

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Calhoun County

Michigan · Marshall · FIPS 26025 · Population 134,011 ·
Crosodo Index #994*

STATE BASELINE	STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
MCL §289.4102	Great	50000	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.

MICHIGAN: CALHOUN COUNTY

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Calhoun County

Population 134,011 · State baseline: MCL §289.4102 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Annual sales capped at \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025, effective March 2026; prior cap was \$25,000). No registration, permit, or inspection required. Direct sales only. Online/mail order/third-party delivery platform sales now explicitly allowed with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement (per 2025 amendment).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not explicitly prohibited by state statute; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Calhoun County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. City of Battle Creek (largest city in Calhoun County) and Marshall have separate home occupation rules. No specific county-level cottage food override identified.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (MDARD may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Annual sales capped at \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025, effective March 2026; prior cap was \$25,000). No registration, permit, or inspection required. Direct sales only. Online/mail order/third-party delivery platform sales now explicitly allowed with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement (per 2025 amendment).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not explicitly prohibited by state statute; kitchen must maintain sanitary conditions.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	Required per good food safety practices.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS products only (MCL §289.4102 approved list). Stored in food-safe containers. Only two specified buttercream frosting recipes permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — MDARD may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Calhoun County zoning ordinance applies in unincorporated areas. City of Battle Creek (largest city in Calhoun County) and Marshall have separate home occupation rules. No specific county-level cottage food override identified.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales only. Sales from home, farmers markets, online (with face-to-face or virtual interaction), and third-party delivery platforms allowed since 2025 amendment. No consignment or wholesale.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified at state level for cottage food operations.

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102.

RESEARCH NOTES

State baseline (MI) confirmed: MCL §289.4102, \$50,000 cap (2025 amendment effective March 2026). Calhoun County is in southwest Michigan, including Battle Creek. No county-specific URLs in input. County follows state baseline. 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/calhoun-county-discuss>

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

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