

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Macon County

Illinois · Decatur · FIPS 17115 · Population 103,542 · Crosodo Index #1234*

STATE BASELINE

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

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.

ILLINOIS: MACON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1234* · FIPS 17115 · Decatur

Macon County

Population 103,542 · 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 'prohibited list' approach: operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Registration with local health department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager (CFPM-level) certification required. Direct in-state sales only. Acidified/fermented foods require additional documentation.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

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

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Decatur and other municipalities in Macon County may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Macon County cottage food ordinance identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Complaint-triggered. Macon County Health Department administers registration.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Illinois 'prohibited list' approach: operators can sell nearly everything not explicitly prohibited. Registration with local health department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager (CFPM-level) certification required. Direct in-state sales only. Acidified/fermented foods require additional documentation.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state pet restriction for cottage food kitchens, but standard sanitation applies.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement beyond standard sanitation.
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing required per CFPM certification.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-prohibited foods only. Meat/poultry/fish/seafood, custard/cream pies with hazardous fillings, garlic in oil (unless acidified), low-acid canned foods, sprouts, raw cut leafy greens, alcoholic beverages, kombucha are prohibited.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Complaint-triggered. Macon County Health Department administers registration.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Decatur and other municipalities in Macon County may have home occupation zoning requirements. No specific Macon County cottage food 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. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. Home pickup, farmers markets, events permitted.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state statute.

Relevant county code

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

RESEARCH NOTES

Macon County has no county URLs in the input. State baseline governs. Decatur is the county seat. No county-specific overrides found. Confidence medium.

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/macon-county-discuss>

State context — Illinois cottage food law

Macon 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.

STATUTE 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)	ANNUAL SALES CAP —
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION Upon-complaint	DIRECT SALES ONLY Yes
INDIRECT SALES 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.	

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

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/>

Questions?

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

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