

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Oakland County

Michigan · Pontiac · FIPS 26125 · Population 1,272,264 ·
Crosodo Index #1198*

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: OAKLAND COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1198* · FIPS 26125 · Pontiac

Oakland County

Population 1,272,264 · State baseline: MCL \$289.4102 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Michigan Cottage Food Law exempts cottage food operations from MDARD licensing and inspection. No separate Oakland County permit required. Local unit of government rules (city zoning, home occupation ordinances) may apply. Cities of Novi, Royal Oak, Troy, Farmington Hills, and Southfield within Oakland County have their own cottage food rules.)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

State baseline applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (No county-level home occupation permit required for cottage food. Oakland County allows home occupations in residential zones with conditions; business registration required for some municipalities. Operators should contact their local city/township for any applicable home business ordinances.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Upon-complaint (MDARD may investigate upon complaint or foodborne illness linkage. No routine inspection.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Michigan Cottage Food Law exempts cottage food operations from MDARD licensing and inspection. No separate Oakland County permit required. Local unit of government rules (city zoning, home occupation ordinances) may apply. Cities of Novi, Royal Oak, Troy, Farmington Hills, and Southfield within Oakland County have their own cottage food rules.
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	State baseline applies
WATER SUPPLY	State baseline applies
HANDWASHING	State baseline applies
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored only in the primary domestic residence.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint — MDARD may investigate upon complaint or foodborne illness linkage. No routine inspection.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — No county-level home occupation permit required for cottage food. Oakland County allows home occupations in residential zones with conditions; business registration required for some municipalities. Operators should contact their local city/ township for any applicable home business ordinances.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales required; wholesale/consignment prohibited. Internet/mail order and third-party delivery allowed if consumer can directly interact with operator before purchase. Sales within Michigan only. Annual gross sales cap: \$50,000 (until Oct 1, 2026, then inflation-adjusted).
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	State baseline applies

Relevant county code

MCL §289.4102; local city codes vary

RESEARCH NOTES

Oakland County follows Michigan state baseline. No county-specific cottage food ordinance found. The 2025 Michigan amendment (HB 4122) doubled the cap from \$25,000 to \$50,000. Cities of Novi, Royal Oak, Troy, Farmington Hills, and Southfield may have additional local rules. Optional MSU Product Center registration (one-time fee up to \$50) allows use of registration number on labels instead of home address.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.oakgov.com>

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

<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/oakland-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Oakland County	Wayne County	Macomb County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	State baseline applies	State baseline applies	Not specified in state statute; standard sanitation implied
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Upon-complaint	Upon-complaint	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales required; wholesale/consignment prohibited. Internet/mail order and third-party delivery allowed if consumer can directly inte...	Direct sales required; wholesale/consignment prohibited. Internet/mail order and third-party delivery allowed if consumer can directly inte...	Direct-to-consumer only: in person (home, farmers markets, events); online with home delivery, mail, or third-party delivery (2025 amendmen...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	Varies by city	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies by city	Varies by city	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Michigan Cottage Food Law exempts cottage food operations from MDARD licensing and inspection. No separate Oakland County permit required. ...	Michigan’s Cottage Food Law exempts cottage food operations from MDARD licensing and inspection. No separate Wayne County permit is require...	Must be produced in a home kitchen. No separate commercial kitchen. No registration required. Maximum \$50,000 annual sales (as of 2025 amen...
FOOD STORAGE	Products must be stored only in the primary domestic residence.	Products must be stored only in the primary domestic residence.	Standard food storage; products must be non-potentially hazardous
POPULATION	1,272,264	1,781,641	878,453

State context — Michigan cottage food law

Oakland 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 MCL §289.4102	ANNUAL SALES CAP 50000
REGISTRATION REQUIRED No	FOOD HANDLER CERT No
KITCHEN INSPECTION No	DIRECT SALES ONLY 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 Oakland County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/michigan/oakland-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 Oakland 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/oakland-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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