

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Isabella County

Michigan · Mount Pleasant · FIPS 26073 · Population 64,938
· Crosodo Index #1587*

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: ISABELLA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1587* · FIPS 26073 · Mount Pleasant

Isabella County

Population 64,938 · State baseline: MCL \$289,4102 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Michigan cottage food law allows home kitchen production of non-PHF foods. \$50,000 annual sales cap (raised 2025, effective March 2026). No registration, inspection, or food handler cert required at state level. Direct sales only; online/mail order allowed under 2025 amendment.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies — pets should be excluded during production

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Isabella County includes Mount Pleasant and Central Michigan University. Local township or city zoning may apply for home-based businesses. Contact Isabella County Planning at (989) 317-4083 or Mount Pleasant City for requirements.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Conditional

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection; complaint-based only)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED Yes — Michigan cottage food law allows home kitchen production of non-PHF foods. \$50,000 annual sales cap (raised 2025, effective March 2026). No registration, inspection, or food handler cert required at state level. Direct sales only; online/mail order allowed under 2025 amendment.

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN No

PET RESTRICTIONS No state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies — pets should be excluded during production

WATER SUPPLY Potable water required

HANDWASHING Standard handwashing facilities required

FOOD STORAGE Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; properly labeled and stored

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED No — No routine inspection; complaint-based only

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT Varies — Isabella County includes Mount Pleasant and Central Michigan University. Local township or city zoning may apply for home-based businesses. Contact Isabella County Planning at (989) 317-4083 or Mount Pleasant City for requirements.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP Conditional

ON-SITE SIGNAGE Conditional

DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES Direct sales only per state law; online/mail order allowed under 2025 amendment (effective March 2026). No wholesale or consignment.

MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME No non-family employees permitted under MI cottage food law

Relevant county code

Contact Isabella County or Mount Pleasant for local zoning

RESEARCH NOTES

Isabella County is home to Central Michigan University in Mount Pleasant. Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102) governs statewide. 2025 HB 4122 doubled cap to \$50,000 and added online/mail order/third-party delivery. No Isabella County-specific cottage food restrictions found. No county URLs in input.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.isabellacounty.gov>

<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/isabella-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Isabella County	Montcalm County	Midland County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No state prohibition; good manufacturing practice applies — pets should be excluded during production	Not specified in state law	MDARD guidance recommends excluding pets during production; complaint investigations may examine kitchen conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	Upon-complaint
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Conditional	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales only per state law; online/mail order allowed under 2025 amendment (effective March 2026). No wholesale or consignment.	Direct-to-consumer only; no consignment or wholesale	Direct sales at farmers markets, craft shows, roadside stands, from home, online, and via third-party delivery platforms (with direct consu...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Michigan cottage food law allows home kitchen production of non-PHF foods. \$50,000 annual sales cap (raised 2025, effective March 2026). No...	Annual sales cap \$50,000. No food handler cert required. No registration required. No inspection required. Direct-to-consumer sales only; n...	Same as all Michigan counties: primary domestic residence kitchen only, non-PHF foods only, \$50,000 annual cap (2025 amendment), direct sal...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF shelf-stable foods; properly labeled and stored	Appropriate storage for non-PHF products	Products must be stored at primary residence; prevent adulteration from insects, chemicals, water damage, insanitary conditions.
POPULATION	64,938	66,901	83,503

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

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

Classifieds Resources for cottage food & home bakers · crosodo.com/advertise

NATIONAL

SUPPLIES

Advertise here — Supplies

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

COURSES

Advertise here — Courses

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

INSURANCE

Advertise here — Insurance

Reach home bakers across the country. crosodo.com/advertise

LOCAL

Advertise here

Reach home bakers in Isabella County, Michigan. Supply stores, farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and bakery services welcome.

crosodo.com/advertise

Your business here

Local cottage food listings, kitchen rentals, co-packer referrals, and community events — post yours free on the Crosodo Forum.

crosodo.com/nb/michigan/isabella-county-discuss

Free ad space available

Let us know if you're a non-profit or community organization. Farmers markets, kitchen rentals, and cottage food events near you welcome.

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