

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Clinton County

Michigan · Saint Johns · FIPS 26037 · Population 79,249 ·
Crosodo Index #1092*

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: CLINTON COUNTY

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Clinton County

Population 79,249 · State baseline: MCL §289.4102 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-potentially hazardous foods produced in a home kitchen. \$50,000 annual sales cap (effective March 2026 per 2025 HB 4122 amendment, previously \$25,000). Direct sales only; no wholesale or consignment. Online and mail order sales now allowed under 2025 amendment with required face-to-face or virtual interaction.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

Not specified in state statute.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (State law does not require a home occupation permit for cottage food. Clinton County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Clinton County-specific cottage food ordinance found.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

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

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Non-potentially hazardous foods produced in a home kitchen. \$50,000 annual sales cap (effective March 2026 per 2025 HB 4122 amendment, previously \$25,000). Direct sales only; no wholesale or consignment. Online and mail order sales now allowed under 2025 amendment with required face-to-face or virtual interaction.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	Not specified in state statute.
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water required.
HANDWASHING	No food handler certification required at state level.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-potentially hazardous products must be stored properly. Specific restrictions on certain products (e.g., only two approved buttercream frosting recipes permitted).

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection. MDARD may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — State law does not require a home occupation permit for cottage food. Clinton County may have local zoning home occupation requirements. No Clinton County-specific cottage food ordinance found.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales to consumers only. Online and mail order now allowed (2025 amendment) with face-to-face or virtual interaction required. No wholesale or consignment. No sales outside Michigan.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No employee restriction specified in MCL §289.4102.

Relevant county code

No Clinton County-specific cottage food code section found.

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan's cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) was amended in 2025 (HB 4122) to double the sales cap to \$50,000 (effective March 2026) and explicitly allow online/mail order/third-party delivery sales with face-to-face or virtual interaction. No Clinton County-specific overrides found. Local zoning may apply. Confidence: medium (state law verified, no county-specific ordinance confirmed).

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/clinton-county-discuss>

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

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