

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Williamson County

Illinois · Marion · FIPS 17199 · Population 67,120 · Crosodo
Index #1890*

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: WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1890* · FIPS 17199 · Marion

Williamson County

Population 67,120 · State baseline: 410 ILCS 625/4 (Food Handling Regulation Enforcement Act, §4) ·

MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY**HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?**

Yes (No sales cap. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no wholesale or indirect sales. Non-TCS non-PHF foods only. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned foods, fermented foods, meat jerkies, PHF baked goods.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state law

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (No county govt URL provided. Williamson County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Marion has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — No sales cap. Food handler certification (specific course) required. Registration required. Inspection upon complaint only. Direct-to-consumer sales only; no wholesale or indirect sales. Non-TCS non-PHF foods only. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned foods, fermented foods, meat jerkies, PHF baked goods.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state law
WATER SUPPLY	Standard residential water supply
HANDWASHING	Required as part of food handler certification
FOOD STORAGE	Appropriate storage for non-PHF products

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — Consumer complaint or foodborne illness investigation
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — No county govt URL provided. Williamson County unincorporated areas follow county zoning. City of Marion has its own zoning and business licensing. No county-specific cottage food overlay identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer only; delivery by producer permitted in-state
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

Illinois Great-tier state. Williamson County is in Southern Illinois near Kentucky border. Some lab-tested items (certain frostings, macarons, pecan pies) may be allowed with prior product testing. No county-specific sources available. Pattern county.

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/williamson-county-discuss>

State context — Illinois cottage food law

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

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