

## COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

# LaSalle County

Illinois · Ottawa · FIPS 17099 · Population 109,495 · Crosodo Index #1214\*

## STATE BASELINE

410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)

## STATE TIER

Great

## ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

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## 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.

## ILLINOIS: LASALLE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1214\* · FIPS 17099 · Ottawa

## LaSalle County

Population 109,495 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)

· MEDIUM

## QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

## HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Illinois uses a 'prohibited list' approach — operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Must register with the local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager (CFPM-level) certification required. Direct in-state sales only; out-of-state shipping prohibited. Some acidified/fermented foods require additional documentation.)

## SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

## PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation practices apply.

## HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Local municipalities within LaSalle County may require home occupation permits. The county seat Ottawa and other municipalities have zoning codes that may require a home business or home occupation approval. No specific LaSalle County-level cottage food home occupation ordinance identified.)

## ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

## INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (State preempts most local inspection requirements; inspections triggered by complaint. Local health department may impose additional requirements under 410 ILCS 625/4(d).)

## Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Illinois uses a 'prohibited list' approach — operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Must register with the local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager (CFPM-level) certification required. Direct in-state sales only; out-of-state shipping prohibited. Some acidified/fermented foods require additional documentation.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement beyond standard sanitation for cottage food operations.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required per food safety manager certification standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-prohibited foods only. Acidified/fermented foods require food safety plan and pH test documentation.

## Inspection &amp; permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — State preempts most local inspection requirements; inspections triggered by complaint. Local health department may impose additional requirements under 410 ILCS 625/4(d).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Local municipalities within LaSalle County may require home occupation permits. The county seat Ottawa and other municipalities have zoning codes that may require a home business or home occupation approval. No specific LaSalle County-level cottage food home occupation ordinance identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

**Customer-facing rules**

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct in-state sales permitted. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items within Illinois. Out-of-state shipping prohibited. Home pickup, farmers markets, events all permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

**Relevant county code**

No specific LaSalle County code section identified. State law governs: 410 ILCS 625/4.

**RESEARCH NOTES**

LaSalle County has no county URLs in the input and no specific cottage food overrides were found. State baseline governs. Illinois has one of the most permissive cottage food laws with its prohibited-list approach. Registration required with local health department (LaSalle County Health Department in Ottawa). CFPM certification required — more stringent than most states. No county-specific rules found. Confidence medium as local zoning rules in Ottawa and other municipalities were not directly verified.

**SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME**

<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

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

## Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	LaSalle County	DeKalb County	Kendall County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation practices apply.	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation applies.	Not specifically prohibited; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct in-state sales permitted. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items within Illinois. Out-of-state shipping prohibited. Home pick...	Direct in-state sales. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted.	Direct sales statewide. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items shipped within Illinois only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Conditional	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Illinois uses a 'prohibited list' approach — operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Must register with the local h...	Illinois 'prohibited list' approach: operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Registration with local health departm...	Must register with local health department (Kendall County Health Department) up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-prohibited foods only. Acidified/fermented foods require food safety plan and pH test documentation.	Non-prohibited foods only. Meat/poultry/fish/seafood, custard/cream pies with hazardous fillings, garlic in oil (unless acidified), low-aci...	Shelf-stable non-perishable products required for shipped items. Many categories allowed for direct in-state sales. Stored in sealed food-s...
POPULATION	109,495	100,686	132,795

## State context — Illinois cottage food law

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

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<b>STATUTE</b> 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)	<b>ANNUAL SALES CAP</b> —
<b>REGISTRATION REQUIRED</b> Yes	<b>FOOD HANDLER CERT</b> Yes (specific course)
<b>KITCHEN INSPECTION</b> Upon-complaint	<b>DIRECT SALES ONLY</b> Yes
<b>INDIRECT SALES</b> No — Illinois prohibits sales to restaurants, retail stores, and wholesale; direct in-state sales are allowed anywhere including home, online, farmers markets, events, and roadside stands; non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois only.	

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

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### STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=2625&ChapterID=35>

State dept cottage food page: <https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/food-safety/cottage-food.html>

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

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## Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/illinois/lasalle-county-discuss>

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