western Idaho county bordering Oregon at the Snake River. No specific county zoning ordinance text located. Idaho cottage food governed by IDAPA 16.02.19; direct sales only; no acidified foods. Defaulting to state baseline with medium confidence.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.washingtoncountyidaho.org>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Washington County	Adams County	Gem County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.	No specific state-level pet restriction for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend excluding pets during production.	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	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; home pickup is permitted. Delivery to consumers is permitted. No mail order or interne...	Idaho cottage food allows direct sales to consumers; pickup at home is permitted. Customer visits that generate significant traffic may req...	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	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...	Must operate from primary residence kitchen. No registration or inspection required at state level. Only non-potentially hazardous foods al...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply to prevent adulteration.	Products must be stored at producer's primary residence; safe handling guidelines apply.
POPULATION	10,194	4,294	18,700

State context — Idaho cottage food law

Washington 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 Washington County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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