

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Ottawa County

Michigan · Grand Haven · FIPS 26139 · Population 296,183 ·
Crosodo Index #978*

STATE BASELINE

MCL §289.4102; no registration or inspection required; \$50,000 annual sales cap; direct sales only; non-TCS foods

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
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: OTTAWA COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #978* · FIPS 26139 · Grand Haven

Ottawa County

Population 296,183 · State baseline: MCL \$289,4102; no registration or inspection required; \$50,000 annual sales cap; direct sales only; non-TCS foods · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (Non-TCS non-potentially-hazardous foods only; \$50,000 annual cap; direct to consumer only; no retail/wholesale; labeling required)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Varies (MI does not preempt local zoning. Ottawa County townships and municipalities (Grand Haven, Holland, Zeeland) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Operator should verify with local planning)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

No (Complaint-based investigation possible)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — Non-TCS non-potentially-hazardous foods only; \$50,000 annual cap; direct to consumer only; no retail/wholesale; labeling required
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies
WATER SUPPLY	Potable water at residence
HANDWASHING	Standard handwashing
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	No — Complaint-based investigation possible
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies — MI does not preempt local zoning. Ottawa County townships and municipalities (Grand Haven, Holland, Zeeland) may have home occupation zoning requirements. Operator should verify with local planning
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Not specified

Relevant county code

Not identified

RESEARCH NOTES

MI has \$50,000 cap and direct sales only restriction. Ottawa County is West Michigan, includes Holland. No county-specific overlay found.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.miottawa.org>

<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/ottawa-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Ottawa County	Kent County	Muskegon County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No specific state restriction; general sanitation applies	No specific state cottage food pet restriction found; general sanitation standards apply	No explicit state pet restriction; good manufacturing practices apply.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	No	Upon-complaint	No
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct to consumer only; farmers markets, events, roadside stands; no retail or wholesale	Direct sales within Michigan only via farmers markets, craft shows, roadside stands, internet/mail order, or third-party delivery platform ...	Direct sales from home, farmers markets, online with in-state delivery (virtual interaction required under 2025 amendment).
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Varies	Varies by city	Varies
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Varies
RESTRICTIONS	Non-TCS non-potentially-hazardous foods only; \$50,000 annual cap; direct to consumer only; no retail/wholesale; labeling required	Must be the kitchen of the person’s primary domestic residence (single-family home). Second homes, vacation homes, motor homes do not quali...	Non-potentially hazardous foods only. Sales cap \$50,000/year (raised by 2025 HB 4122, effective March 2026). Direct sales only; no consignm...
FOOD STORAGE	Non-TCS foods stored in sanitary conditions	Products must be stored at primary residence following safe good handling guidelines to prevent adulteration (insects, chemicals, water dam...	Store products in clean, pest-free area separate from non-food items.
POPULATION	296,183	657,321	175,947

State context — Michigan cottage food law

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

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