

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Rock Island County

Illinois · Rock Island · FIPS 17161 · Population 143,819 ·
Crosodo Index #2035*

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Rock Island County, Illinois — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

—

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

Upon-complaint

PETS

Not specifically prohibited by state law, but kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions per good manufacturing practices during production.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Illinois cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Illinois home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Illinois label one-pager →](#)

Local notes & questions →

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

ILLINOIS: ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #2035* · FIPS 17161 · Rock Island

Rock Island County

Population 143,819 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4)

· MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Must register with the local health department (Rock Island County Health Department) up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items shipped within Illinois only.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specifically prohibited by state law, but kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions per good manufacturing practices during production.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Rock Island County zoning ordinance may require a home occupation permit in unincorporated areas. Cities within the county (Rock Island, Moline, East Moline) have their own home occupation rules. Registration with the Rock Island County Health Department is required under state law.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Local health department (Rock Island County Health Department) may inspect upon complaint. No routine pre-operational inspection required for state registration, but local health departments may impose additional requirements per §410 ILCS 625/4(d).)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Must register with the local health department (Rock Island County Health Department) up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items shipped within Illinois only.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specifically prohibited by state law, but kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions per good manufacturing practices during production.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water supply required.
HANDWASHING	Required; dedicated handwashing facilities must be available.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-perishable products must be stored in sealed, food-safe containers. Perishable items may be allowed for direct in-state sales but may not be shipped.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Local health department (Rock Island County Health Department) may inspect upon complaint. No routine pre-operational inspection required for state registration, but local health departments may impose additional requirements per §410 ILCS 625/4(d).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Rock Island County zoning ordinance may require a home occupation permit in unincorporated areas. Cities within the county (Rock Island, Moline, East Moline) have their own home occupation rules. Registration with the Rock Island County Health Department is required under state law.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales permitted statewide. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items shipping within Illinois only; out-of-state shipping prohibited.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level for cottage food operations.

Relevant county code

Rock Island County Health Department registration under 410 ILCS 625/4

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (IL) confirmed: 410 ILCS 625/4, registration with local health department required, CFPM certification required. Rock Island County Health Department administers local registration. No specific county-level cottage food overrides found. County follows state baseline. Confidence medium as county-specific health/planning URLs not provided in input and not independently verified.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

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

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

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/illinois/rock-island-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Rock Island County	Whiteside County	Henry County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	Not specifically prohibited by state law, but kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions per good manufacturing practices during production.	No specific IL state or Whiteside County rule; standard sanitation applies.	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 permitted statewide. Online sales allowed for non-perishable items shipping within Illinois only; out-of-state shipping prohib...	Direct sales only within Illinois. Online sales allowed; non-perishable items can be shipped within IL. Out-of-state shipping prohibited.	Direct-to-consumer sales within Illinois. Non-perishable items may be shipped within Illinois only.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Conditional	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Conditional	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Must register with the local health department (Rock Island County Health Department) up to \$50/year. Food Safety Manager certification (CF...	Prohibited-list approach: almost anything not explicitly prohibited is allowed. Permitted items include most baked goods, candies, condimen...	Products must be direct-to-consumer sales within Illinois. Prohibited list approach — most non-TCS foods allowed. Food Safety Manager (CFPM...
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable non-perishable products must be stored in sealed, food-safe containers. Perishable items may be allowed for direct in-state sa...	Non-perishable items can be shipped within IL. Perishable items must be sold direct in-person. Acidified and fermented foods have special d...	Products must be non-TCS for direct sales.
POPULATION	143,819	55,569	49,157

State context — Illinois cottage food law

Rock Island 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** on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/illinois.

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 about Rock Island County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/illinois/rock-island-county-discuss

Classifieds

Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Rock Island County, Illinois. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/illinois/rock-island-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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