

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Lenawee County

Michigan · Adrian · FIPS 26091 · Population 99,263 · Crosodo
Index #927*

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: LENAWEЕ COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #927* · FIPS 26091 · Adrian

Lenawee County

Population 99,263 · 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-potentially hazardous foods with no registration, no inspection, and no permit required at the state level. Annual gross sales capped at \$50,000 (raised from \$25,000 by 2025 HB 4122, effective March 2026). Direct sales only; no wholesale or consignment.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state prohibition, but good manufacturing practices recommend keeping pets out of food production areas.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (Lenawee County zoning may require a home occupation permit depending on township or municipality. No county-wide cottage-food-specific permit found. Operators in Adrian or other municipalities should check local zoning ordinances.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No state inspection authority for cottage food operations under MCL §289.4102.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Michigan cottage food law allows home kitchen production of non-potentially hazardous foods with no registration, no inspection, and no permit required at the state level. Annual gross sales capped at \$50,000 (raised from \$25,000 by 2025 HB 4122, effective March 2026). Direct sales only; no wholesale or consignment.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state prohibition, but good manufacturing practices recommend keeping pets out of food production areas.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific state requirement for cottage food operations; must meet general potability standards.
HANDWASHING	Good manufacturing practices apply; no specific statutory handwashing mandate for cottage food.
FOOD STORAGE	Shelf-stable, non-potentially hazardous foods only; must be stored to prevent contamination.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No state inspection authority for cottage food operations under MCL §289.4102.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — Lenawee County zoning may require a home occupation permit depending on township or municipality. No county-wide cottage-food-specific permit found. Operators in Adrian or other municipalities should check local zoning ordinances.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales allowed from home, at farmers markets, at events; online/mail order and third-party delivery allowed per 2025 HB 4122 (effective March 2026) with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No state limit specified; only operator and family members typically assumed.

Relevant county code

No Lenawee County-specific cottage food code section identified.

RESEARCH NOTES

No county-specific cottage food rules found for Lenawee County. Rules reflect Michigan state baseline under MCL §289.4102. Sales cap was \$25,000 before 2025 amendment (HB 4122) raised it to \$50,000 effective March 2026. Allowed foods include most baked goods, candies, dried goods, jams/jellies, nuts, snacks; prohibited are perishable baked goods, acidified foods, low-acid canned goods, pickles, fermented foods, carbonated drinks, kombucha. No inspection required. Local home occupation zoning varies by township; operators should verify with local planning department.

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/lenawee-county-discuss>

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

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