

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Genesee County

Michigan · Flint · FIPS 26049 · Population 405,280 · Crosodo
Index #1744*

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: GENESEE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1744* · FIPS 26049 · Flint

Genesee County

Population 405,280 · State baseline: MCL §289.4102 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Conditional (Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) allows non-potentially hazardous foods from home kitchens with annual gross sales cap of \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025, effective March 2026). Direct sales only; no consignment or wholesale. Online/mail order and third-party delivery platform sales allowed with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement per 2025 amendment. Allowed foods: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, pastries, preserves, snacks, specific buttercream recipes. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, fruit butters, pickles, fermented foods, salsas, meat jerkies, carbonated drinks, kombucha, pet food. No registration or permit required from state. Local zoning compliance required.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Genesee County municipalities (Flint, Burton, Grand Blanc, Flushing, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances governing home occupations. Operators should verify with local city/township whether home occupation permit required. Genesee County local health department may have additional guidance. gc4me.com.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection required under Michigan cottage food law.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

Conditional — Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) allows non-potentially hazardous foods from home kitchens with annual gross sales cap of \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025, effective March 2026). Direct sales only; no consignment or wholesale. Online/mail order and third-party delivery platform sales allowed with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement per 2025 amendment. Allowed foods: baked goods, candies, condiments, dry goods, pastries, preserves, snacks, specific buttercream recipes. Prohibited: acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, fruit butters, pickles, fermented foods, salsas, meat jerkies, carbonated drinks, kombucha, pet food. No registration or permit required from state. Local zoning compliance required.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

No

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific state restriction; standard food safety practices apply.

WATER SUPPLY

No specific state requirement for cottage food operations.

HANDWASHING

Standard food safety practices.

FOOD STORAGE

Non-TCS shelf-stable foods only. Specific approved buttercream frosting recipes permitted.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection required under Michigan cottage food law.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Genesee County municipalities (Flint, Burton, Grand Blanc, Flushing, etc.) have their own zoning ordinances governing home occupations. Operators should verify with local city/township whether home occupation permit required. Genesee County local health department may have additional guidance. gc4me.com.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only. No consignment, wholesale, or sales to retail/food establishments. Online sales with face-to-face or virtual interaction permitted per 2025 amendment.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified in state cottage food law; local zoning rules vary.

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102 (state cottage food); local municipal zoning codes vary.

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) confirmed from state baseline. 2025 amendment (HB 4122) raised cap from \$25,000 to \$50,000 and explicitly allowed online/mail/third-party delivery with virtual or face-to-face interaction, effective March 2026. No state registration required. Genesee County includes Flint (distressed city); county-specific home occupation rules not directly researched. Confidence medium: state law high-confidence; Genesee County local zoning not verified from .gov source.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.gc4me.com>

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

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

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

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