

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Will County

Illinois · Joliet · FIPS 17197 · Population 696,774 · Crosodo Index #1230*

STATE BASELINE

410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act; 2022 amendment PA 102-0633)

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Great	—	MEDIUM	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: WILL COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1230* · FIPS 17197 · Joliet

Will County

Population 696,774 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act; 2022 amendment PA 102-0633) · **MEDIUM****QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY****HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (State baseline applies. Registration with Will County Health Department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Some local health departments may impose additional requirements.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Will County is a mix of incorporated cities (Joliet, Bolingbrook, Romeoville, Naperville portion, Plainfield, etc.) and unincorporated areas. Contact the relevant municipality's planning/zoning department for home occupation permit. Will County Land Use Department governs unincorporated areas.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Will County Health Department may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspections.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — State baseline applies. Registration with Will County Health Department required (up to \$50/year). Food Safety Manager certification (CFPM-level) required. Some local health departments may impose additional requirements.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water; state baseline
HANDWASHING	Food Safety Manager certification required
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food storage; perishables sold directly but not shipped

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Will County Health Department may inspect upon complaint. No routine inspections.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Will County is a mix of incorporated cities (Joliet, Bolingbrook, Romeoville, Naperville portion, Plainfield, etc.) and unincorporated areas. Contact the relevant municipality's planning/zoning department for home occupation permit. Will County Land Use Department governs unincorporated areas.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer statewide. Online sales for non-perishables within Illinois only. No out-of-state shipping. No wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Unknown

Relevant county code

410 ILCS 625/4; Will County Health Department registration; municipal home occupation codes vary

RESEARCH NOTES

Will County follows Illinois state baseline. Registration with Will County Health Department required. CFPM required under state law. No Will County-specific modification of state cottage food rules found. Will County is rapidly growing suburban Chicago area.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.willcountyhealth.org>

<https://www.willcountyillinois.com/departments/planning>

<https://www.willcountyillinois.com>

<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/will-county-discuss>

State context — Illinois cottage food law

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

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