

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Livingston County

Michigan · Howell · FIPS 26093 · Population 194,302 ·
Crosodo Index #540*

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.

How to start — 60-second path

Livingston County, Michigan — permit, pickup, and label steps before the full county rules.

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes

STATE SALES CAP

50000

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION

No

PETS

No explicit state-level pet restriction in Michigan cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.

BEFORE YOU SELL FROM THIS ADDRESS

- ☐ **1. Menu** — Confirm each product under Michigan cottage food rules (county cannot expand a state ban).
- ☐ **2. Pickup & zoning** — Home occupation and porch pickup cells above; HOA/lease may still block customer traffic.
- ☐ **3. Local tax / license** — Business license or sales tax certificate if your city/parish requires it (common even with no state food permit).
- ☐ **4. Training** — Food handler or state registration before market day.
- ☐ **5. Labels** — Disclaimer, allergens, ingredients, net quantity, producer info.
- ☐ **6. Call if unclear** — County health and planning for your exact address.

LABEL FIELDS TO INCLUDE

- ☐ Product name · producer name · address (or allowed alternative)
- ☐ Ingredients by weight · major allergens · net weight/quantity
- ☐ Michigan home-kitchen disclaimer (see live label one-pager)

CONTINUE ONLINE

[Open the live county page →](#)

[Michigan label one-pager →](#)

[Local notes & questions →](#)

Planning path only — not legal advice. Rules change. Always verify with state and local offices before selling.

MICHIGAN: LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #540* · FIPS 26093 · Howell

Livingston County

Population 194,302 · State baseline: MCL §289.4102 · MEDIUM

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102, amended 2025 HB 4122) allows non-PHF foods from a home kitchen. Annual sales cap: \$50,000 (doubled from \$25,000 by 2025 amendment, effective March 2026). No registration required. No routine inspection. Direct-to-consumer sales only (no wholesale/consignment). Online/mail-order/third-party delivery platform sales now permitted (2025 amendment) with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement. Livingston County is in the Detroit/Ann Arbor metro area.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state-level pet restriction in Michigan cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (Livingston County (unincorporated areas) and municipalities (Howell City, Brighton, Hartland) may require home occupation permits for home-based businesses. Contact Livingston County Planning/Zoning or relevant municipal planning office. Michigan does not have a statewide preemption of local home occupation zoning for cottage food.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (No routine inspection under Michigan cottage food law. MDARD may investigate upon complaint.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102, amended 2025 HB 4122) allows non-PHF foods from a home kitchen. Annual sales cap: \$50,000 (doubled from \$25,000 by 2025 amendment, effective March 2026). No registration required. No routine inspection. Direct-to-consumer sales only (no wholesale/consignment). Online/mail-order/third-party delivery platform sales now permitted (2025 amendment) with face-to-face or virtual interaction requirement. Livingston County is in the Detroit/Ann Arbor metro area.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state-level pet restriction in Michigan cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific water testing requirement for Michigan cottage food operations.
HANDWASHING	Standard food safety practices; no specific statutory handwashing requirement for cottage food.
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods only; only two specified buttercream frosting recipes permitted. Standard GMP storage.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — No routine inspection under Michigan cottage food law. MDARD may investigate upon complaint.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — Livingston County (unincorporated areas) and municipalities (Howell City, Brighton, Hartland) may require home occupation permits for home-based businesses. Contact Livingston County Planning/Zoning or relevant municipal planning office. Michigan does not have a statewide preemption of local home occupation zoning for cottage food.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Michigan cottage food: direct sales from home, at events/markets, and online (2025 amendment added online/mail-order/third-party delivery platforms with virtual interaction requirement). \$50,000 annual cap (effective March 2026; \$25,000 cap applies until then).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	No explicit employee cap in Michigan cottage food statute. Sales by consignment or wholesale prohibited. Home occupation zoning may restrict non-resident employees.

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102; Livingston County zoning ordinances (contact Planning for home occupation)

RESEARCH NOTES

Michigan state baseline applies. Livingston County (county seat: Howell) is in the Ann Arbor/Detroit metro area. No county-specific URLs or overrides found. Michigan HB 4122 (2025) doubled the sales cap to \$50,000 and explicitly allowed online/delivery sales with a virtual or face-to-face interaction requirement; effective March 2026. Note: as of research date (May 2026), the \$50,000 cap is in effect.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.livingstoncounty.gov>

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

<https://www.legislature.mi.gov/Laws/MCL?objectName=MCL-289-4102>

Questions about this county? Local notes and a place to leave a question: crosodo.com/nb/michigan/livingston-county-discuss

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Livingston County	Jackson County	Ingham County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state-level pet restriction in Michigan cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.	No specific state restriction on pets in home for cottage food.	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	No	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Michigan cottage food: direct sales from home, at events/ markets, and online (2025 amendment added online/mail-order/third-party delivery p...	Direct-to-consumer sales only. No consignment or wholesale. Online and third-party delivery platform sales now allowed with interaction req...	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Michigan cottage food law (MCL §289.4102, amended 2025 HB 4122) allows non-PHF foods from a home kitchen. Annual sales cap: \$50,000 (double...	Michigan allows home kitchen cottage food with no registration or inspection required. Annual sales cap \$50,000 (raised by HB 4122, 2025 am...	Non-TCS non-potentially-hazardous foods only; \$50,000 annual cap; direct to consumer only; labeling required
FOOD STORAGE	Non-PHF foods only; only two specified buttercream frosting recipes permitted. Standard GMP storage.	Non-PHF products only; no fermented/acidified foods, pickles, fruit butters. Proper storage required.	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions
POPULATION	194,302	160,637	282,540

State context — Michigan cottage food law

Livingston 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](#) on Crosodo, or open the live guide: crosodo.com/states/michigan.

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 about Livingston County? Local notes and a place to leave a question are on Crosodo. We monitor new threads — start with zoning, permits, or porch pickup.

crosodo.com/nb/michigan/livingston-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 Livingston 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 on Crosodo.

crosodo.com/nb/michigan/livingston-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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