

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Peoria County

Illinois · Peoria · FIPS 17143 · Population 181,186 · Crosodo Index #1244*

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: PEORIA COUNTY

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Peoria County

Population 181,186 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Registration required with local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Direct sales only within Illinois. No interstate shipping. Broad 'prohibited list' approach — most non-TCS foods allowed except meat, poultry, seafood, dairy, certain fermented items with special requirements, and kombucha.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state restriction; CFPM certification training addresses food safety practices.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Peoria County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses under county zoning. State cottage food law requires registration with local health department. Peoria City has separate municipal zoning rules. County URLs were blank in input. If no local health department exists, register with adjacent county's department.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Local health department may inspect upon complaint or suspicion of imminent health hazard. Per §410 ILCS 625/4(d), some local health departments may impose additional requirements.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Registration required with local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Direct sales only within Illinois. No interstate shipping. Broad 'prohibited list' approach — most non-TCS foods allowed except meat, poultry, seafood, dairy, certain fermented items with special requirements, and kombucha.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state restriction; CFPM certification training addresses food safety practices.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required.
HANDWASHING	Adequate handwashing per CFPM standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage; perishables not permitted except where explicitly allowed.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Local health department may inspect upon complaint or suspicion of imminent health hazard. Per §410 ILCS 625/4(d), some local health departments may impose additional requirements.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Peoria County may require home occupation permit for home-based businesses under county zoning. State cottage food law requires registration with local health department. Peoria City has separate municipal zoning rules. County URLs were blank in input. If no local health department exists, register with adjacent county's department.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales statewide allowed. Online sales with in-state shipping permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited. Farmers markets, home, and other direct venues allowed.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state restriction specified for cottage food operations.

Relevant county code

410 ILCS 625/4; Peoria County zoning ordinance (home occupations); no specific county cottage food code found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Illinois has one of the most permissive cottage food laws due to its 'prohibited list' approach — operators can sell almost anything not explicitly prohibited, including acidified foods with extra documentation. 2022 amendment (PA 102-0633) was the major expansion. Peoria County government website confirmed at peoriacounty.gov but no county-specific cottage food regulations found. Peoria County health department administers registration for unincorporated areas; City of Peoria health department handles city registrations.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.peoriacounty.gov>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Peoria County	Tazewell County	Knox County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state restriction; CFPM certification training addresses food safety practices.	Not specifically prohibited; kitchen sanitation required.	Not specified in state cottage food law.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales statewide allowed. Online sales with in-state shipping permitted. Out-of-state shipping prohibited. Farmers markets, home, and...	Direct sales statewide. Online sales for non-perishable items within Illinois only.	Direct-to-consumer sales from home, online, events, and farmers markets within Illinois. Non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Registration required with local health department (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Direct sales ...	Must register with local health department (Tazewell County Health Department) up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required.	Products must be direct-to-consumer sales within Illinois. Prohibited list approach — most non-TCS foods allowed. Food Safety Manager (CFPM-level) required.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable storage; perishables not permitted except where explicitly allowed.	Shelf-stable non-perishable products for shipped items. Broader categories allowed for direct in-state sales. Stored in sealed food-safe containers.	Products must be non-TCS for direct sales; perishable items may not be shipped.
POPULATION	181,186	131,276	49,751

State context — Illinois cottage food law

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

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