

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Alcona County

Michigan · Harrisville · FIPS 26001 · Population 10,624 ·
Crosodo Index #1047*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
MCL §289.4102	Great	50000	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

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.

MICHIGAN: ALCONA COUNTY

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Alcona County

Population 10,624 · State baseline: MCL \$289,4102 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual gross sales capped at \$50,000 (raised from \$25,000 by 2025 HB 4122, effective March 2026). No registration required. No inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only. Must have face-to-face or virtual interaction with buyer at time of sale. Online, mail order, and third-party delivery platform sales allowed under 2025 amendment.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction, but standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Alcona County is a small rural northern Michigan county. No specific county-level cottage food ordinance identified. Standard home occupation zoning rules of the relevant township apply.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required. MDARD may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual gross sales capped at \$50,000 (raised from \$25,000 by 2025 HB 4122, effective March 2026). No registration required. No inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only. Must have face-to-face or virtual interaction with buyer at time of sale. Online, mail order, and third-party delivery platform sales allowed under 2025 amendment.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction, but standard food safety practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	Required per Michigan food safety standards.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable foods only. Products stored in food-safe containers.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection required. MDARD may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Alcona County is a small rural northern Michigan county. No specific county-level cottage food ordinance identified. Standard home occupation zoning rules of the relevant township apply.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No consignment or wholesale. Online and mail order allowed under 2025 amendment (effective March 2026) with required buyer interaction. No sales to retail establishments.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No specific employee restriction under MCL §289.4102.

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102; Alcona County township zoning ordinances (varies by township).

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan state baseline applied: MCL §289.4102, \$50,000 cap (2025 HB 4122 amendment, effective March 2026). Alcona County is a small rural county in northeast lower Michigan (Lake Huron shoreline area, pop. ~10,000). No specific county-level cottage food ordinances identified. State law preempts local governments from adding licensing or inspection requirements. Confidence medium.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/food-dairy/cottage-foods>

<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-289-4102>

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

State context — Michigan cottage food law

Alcona County's rules sit on top of Michigan's state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE	ANNUAL SALES CAP
MCL §289.4102	50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED	FOOD HANDLER CERT
No	No
KITCHEN INSPECTION	DIRECT SALES ONLY
No	Yes

INDIRECT SALES

No — Sales through retail stores, restaurants, or wholesale are prohibited. Online sales, mail order, and third-party delivery platform sales (e.g., DoorDash) are allowed in-state only, but require the producer to offer the customer an opportunity to directly interact (face-to-face or virtually) before purchase. A separate \$75,000 cap applies if all products are priced at \$250 or more per item. Honey and maple syrup have a separate exemption permitting indirect retail sales up to \$15,000/year.

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

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

State statute: <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-289-4102>

State dept cottage food page: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdard/food-dairy/cottage-foods>

Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/michigan/>

Questions?

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

<https://crosodo.com/nb/michigan/alcona-county-discuss>
